



SUMMER IN THE PSALMS

“He is My Sentinel”

Psalm 127

June 16, 2013 A.M. Worship

OUR CALL – The Cost

✓ **Foundation Must Be the Focus**

Psalm 92:12-15 & Psalm 1:3

✓ **God Must Be Our Guard** Luke 14:25-33

✓ **Work Shouldn't Lead to Weariness**

OUR CHALLENGE – OUR CHILDREN

✓ **They Are a Gift** Psalm 144:12

✓ **They Are to Go**

▪ **We Are to Spend Time With Them**

▪ **We Are to Train Them**

▪ **We Are to Teach Them**

✓ **They Are to Make Us Glad** – We are blessed

Our Response:

1. Has there ever been that moment where you have prayed to the Father and asked Him to come into your heart and take control of your life? Would you give Him your heart & life today? Remember it is as simple as **ABC!** **Admit** to God you are a sinner, **Ask** for His forgiveness, **Believe** Jesus is God's Son, **Confess** Him as Savior & **Commit** Your Life to Him as Lord. (the Boss of your life)
2. Have you asked Christ into your heart but never made it public. Have you not been baptized? You can come & make that decision today public today. Be obedient!
3. Are you a part of a church family? If not, you need one! Is the Lord calling you to Petal FBC today? Why wait any longer? Step over the line and join us in reaching this community with the gospel of Jesus Christ! Be obedient and join a church!
4. It is easier it seems many times to focus on the outside than the foundation – are you focusing on what matters the most – that which no one can see? From that foundation will flow everything else in your life so what are you investing in?
5. Do you realize the Lord is the Guard in your life? How does that change the way you will live this week? Is there something you are facing that scares you? The Lord is watching over you!!
6. Are you standing guard over your family in every area of their lives? What you are letting in and what are you keeping out? We must be the sentinels in our families today!
7. Do you see your children as a gift from the Lord? How can you show them this week they are a gift?
8. Do you see your call to send them out as arrows of light into the darkness of this world? How are you training and teaching them? How much time are you spending with them? Make the necessary changes this week in your schedule to be able to do that!!

SUMMER IN THE PSALMS

“The Lord is My Sentinel”

Psalms 127 & 92:12-15

June 16, 2013 AM Service

This challenge and call this morning is aimed at our fathers today – but mom’s it is aimed at you as well – and for that matter it is aimed at us all so let us dig into this wonderful and short Psalm that is packed full of truth and application for our lives today! Our call today is that we would remember that the Lord is the Watchman – the Sentinel – over our lives and our call is to be a Sentinel where He has strategically placed us in our lives.

Our Call – The Cost

Foundation Must Be the Focus

Leading as Father’s in our homes

Leading as men in our Church

Building a Solid Foundation for this Church

Side note – the same is true of our church – The Lord is building His church right now – are we allowing Him to build ours? Is ours one of the one’s that He can bless because He alone is the foundation and the source or are we one that is laboring in vain? I don’t know about you, but I don’t want to waste one more minute building something that will not last! I pray that we are that kind of a church – that the Lord is building us and then we in turn are helping others to build as well!

We are called to builders and not destroyers and by the way, when we build anything but God’s church – not my church – then we are in essence destroying it! May we careful to allow the Lord to build us!

We are called to lead by example, servant leadership

Allowing the Lord to build us, shape us, mold us, change us 1st!

What kind of man is the one who builds and becomes the kind of father he truly desires to be – we all want to be good Fathers don’t we? What does that mean to be a good father? – more than anything else is a man of righteousness – a godly man, a man of integrity and purity – one that talks the talk and walks the walk! See Psalm 92:12-15 & Psalm 1:3

Check out this Description – Grow and Flourish, Planted, Yield Declare – the key! – to others, but most importantly to our families

God Must Be Our Guard [Luke 14:25-33](#)

Explain a Sentinel – watchman – their job - From ISBE

“In the OT times watchmen protected vineyards and fields during harvest season. They erected huts as shelters from the elements and towers to facilitate observation. Watchmen were also posted on city walls and at city gates to scan the horizon for runners with messages for the king. The skilled watchman was able to identify individual runners by their stride. The watchman also guarded the walls day and night against enemy attack or siege; he was responsible for warning the citizens of impending attack by sounding a trumpet. Watchmen apparently made rounds in Jerusalem during the night watches”

Wiersbe “Strong walls around the city and alert watchmen on those walls are essential if we are to protect what we have built — and how foolish it is to build and not protect! Many a child and many a ministry has been lost to the enemy because the watch-men did not stay awake and warn that the enemy was approaching. Building and battling go together; this is why Nehemiah's men had their tools in one hand and their swords at their side”

Men – are you standing watch over your family?

They also understood the principle here that it is useless unless God is the one who is guarding the city – we can do all we want to, but unless God is ultimately the One watching over us – then we are doomed!

