

FAMILY #4 CHILDREN: OUR HOPE FOR THE FUTURE

Psalms 127³ Lo, children *are* an heritage of the LORD: *and* the fruit of the womb *is his reward*.⁴ As arrows are in the hand of a mighty man; so *are* children of the youth. KJV

Can you imagine a world without children? Wouldn't it be dull?
God has given everything that has life the potential of reproducing itself. How wonderful to watch our seed go through the stages of life.
This Psalm is filled with the potential that children bring into the world.

I. Children are our inheritance- v3

A. Children are gift from God.

Adults may conceive but it is God who gives life.
Children are to be blessed by the union of marriage.

Solomon had multiple wives yet it is recorded he had only one son.

B. Children are our reward

1Chr. 26:5 stated the Obed-edom had 8 sons because he entertained the Ark of the Covenant.

Abram the barren man prays for Abimelech. Abimelech is not able to have children because God has closed the womb of his wives for taking Sarai into his harem. When Abram claims Sarai to be his wife and releases the king from guilt because he has lied to him, he prays and the king has children.
Years later Abram becomes a Father at an old age.

II. CHILDREN ARE LIKE ARROWS

A. Arrows in the hand

In the hand implies while you have control over it;
While they are at home we must.....

1. Like an arrow we must make them strait-

Crooked arrows will miss their mark.
Children reach their potential because someone intentionally took the time to invest in making it straight.

2. Like an arrow we must make them sharp.

How do we make it sharp?

a. Discipline

Pro. 19 ¹⁸ **Discipline your son, for in that there is hope**; do not be a willing party to his death. NIV

Discipline is to be only for the purpose of accountability for actions, disobedience, and conquering a child's will.

Not to provoke them to anger.

b. Training- demonstrating how to do something you are wanting to teach the child. More is learned by example than any other method.

Pro. 22 ⁶ Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it.

c. Teaching-

Deu. 6 ⁶ These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. ⁷ **Impress them on your children.** Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. ⁸ Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. ⁹ Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.

The word of God is to be talked about in every avenue of life.

Children are not only like arrows in the hand but...

B. Like arrows in the hand of a mighty man.

A mighty man implies a man of strength, a skilled warrior who is a deliverer.

1. The arrow will hit its mark because not only is it strait it is **aimed**.

Children reach goals because they have been pointed intentionally in the right direction.

2. How far it goes depends upon the **strength** of the one pulling the bow.

Each generation is to build upon the strength of the previous generation. It is like Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

3. The arrow must be **released**.

Who knows how far reaching the influence a child has in reaching its generation?

It is hard to release them but trust in your training. They are not you. They must be themselves with your influence and that of the Lord who has a destiny for their life. Give them to the Lord.