



June 16, 2024 | Pastor Keith Krell
Psalm 127:1-5 | "Life in the Slow Lane"

Sermon Application Review from 2 Corinthians 9:6-15

How did you give cheerfully this past week (9:7)?
How did you increase your standard of giving instead of your standard of living (9:11)?
How did the gift of Jesus and the gospel inspire your generous giving (9:15)?

Scripture Reading

Psalm 127:1-5
Proverbs 16:1, 9; 19:21; 21:31
Psalm 103:13-14
John 15:1-11
Ecclesiastes 3:1-8
2 Corinthians 12:9a
Zechariah 4:6

Study Questions

1. How have you pursued the vanity of human activity (127:1-2)? In what way(s) do you work without *intentionally* including the Lord? How do you fulfill God's mission at work without sacrificing faith, family, or sanity? How have you found balance in these areas?
2. How have you involved the Lord in building/maintaining your home? How do you actively trust God to "build" your physical home and supply your material needs? How are you guilty of making distinctions between what is sacred and what is secular? Why should you believe God is interested in every kind of labor and that there is no work from which you should exclude Him? Read Colossians 3:23 and John 15:4-5. In what way(s) do these verses seem at odds with each other? How have you sought to live out both commands?
3. Why did God decree that sleep be part of human experience (127:2)? How much sleep do you typically get a night? Are you satisfied with the duration and quality of your sleep? Why or why not? When or why do you struggle to sleep soundly? How can you learn to trust God more daily (or nightly)? Read Matthew 6:33-34.
4. How does recognizing the preciousness of your family help you maintain a healthy balance even in a busy season (127:3-5)? Do you see your children as both "a gift" and "a reward"? Why is this perspective important in raising godly children? In what ways have you sought to value and encourage your children?
5. How are you shaping, directing, and releasing your arrows (i.e., children, 127:4-5)? What is your vision for raising spiritual or biological offspring to be devoted disciples? How will you live out the mission of "building disciples who bring Jesus to our world" in your home?

Recommended Reading

J. Grant Howard, *Balancing Life's Demands: A New Perspective on Priorities* (Multnomah, 1983)
Doug Sherman & William Hendricks, *How to Succeed Where it Really Counts* (NavPress, 1989); *How to Balance Competing Time Demands* (NavPress, 1989).
Daniel M. Doriani, *Work: Its Purpose, Dignity, and Transformation* (P&R, 2019); *The New Man: Becoming a Man After God's Heart* (P&R, 2015)
Steven J. Lawson, *Men Who Win: Pursuing the Ultimate Prize* (NavPress, 1992)
Verlyn D. Verbrugge and Keith R. Krell, *Paul and Money: A Biblical and Theological Analysis of the Apostle's Teachings and Practices* (Zondervan, 2015)