PSALM 127 - DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

FULFILLED. NIOT JUST FILLED FULL. - (SERMON MP3)

In what way do you need the rest that the Lord grants "to those he loves" as mentioned in Psalm 127:2?

**	What causes you to lose sleep? How can the truth of Psalm 127:2 instruct our lives regarding work, worry, panic and anxious frenzies?
**	How does the love of God impact the worried and restless heart?
**	C.H. Spurgeon wrote, "Ours is not a life of anxious care but of happy faith." Is that true of your life? If not, what do you think needs to change?
	s the connection between Psalm 127:1-2 and Matthew 6:25-33? What lessons do you need to embrace by faith and apply to e this year?
**	What is the difference between good busyness and bad busyness? How do you discern the difference in your own life? How could Jesus' teaching on worry in Matthew 6 affect your discernment of good vs. bad busyness?
**	What do you do to increase busyness in your life? How does busyness affect your priorities and vice versa? How do you think the culture has impacted your decisions?
**	Some think that some of our busyness comes from our pride. Agree or disagree? Why?
**	When you think about all the decisions you need to make about how to invest your time and energy, how could the question, "Would I be trying to do good or make myself look good?" help you make wise decisions?
**	Do you sense that God is calling you to change something?
	Psalm 127 really a call to trust God in the endeavors of life? God never intended our lives to be frenetic, overly busy, and out crol. Our faith actually enables us to be diligent but not anxious, engaged but not consumed, purposeful but not exhausted.
**	How can we practically depend on God in everyday affairs? What are some ways we can build God into the various components of our lives (be prepared to share three examples).
**	How do the following verses contribute to the conversation?
	Proverbs 3:5-6
	1Corinthians 15:58
	● 1Kings 3:3-15

Psalm 60:11; Isaiah 43:13

In Psalm 127, Solomon uses the word "vain" three times. The word simply means empty, worthless, or futile. Take a moment to consider the connection between your life and "vanity."

- ** Are there areas in your life you are living in vain? Are you building without God, seeking to protect without God, laboring without God?
- When you die are people going to say you lived a meaningful life?
- What would you say to a person living for the things of the world without any inclusion of God?

A young child 3 years old has a flat tire on her bike. Her dad takes out the pump, now what are the possible ways the tire could be pumped up? Well, the 3-year old could attempt to do it alone. Surely the father could push the child away and do it himself. Or the little girl could put her hands on the pump and the father could wrap his hands over top and blow up the flat tire. Psalm 127 surfaces analogous relational dynamics between man and God.1

- It makes it clear that we are not supposed to be practical atheists (God does nothing and we do everything). We aren't supposed to be like the 3-year old trying to pump up the tire ourselves. "God I'm going to build, guard and labor on my own." No, that will not do.
- But it doesn't give license for us to be passive slackers (God does everything and we do nothing). We aren't supposed to sit in the grass and say "Father, you do it and let me know when you've got it all worked out." No, we aren't supposed to be hands off when it comes to building, working, or protecting.
- Instead, we are called to something more like prayerful activists. (God does everything and we do something). Ultimately, we can't pump up the tire, but our kind father delights in accomplishing his plan with our involvement. He places his powerful hands over ours and pumps up the tire. This is not an invitation to laziness or irresponsibility. Instead it's an invitation to work a different way.

We must work, build, and guard while never depending on our own efforts. We must seek the powerful aid of our Father and trust in Him the whole way.

Discuss how you have been imbalanced in life at various times when it comes to God's work and yours, God's power and your effort?

How are you seeking to allow him to do everything while you do something? What would that look
like in real life – give an example

	like in real life – give an example.		
		PRAYER REQUESTS	
_	nd to the follow case studies and seek to apply the truths of Psalm 127 to each situation.		
Snare y	our thoughts with the study group.		
**	I thought my career was my gift from God and that with it I could reward those I love. Unfortunately,		
741	busy months turned into busy years and in the blink of an eye, everyone in my life was gone. I seemed to have sacrificed relationships in the name of progress. Where did I go wrong?		
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**	I thought I could build my own dream life. I labored hard and excelled in every tangible way I knew to		
	pursue "success", but I am starting to wonder if it was worth it. I built a career, but I'm lonely. I have what most people strive to acquire, so why do I feel so empty?		
**	I thought my writings, my business, or my bank account would be my legacy. Now that they are all I have, I see I was wrong. What should I do now?		
Look at Psalm 127:3. What does it say about children from God's perspective?			
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**	Do people always view children as a blessing and an inheritance in our culture? Do you view children as a "reward?"		
**	What would you say to a couple struggling with an unwanted pregnancy? What would you say to a couple struggling to raise their children?		