

Psalm 127

George Black

*Introduction. Cantor sings refrain
All repeat refrain. Cantor sings verses.
All sing refrain after each
group of verses.
In the psalm-tone the singer
leaves the reciting note on the
underlined word or syllable.*

Introduction

Child - ren are God's gift, a bless-ing to those who bear them.

- (1) Unless God builds the house,
- (2) their labour is in vain who build it.
- (3) Unless God watches over the city,
- (4) in vain the sentinel keeps vigil. **R.**

- (1) It is in vain that you rise so early and go to bed so late;
- (1) vain, too, to eat the bread of toil,
- (2) for God's friends receive the gift of sleep.
- (3) Children are a heritage from God,
- (4) and the fruit of the womb is a gift. **R.**

- (1) Like arrows in the hand of a warrior
- (2) are the children of one's youth.
- (3) Happy are those who have their quiver full of them!
- (3) they shall not be put to shame
- (4) when they contend with their enemies in the gate. **R.**