**As for me and my house – Ps. 127**

**Focal Truth: Children are a gift from God**

How important are your children in your life?

Do you look at them as a gift from God? When did you last thank God for your children?

**Observations:**

1. **Children are the gift of God – 127:3**

 *Behold, children are a gift of the Lord*

 a. Children are an inheritance or heritage

 b. Children are a portion – gift from God

 c. Children are uniquely made by God

 Ps. 139:1 – *I will give thanks to You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made,*

 *wonderful are your works, & my soul knows it very well*

 d. Children are made in the image of God

 Gen. 1:27 – *God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created*

 *male & female He created them*

 They are image bearers of God

 They belong to God first

 They are given to parents to guide & nurture

 They are made to glory God & be to be like Him

2. **Children are a reward from God** **- 127:3**

 *The fruit of the womb is a reward*

 a. Children are the reward = pay or wages God gives to parents

 b. Gen. 33:5 – Esau said to Jacob – He lifted up his eyes and saw the women and the

 children, and said, who are these with you? He said, the children whom God has

 graciously given your servant

 c. 1 Sam 1:27 – Hannah says to Eli – for this boy I prayed and the Lord has given me

 my petition which I asked of Him

 d. God does His work of creating a child in the womb

 Ps. 139:13 – *You formed my inward parts you wove me in my mother’s womb*

 Isa. 13:18 – *thus says the Lord who made you & formed you from the womb…*

 e. The blessing of children is God’s payment – reward to parents

 They are a joy to them – They are life to them

 They satisfy them – They are united to them

 They invest in them – They bless by them

3. **Children are a lifelong blessing to their parents – 127:4 - 5**

*Like arrows in the hand of a warrior, so are the children of one’s youth, How blessed*

 *Is the man whose quiver is full of them…*

 a. Children are like a warriors arrows

 Warriors make their arrows

 Warriors aim & shoot their arrows -“children are what we make them, they go

 the way we aim them!”

 b. Children become a source of protection to their parents in their old age

 127:5 – *they will not be ashamed when they speak with their enemies in*

 *the gate*

 Warriors protect themselves with their arrows

 c. Children are a source of blessing all the days of life

 They are the children of one’s youth – “we grow up with our children”

**Things to Remember**

1. Treasure your children as God’s gift to you

2. Make your children a life priority

3. God knows your children better than you know them – they belong to Him first

4. Help your children know their God given purpose to glorify God

**Daily Use – Family Challenge**

1. Sit with your children and talk to them about their birth

2. As parents thank God for your children regardless of their behavior

3. Rejoice in your children, value them highly, sympathize with them tenderly

**Behold, children are a gift of the Lord, the fruit of the womb is a reward**