Work Shouldn't Lead to Weariness

We are called to work, but not work ourselves to death! Too many times if we are not careful we pride ourselves on how many hours we work, how many hours we put in to impress the boss, yet that is vain and futile! Yes we should work hard, do our best for the Lord and not for man. When we are working for the Lord then what we do will be a joy, a blessing, not something we endure. He created us to do what He has called us to do!!

Example: Dad loved his job – what an example. I love my job, my calling. We should love it, but never more than the Lord or our families. Never heard anyone say at a funeral, boy they wish they had spent more time at work! Solomon found out that it was all vanity – basically a colossal waste of time when done for the wrong reasons and the emphasis is placed in the wrong areas!

There are even times if we are not careful we can get tired in God's work!

Quote: Weirsbe “We get tired in God's work but we do not get tired of God's work, because the Lord who gives us the strength to work also gives us the rest we need.”

Notice the result if we don't work and toil in vain, the Lord promises to give us rest – even when we are still worried about the day.

Our Challenge – Our Children

✓ **They Are a Gift** [Psalm 144:12](#)

Do we see them as a gift, as a treasure? That is what they are! We only have them for a short time, will we treat them as they gift that they are? This cruddy world we live in made me really stop and think, do I really want to bring children into this world? I really thought about it – especially after my 13 years of youth ministry! I had seen the ugly side! Conversation with a godly person – if people like you don't have children that will raise them to know and fear the Lord – where will our country and our world be? As we end our Baby Bottle Campaign today – we are freshly reminded of the gift that children are – that is what we say when we support our Pregnancy Resource Center! (We discussed that just last week from Psalm 139 – children are a gift whether born to us or adopted – they are a gift to be treasured!)

How do we treat a precious gift? We love it and cherish it! So too must we do the same with our children!

✓ **They Are to Go** – they are to be arrows in the hands of God

God never meant for children to stay but that we give them the roots that they need to ground them and then launch them out into the world to fly and to make a devastating impact to the kingdom of darkness! They don't have to be a missionary or a pastor – but wherever they land they are a godly man or woman who will walk with the Lord and serve in his bride the church and make a difference by being a light in this dark, dark world!

How can we shape them into arrows since they don't come that way!? You don't shape an arrow that flies straight haphazardly or without the proper tools, it will never fly straight and hit the target! Crooked or bent arrows never do!

We need to study God's Word and then study and know our children – take advantage of the great opportunities here at Petal FBC that will

help you in this process! Don't be hardheaded and say, we'll I already know what I need to know – we don't! So how do we shape those arrows!

- **We are to Spend Time With Them** – So that they can see in us the difference that Jesus makes in our life. They see what is the most important thing in life that trumps anything and everything else in our lives! That Jesus is first and foremost and when we are like Him then they will want to be like Jesus! May it be so! And that can only see that if we are spending that quality time with them. The time flies by so quickly so we must make the most of every moment.
- **We are to Train Them** – It begins when they are young, but is certainly does not stop there! We have to lovingly discipline them, shape them each differently, instill in them biblical worldview and value, show them the way through this wicked world. And as we referred to in the first point, we can't teach them to be something that we are not! We must show them and lead them by example. We get out on the basketball court and show them how to shoot, or on the baseball field - how to swing the bat, or how to cheer, or walk in a beauty walk, or write a speech, whatever it may be, why then is it then that we don't do the same with the Word of God, with the church, with spiritual things? **ILLUS: Facebook post**
We must folks, if we don't we will lose them in record numbers just like we are doing now to the enemy! Nothing wrong with teaching them those things for in all of life there are spiritual lessons to learn, but oh much more important to train them to follow the Lord with their whole heart. When you read what or listen to what people say about their fathers or parents, it isn't thanks for teaching me this skill or that, but thanks for loving me, caring for me, providing for me and teaching me to follow the Lord! That is what makes the difference
- **We are to Teach Them** Sit down with them and show them how to have a quiet time, how to read their Bible, read it with them, read their Sunday School Lesson with them, and Dads let be sure we don't leave that up to our wives or to the church, let us lead out and then they say, my Dad showed me the same thing! Sit down and talk to them about church and why it is more important than anything else and why, and then show them by what you do, not sending them to

church, or letting someone else take them, but you being here with them. That is teaching them! **ILLUS: Headerman & dad giving Bibles to each of his children!**

✓ **They Are to Make Us Glad** – We are blessed

Oh what joy children can bring us when we have raised them to do what God has called them to do and become a godly man or woman! Yes we are proud of them and love them no matter what, but we are as the Psalmist says blessed, joyful in the recesses of our soul because we have done our job that the Lord has called us to do!

ILLUS: Letter about Dad – I think my Dad would stand here today – & say he is blessed with 3 men who are serving the Lord today & hopefully being arrows to pierce the darkness!