

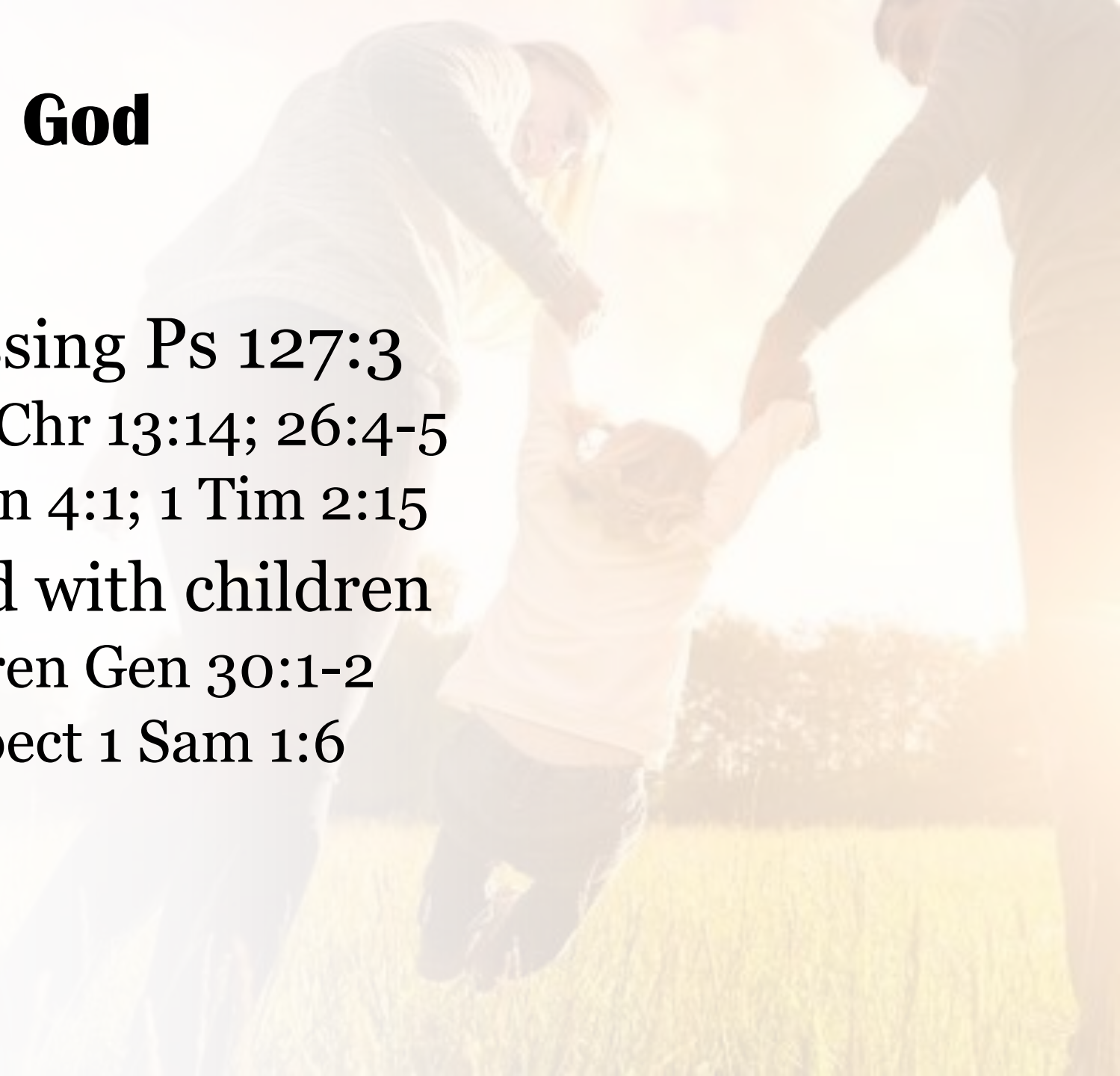
A photograph of a family of three—a mother, a father, and a young child—standing in a field of tall grass at sunset. They are holding hands in a circle, looking down at each other with affection. The sky is filled with soft, golden light and scattered clouds, creating a warm and peaceful atmosphere. The sun is low on the horizon, casting long shadows and a gentle glow over the scene.

Bringing up Children in the Lord

Psalm 127:1-5

Children.. A Gift from God

- See children as a blessing Ps 127:3
 - Gift from the Lord 1 Chr 13:14; 26:4-5
 - God's providence Gen 4:1; 1 Tim 2:15
- Not all will be blessed with children
 - Rachel bore no children Gen 30:1-2
 - Compassion and respect 1 Sam 1:6



Contrast with Modern View

- Focus on the joy of being blessed
 - Important responsibilities, sacrifice
 - The joy outweighs hardships Heb 12:2
- Too many focus on the burden
 - Sacrifice children for own welfare Rom 1:31
 - Two OT examples 2 Kgs 6:28-29 Jer 32:35
- Consequence of evolutionary thought
 - Low view of life Gen 1:26-27 Eccl 3:19-21
 - Acceptance of abortion Jer 1:4-5 Psa 139:13-16

Treat children as a Gift

- We must be thankful for them
 - Hannah gave praise to God 1 Sam 1:20, 2:1-2
 - Be thankful in all things 1 Thess 5:18
- We must value them
 - God's judgement against Ephraim Hosea 9:16
 - Disobedient yet still recognized value of children
- Show value in manner we raise them
 - Good stewards of the blessings
 - Not neglect responsibilities Eph 6:4 Rom 12:2

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