

Most people want to be regarded as useful in any kind of setting, be it in the church or in our own respective family or community. We do not wish to be regarded as useless or insignificant. As Christians, how can we be regarded as useful “arrows” (Ps 127:4) for the Lord?

1 By God’s Power (Ps 127:1-2)

To be a useful arrow for the Lord, we cannot rely on our own abilities. We must rely on the Lord. Psalm 127:1-2 tells us that without the strength and guidance from God, all things that we do will be in vain and not last. No matter how much we struggle or strive to do our best in any matter in our lives, all will be in vain and be destroyed. This applies to our academic studies, our friendships and relationships, our finances, our talents, etc.

No matter how talented or resourceful we think we are, if we do not have God in our life, we will never succeed or be useful for our Lord. While leaning on our Almighty God, we must not be slothful. We must do our best. Without God, our best is nothing. Without our Great Shepherd’s guidance, we are but lost sheep wandering in the wasteland aimlessly.

2 By God’s Providence (Ps 127:3-4)

As God’s children, besides leaning upon His power, we have to know what He has prepared for us by studying His Word. God has ordained all things in our lives. Thus, we must not question, complain or rebel against His plan for our lives, but be content and thank Him for all things and seek Him for guidance, especially in difficult times.

God put us in our respective families for a purpose. Therefore, we must honour and submit to our parents at all times. For arrows to be useful, they must be in the hands of trained archers. The archers ordained by God for us are our parents. The targets to be aimed at are also ordained by God. While we can share with our parents our desires, we must still submit to them. We must not be rebellious arrows, trying to be our own archers, aiming at our own targets. We must be obedient and submit to our parents. God will guide them to shoot us, the arrows, at the targets that He has for us.

3 God’s Promises (Ps 127:5)

When we lean upon God’s providence, we live out His promises. “Happy” (Ps 127:5) speaks of blessedness, a joy that is eternal and nothing can take it away from us.

Do you not want to be a useful arrow for your parents? Do you not want to be a useful arrow for the church of the Almighty God? Submit yourself to the elders and the leaders of the church. As Jesus’ disciples following Him, we must carry our own cross. There will be times of sufferings, but we must lean on His power. Then, can we weather the storm that God has planned for us. Let us submit to God so that we may be useful arrows in God’s quiver for His use.

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* LNMDTY= “Let No Man Despise Thy Youth”