

Worship on the Journey

{the songs of ascent}

Purpose on the Journey

Overview

We all want our work to matter and our home to be happy. And yet, the “daily grind” of ordinary life often seems futile and frustrating. Psalms 127 and 128 show us how to find purpose when the journey feels pointless. The key: revering God as the ultimate builder, protector, and provider, and allowing this reality to reshape our perspective on our work and home. Seeing life from God’s perspective turns the daily grind into the good life.

Outline

Introduction

Taken together, these two psalms invite us to experience God’s blessing in the middle of our everyday, mundane experiences. How? Not by escaping our circumstances, but by adjusting our perspective.

1. A God-Centered Perspective at Work [127:1-2]

God is the ultimate builder, protector, and provider in our work. Without God, our efforts to build and protect are futile, and our efforts to provide are stressful. But because of God’s generous love, we can rest. Seeing our work from God’s perspective liberates us to work and rest with confidence.

2. A God-Centered Perspective at Home [127:3-5]

God is the ultimate builder, protector, and provider in our home. The psalmist suggests three surprising perspective shifts to help us see our children as God does: as a heritage, reward, and weapon. Seeing our home from God's perspective empowers us to parent with purpose.

1. What occupies your thoughts? What rules your focus and attention?
2. How you look at life influences how you live life. How does your thinking affect your health? Attitude? Relationships? Productivity?
3. In what ways have you been "eating the bread of anxious toil"?
4. What lies at the root of sinful worry? What is the remedy?
5. What perspective shifts do you need to make in order to see children as God does?
6. How will a vision for multi-generational faithfulness affect our priorities for our children?
7. How can you turn Psalm 127 into a prayer? List specific requests.