

Growth Tools

September 8, 2024
Pastor Greg Stansel

The Project of the Lord
Psalm 127:1,2

REMEMBER: It is easier to discuss these questions in the group if you have thought through them before attending the group.

Checking In

Anything you want to share from your time in the Word this week? How can the group be praying for/with you?

Connecting

When have you attempted to “build” your life apart from the Lord? What was the outcome?

Study

Point 1: The Lord’s Work

READ: Psalm 127:1; 1 Peter 2:4–11; Ephesians 2:19-22

REFLECT: How do the New Testament authors reveal that the Lord’s work in building the house and watching the city is ultimately referring to the church? In what ways do we (the church) try to build apart from the Lord?

RESPOND: How can you participate in building the church with the Lord instead of apart from Him?

Point 2: Work without the Lord

READ: Psalm 127:1-2; Genesis 3:17, 19; Philippians 4:4–7

REFLECT: What does work apart from the Lord lead to? How have you experienced this in your own life? In what ways do we see the negative in Psalm 127 in the Genesis 3 passage? How does Paul’s words in Philippians 4 help prevent us from working apart from the Lord?

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RESPOND: When you are anxiously toiling, how can you apply Philippians 4?

Point 3: Working with the Lord

READ: Psalm 127:2; Psalm 4; Psalm 121:1–4

REFLECT: To whom does the Lord give rest? How is salvation a picture of rest from toil? What other rest do we have to look forward to? How is sleep an expression of faith in the Psalms above?

RESPOND: What would a regular practice of rest look like in your life? What about in the life of the church? How does knowing that the Lord does not rest free you up to rest from your anxious toil?

Memorizing

“Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain. Unless the Lord watches over the city, the watchman stays awake in vain” (Psalm 127:1).

Preparing for next week

Read: 1 Timothy 1

Ask: questions of the text.

Pray: through text, for pastor as he prepares, for your heart to hear, for the congregation to hear, for all of us to be obedient.

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