

# CrossRoads Covenant Church

## Week of Prayer – Thursday

### **Opening Prayer**

### **Scripture**

“Children are a gift from the Lord; they are a reward from Him. Children born to a young man are like arrows in a warrior’s hands. How joyful is the man whose quiver is full of them! He will not be put to shame when he confronts his accusers at the city gates.” Psalm 127:3-5 (NLT)

### **Reflection**

As we gather in prayer today, let us reflect on the beautiful promise of a church family and the growth it brings. In Psalm 127, we are reminded that children are a gift from the Lord, a reward that brings joy and blessings. Just as arrows in the hands of a warrior, young families represent strength, purpose, and the potential to impact the world around them.

The term “reward” refers to what the Lord has produced by His creative activity rather than what the human parents have earned by their activity. If we read this as a response to the problem in the church with a declining population of children and youth, we are assured that God will produce a remnant for the future of His kingdom.

Children can extend the influence of a parent beyond what the parent can do personally. The children, whether they are biological offspring or spiritual disciples, take the parent’s values to places where the parent may never be able to go personally. By this means the parent can transcend the intrinsic limits of mortality that otherwise would cause his or her best efforts to be in vain.

As we meditate on the promises of God and the blessings of family, let us be open to His leading in welcoming and embracing new families into our CrossRoads community. May

our hearts be filled with love and hospitality, creating a space where young families can grow in faith and fellowship.

## **Personal Prayer**

## **Community Prayer**

Dear Heavenly Father, we come before you with gratitude for the gift of family and the young families within our community at CrossRoads. We thank you for the joy and energy they bring, and we seek your guidance and blessing upon them. Lord, we specifically ask that you add more young families to our midst, that our community may continue to grow and flourish. May our church be a place where they find support, love, and a strong foundation in faith.

Grant us the wisdom to nurture and encourage these families, helping them to thrive in their journey with You. May our church be a beacon of warmth and inclusivity, drawing in those seeking a community of faith. We trust in Your divine plan, knowing that You are the giver of all good gifts.

In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.