

LESSON 17

Topic: Children, Arrows in God's Hands

Text: Psalm 127:3-4, Matthew 19:14; Ephesians 6:1-3

Aim: To understand the significance of children in God's plan, their role in the family, and how parents can nurture them according to biblical principles.

Introduction: Children are an heritage and blessing from the Lord; like arrows in the hands of a warrior are children born to a young man (Psalm 127: 3-4). This highlights the potential and purpose of children in God's plan. Jesus also emphasized the importance of children, saying, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these" (Matthew 19:14). Children are not just extensions of their lineages, but divine assignments and instruments in God's design. Like arrows, they require careful shaping, and direction, before release to the world. In this study, we shall examine how children are a blessing, how parents can train them, and the importance of teaching them God's ways.

Discussion Questions:

1. How can parents aim their "arrows" (children) toward God's purposes? Matt. 19:14; Prov. 22:6; Deut. 6:6-7; Lam. 2:19
2. What are the likely challenges parents encounter in raising their children? Discuss.
3. Why is it important to nurture children in the way of the Lord? Psalm 78:4-7; 2 Timothy 3:13 - 15; Prov. 22:6; Prov. 19:18
4. What are the dangers of not nurturing children in the way of the Lord? Prov. 29:15, Judges 2:10-11; 1 Samuel 3:13.

Conclusion: Children are indeed arrows in God's hands, full of potentials. Parents, families, and the church have a responsibility to nurture and guide them in the ways of the Lord. By recognizing the blessing of children, training them in God's ways, and creating a supportive environment, we can help them become strong and directed "arrows" for God's glory. May we strive to honour God in our roles as parents, caregivers, and members of the church. We must pray for wisdom and guidance as we support the next generation.

Memory Verse: Psalm 127:3- 4 "Behold, children are a heritage from the LORD, the fruit of the womb is a reward. Like arrows in the hands of warrior, so are the children of one's youth" (NKJV).