

Each word which is in bold font and underlined in the text below may be found in the grid of letters. They might be found from left to right, right to left, top to bottom, bottom to top or diagonally. After all the bolded and underlined words are found the remaining unused letters in the grid will spell a special message.

Todd Helps Dad



Todd could not believe how cranky Dad had been lately. Mom told the children that it was because his company had run into major problems with the construction of a building they were putting up. She said something about the state inspector not approving the plans Dad had drawn for the electrical wiring. Todd didn't understand any of this. All he knew was that Dad was like a bear with a sore foot! The problem was beginning to affect Dad's health, too. He wasn't eating much, and there were large dark circles under his eyes. Todd overheard Mom telling Dad he needed to get more sleep. Dad replied in a gruff tone, "Doesn't do any good to go to bed. Can't sleep anyway."

Todd had been reading a Psalm each evening for his devotions. When he came to Psalm 127, the first two verses seemed to jump right off the page. (Did you read today's Scripture?) Before going to sleep, he earnestly prayed that Dad would be able to relax and forget his problems.

In the middle of the night, Todd woke up. He went to get a drink and saw a light in Dad's study. Sure enough, there sat Dad with his head in his hands, staring at his plans for the wiring. Todd approached him timidly. "Dad, can I show you a verse I read tonight?" he asked.

Sure, Son, said Dad. He waited while Todd found the verse and read it. "It is vain for you. . .to sit up late. . .for so He giveth His beloved sleep," repeated Dad when Todd finished reading the verse. "Hmmm. Thanks, Todd. Let's both go to bed."

The next morning Todd couldn't believe his ears. Dad was whistling! "Todd, this morning I found the error in my plans," he said. "I don't know why I never saw it before. Guess my brain was too muddled by worry and lack of sleep." He tousled Todd's hair playfully. "Oh -- and look here at verse three of Psalm 127. This verse is certainly true, Son."

Arm in arm, the two walked to the breakfast table.

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Has there been a time when your parents seemed concerned over a particular problem -- so concerned that they could not sleep? Perhaps you could gently remind them that the Bible says it is useless to lie awake and worry. God can give them sleep. Remember this in your own life, too. Study well for that big test; then trust God to help you with it. Get a good night's sleep.

TODAY'S KEY VERSE: (Psalm 127:2 I)

It is vain for you to rise up early, to sit up late. . .for so He giveth His beloved sleep.

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