
SERMON OUTLINE

Successful Decisions: Trust God and Plan Wisely

- I. Trust God: We must submit our future to God's plan (Proverbs 16:1-4, 9).
 - A. We plan, but God decides (16:1, 9, 33; 19:21).
 - B. God focuses on the motives of our plans (16:2).
 - C. Our plans succeed as we adjust them to fit God's plans (16:3).
 - D. God's plan accomplishes His purposes (16:4; 21:1).

- II. Plan Wisely: We must take responsibility to plan well.
 - A. The wise plan humbly.
 - 1. Seek advice (11:14; 12:15; 13:10; 15:22; 16:20; etc.)
 - 2. Realize you could be wrong (12:15; 16:2; 14:12; 21:2; 26:12)
 - 3. Don't presume (27:1)
 - B. The wise plan righteously (12:5; 15:26).
 - C. The wise plan patiently.
 - 1. Think things through logically (14:15).
 - 2. Do the homework – getting the facts first (21:5).
 - D. The wise plan with common sense.
 - 1. Be realistic – Don't chase fantasies (12:11).
 - 2. Prioritize (24:27).
 - 3. Know when to cut your losses (21:3; 27:12).

Point: God gives us decisions to grow our character.

- 1. Will I accept God's final say about my ideas and plans (Proverbs 16:1)?
- 2. Do I invite God to expose and adjust the motives behind my ideas and plans (16:2)?
- 3. Will I prayerfully yield control of decisions to follow God's guidance (16:3)?
- 4. Do I trust God to work out everything according to His purposes (16:4)?