

Pray First

Main Scripture: Psalm 127:1-5

Additional Scriptures: Philippians 4:6-7, Matthew 6:31-33, Proverbs 3:5-6

Hearing: Discussion Questions

- **Read Psalm 127:1.** We are innately builders and God wants to be a part of your building. Take some time and assess the following. In light of Psalm 127:1, is the Lord building the following or are they being built in vain:
 - Your family? (How do you infuse God into this part of your life?)
 - Your school or job? (How do you infuse God into this part of your life?)
 - Your ministry? (How do you infuse God into this part of your life?)

- Pastor Mike asked the question, “Do you want to build this decade like the last?” Reflect on this past year and talk about what was built by the Lord that you want to keep doing and what wasn’t that you would like to change.
 - How are you going to change the things that were built in vain in 2009?

- **Read Philippians 4:6-7.** “Anxiety is the sign of a life built without God... we have a choice: to eat the bread of anxiety or the bread of life.” Prayer is the escape hatch from the bread of anxiety.
 - What do you do if you pray and you still don’t feel peace? How does that line up with Phil. 4:6-7?

- **Read Matthew 6:31-33.** Jesus says to seek first. How often do you pray first when anxiety is creeping into your heart? What does it really mean to seek first the Kingdom in the 21st century? How does that really look?

- **Read Psalm 127:2.** “I want you to bless what I am doing because I am not sure I want to do what you are blessing.” How do you ensure that you are doing what the Lord is calling you to do?
 - What happens when God is calling you to do something that you don’t really want to do? How does a disciple respond?
 - How do you get your heart to a place where you can rejoice in doing it and not do it begrudgingly?

- “Your prayer life is the best sign of who is building your life.” Be honest with one another and assess your prayer life. Is it where you want it to be? Why or why not?
 - What needs to change? How can you progress in your prayer life?

Doing: Application

- Pastor Mike sent out a challenge this week to add 30 minutes of prayer to whatever you are already doing. So if you are seeking the Lord 30 minutes a day, make it an hour. If you are seeking him 10 minutes, make it 40. Hold each other accountable this month to make the prayer increase!