

Families on the Edge 4

A FIRM FOUNDATION – Solid Ground for Parents

October 26-27, 2013

Psalm 127:1 (NCV)

1 If the LORD doesn't build the house, the builders are working *for nothing*. If the LORD doesn't guard the city, the guards are watching *for nothing*.

The Ambulance Down in the Valley

'Twas a dangerous cliff, as they freely confessed,

Though to walk near its crest was so pleasant,

But over its terrible edge there had slipped,

A Duke and for many a peasant.

So the people said something would have to be done,

But their projects did not at all tally,

Some said, "Put a fence around the edge of the cliff,"

Some "an ambulance down in the valley."

But the cry for the ambulance carried the day,

For it spread through the neighboring city,

A fence may be useful or not, it is true,

But each heart became moved with pity,

For those who slipped over that dangerous cliff;

And the dwellers on highway and alley,
Gave pounds and gave pence not to put up a fence,
But an ambulance down in the valley.
Then an old sage remarked, "It's a marvel to me
That people give far more attention
To repairing the results than to stopping the cause,
When they'd much better aim at prevention.
"Let us stop at its source all this hurt," cried he,
Come, neighbors and friends, let us rally.
If the cliff we will fence, we might almost dispense
With the ambulance down in the valley.

by Joseph Malins (1895)

Psalm 127:1-5 (NCV)

1 If the LORD doesn't build the house, the builders are working *for nothing*. If the LORD doesn't guard the city, the guards are watching *for nothing*.

Building a Home God's Way Takes Work

1. Prayer 2. God's Word. 3. Church Life. 4. Christ Like Behavior.

2 It is *no use* for you to get up early and stay up late, working for a living. The LORD gives sleep to those he loves.

Jesus went on to say, “The Kingdom of God is like this. A man scatters seed in his field. He sleeps at night, is up and about during the day, and all the while the seeds are sprouting and growing. Yet he does not know how it happens. (Mark 4:26, 27 GNB)

1. Plant Good Seeds 2. Water Those Seeds 3. God will grow those Seeds.

3 Children are a gift from the LORD; babies are a reward.

Philippians 4:5 (KJV)

5 Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand.

Children are a Gift and Legacy

1. A Gift should be Cherished. 2. A Legacy Protected.

4 Children who are born to a young man are like arrows in the hand of a warrior.

1. Children must be pointed in the Right Direction.
2. Keep Your Eye on the Target.

5 Happy is the man who has his bag full of arrows. They will not be defeated when they fight their enemies at the city gate.