



# ARROWS

## **PSALM** 127:4 *Children born to a young man are like arrows in a warrior's hands.*

Psalm 127:4 reminds us, that, #1. We are all arrows—each of us is someone's child—and I'm not sure how well your parents aimed you or shot you out of their bows, but the fact of the matter is, we are all arrows, and we're supposed to have direction; arrows are meant to hit a target. #2. God is reminding us in this verse that every parent is blessed, and that they need to be skillful at aiming and shooting the arrows that God has blessed them with, #3. We only get shot, so shouldn't waste the blessing.

**Children are a blessing not a burden.** Psalm 127:3 & 5, *Children are a gift from the Lord; they are a reward from him. And verse 5 says, 5 How joyful (Blessed) is the man whose quiver is full of them!* The reason why it's easy to confuse a blessing with a burden is because they are both heavy! Parenting is a heavy blessing, because it is meant to be a reflection of what God is like to our children and how He relates with us. How your children will eventually view God will depend on the kind of parent you are. Your child will either get an accurate picture of who God is or not by the manner you parent your children.

**Arrows are not all the same, but there's only one target.** You may be a parent, but you don't define the target! You must let Jesus define the target! All you do is shoot. The target that Jesus gives us in the Bible is very clear: Matthew 6:33, *But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.* The first, the highest and the most important priority of every parent is to bring their children to come to know Jesus—and lead them to seek Him first in their life. It begins by making a choice for you and your family. Read Joshua 24:15. Pastor encouraged us to choose to serve the ONE who alone is able to bless your life and your children!

**Arrows are meant to fly! But they won't fly unless you let go.** Wrong posture, wrong handling, wrong stretching of the bow string, distractions and many other things—affect the direction of your arrow! Arrows are meant to fly and hit a target! As skilled warriors, we need to aim and release our arrows—because only arrows that are released are the ones that hit the target! Raise your kids in a way that prepares them to be released! Release your arrows! Trust God!

**Arrows are weapons, and we are at war.** Some parents say, *"The world is a dangerous place, I can't send my kids out into the world. The influence of this world will ruin 'my precious' babies."* Pastor said we should flip that today, and say, *"I'm sending my children out into the world so that they can make difference and turn this dangerous world into a much better place to live!"* Instead of saying *"I want to keep them safe,"* Say, *"I will raise godly children who will be dangerous to Satan and his demons!"* The forces of evil will be scared of your kids! You are God's weapons against the forces of evil! God wants to use us (His children) as weapons against every lie the enemy has spoken; and to bring the light of the Gospel into this dark world! To bring hope and peace where it's needed! To help the blind to see again, to help people far from God experience grace and be made alive in Christ; to welcome and embrace the unloved; to help people find joy, victory and hope in Jesus! We are arrows called to do great things for His great name—

***I AM AN ARROW, AND THIS IS WAR!***

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS/NEXT STEPS:**

- Arrows (Parenting Seminar in August)
- Prayer and Fasting Week (August 27-September 2)
- Fall Fest (September 10)

### **PRAY TOGETHER FOR**

- Your family, your kids, your parents.
- For our church, that we will grow more in quality and quantity.

### **GOAL FOR THIS STUDY:**

This series, is about parenting and family. We want to learn how to live towards the target! We all have goals, we all have things we aim at! Pastor dared us to believe that God wants the best for us (because that's the kind of church we are, we believe that God loves us)! In this series, we want to see God's best for us, and that we will experience God build our lives, sharpen our vision, and to repair anything that is broken in our lives and our families, so that we can live towards the target that God has for us!

## Connection and Action

Questions to promote conversation and connection

### Question:

What part of last Sunday's sermon stood out for you?

### Question:

What has your experience of parenting (how your mom and dad parent/parented you, and how you parent your children [whichever is more applicable])?

### Question:

Who are you more close to, your mom or your dad? Why so?

## Bible and Belief

Questions to help believers develop a biblical point of view.

### READ PSALM 127

#### Question:

What was King Solomon's main point and central theme in this Psalm?

#### Question:

Based on Psalm 127:1, what is the foundation of a godly home? Discuss ways to ensure that the spiritual foundation of your home is solid.

#### Question:

According to Proverbs 22:6 what is the result of training your children in godly behaviors?

While your children are in your home, they are like arrows in the hand of a mighty man (Psa 127:4).

- Discuss the effort it takes to make the arrows straight.
- Discuss what happens when you release arrows that are not straight.

#### Question:

In verse 14, Paul says "Christ's love compels us." What does he mean by that? 4. Do you feel like Christ's love controls your life? Why or why not?

#### Question:

Children are a gift of God (Psalm 127:3). He holds you accountable for what you do with everything He gives you (Mat 25:14-29). Do you think God holds you accountable for the way you raise your children? Why or why not?

## Growing in Leadership

Questions to help people grow as leaders.

Deuteronomy 6:7 tells us to teach God's words "diligently" to our children. The Hebrew phrase for "teach" in this verse means "cause to learn." It is different than lecture-based education.

- What would teaching diligently look like in your home?
- Discuss ways to make it easier to be more diligent in teaching God's Word.
- In what locations or settings is it appropriate to talk about God's Word?
- At what times of the day is it good to talk about God's Word? (Ex. meal time, drive time, bed time, morning time)

Deuteronomy 6:8-9 gives ways to help us remember God's Word.

- What could we use as modern day equivalents to frontlets between our eyes, a sign on our hands, or writing God's Word on our doorposts?
- What can you do to be sure your teaching is sound (Pro 4:1-2)?
- Think about how you approach teaching your children. Is your teaching like a gentle rain to tender plants (Deut 32:2)?
- Discuss ways to make your teaching gentle and nourishing.