

# Your Bible Why Not Use It #6



## To Tune Up Your Marriage/Family

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Part of Connect Group Questions

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[print version]

### Review:

This week's teaching found its center in **Psalm 127:1** *Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain.* Scripture insists it is reckless and useless to "build a home" without Him, and without His Word. Research echoes the issues: "Most dads say they spend too little time with their children;" "US Marriage rate hovers at 50%, down from 72% in 1960," "More and more children are growing up without a father in the home."

### GETTING STARTED

Discuss these two questions:

- *What **stress factors** do you see in your family (i.e., your own, your grown children's family, etc.)? Identify some...*

- *Is there any one **passage of Scripture** to which you've turned that has provided you wisdom for your marriage, or family life? (if so, read it and explain why you have found it helpful?)*

Note the commonalities, and if appropriate, take a moment to pray for any personal situation that was shared **that is in urgent need** of God's intervention.

### IN THE WORD

📖 Open to **Psalms 127 and 128**. Let's discover what these Psalms reveal about the Lord, husbands and wives, children, and family

(1) Have someone read out loud **Psalm 127**, and another Psalm 128

(2) **PSALM 127** - answer the following

- What's the "point" of this Psalm? How would you sum it up in a sentence or two? [take turns sharing your summary of it]

- How do you "hear" **127:2**? What truth is the Holy Spirit urging us to understand?

- Children come into focus in **vss. 3-5**. Questions:

a) what's the relationship between **vs. 2** and these verses?

b) can anyone run down the "background" of the "arrow" illustration and the "enemies in the gate" reference?

c) since this is the value of children, what is the Holy Spirit saying about investing in kids? Put this (again) in your own words.

(3) **PSALM 128** - continue answering

- From **vs. 1,4**, for this family to experience God's blessing, what is a "must" (note...there are at least 2!)?

- How would you describe the distinction between "fearing" the Lord and "walking in His ways"?

- What are the evidences of God's blessing?

- Is there an "ultimate" blessing offered (**vs.6**)?

TAKE AWAY(S) - what are 2 "take aways," or discoveries here, for you from these Psalms. Are there any helpful tune-up steps you see in either of these Psalms that could be taken?

## **MY LIFE - OUR MISSION**

To SUM - the legendary, national-title winning basketball coach, John Wooden (UCLA) had his priorities straight when insisting, "The most important thing in the world is family and love." When mom and dad are aligned (because they both fear the Lord and walk in His ways), there is the better prospect of their children being straight-arrows and fruit-from-the-vine disciples of Jesus Christ. The Psalms call us to intentionality in family tune-up and life.

Take some time to pray for each other's marriages, families, and special needs represented in the lives of our children. Share any "tough stuff" and lean into one another. Pray also about any specific "tune-up" steps you hear the Spirit of God urging you to take.