

Series: Wisdomology 101

Message Title: How to 777 Your Plans (part 4)

Message & Scripture Highlights:

Have a few people read the following scriptures:

Hebrews 11:1

Now faith is the assurance (title deed, confirmation) of things hoped for (divinely guaranteed), and the evidence of things not seen [the conviction of their reality—faith comprehends as fact what cannot be experienced by the physical senses].

Jeremiah 29:11

For I know the thoughts *and* plans that I have for you, says the Lord, thoughts *and* plans for welfare *and* peace and not for evil, to give you hope in your final outcome.

Proverbs 16:3

Commit your works to the Lord [submit and trust them to Him], And your plans will succeed [if you respond to His will and guidance].

Discussion Part 1:

A rifle is sighted basically using three points: there is the rear ‘iron’ sight closest to your eye, the front sight at the end of the barrel, and then of course the actual target. God has short term and long-term goals for you and me. Discuss how your faith shows up as evidence for the short, mid, and long-term plans God has for you. For example: God states clearly He desires “good health” for you in 3 John 2, so how does your faith show up as evidence in your 7 day habits, 7 month plans, 7 year big-picture goal?

S.Marshall thoughts:

You cannot reach for God’s best, and have complete disrespect for His way of doing things, which is to utilize the art of planning. God is a planner. God wants to make your plans succeed, but if you don’t commit your works to Him, or if you don’t make plans (which is evidence of your faith), then how can He cause your plans to succeed? Don’t buy into a ‘lottery’ idea of God. He works by faith, using wisdom.

Have someone read:

Proverbs 18:21

Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and they who indulge in it shall eat the fruit of it for death or life.

Proverbs 29:18

Where there is no vision, the people perish; but he that keeps the law, happy is he.

Proverbs 16:3

Commit your works to the Lord [submit and trust them to Him], And your plans will succeed [if you respond to His will and guidance].

Proverbs 16:10

Divinely directed decisions are on the lips of the king; his mouth should not transgress in judgment.

Discussion Part 2:

Let's talk about what you talk about. What do you see as the vision God has given you for your life? Describe it as a visual. Now, how do you talk about that vision? With negative, hopeless words, or are you positive, and confident in God's ability to help you reach that goal? Is it true, "Nothing is impossible with God"? Do your words confirm that, or discredit and scorn God's character?

Stephen Marshall Thoughts:

When you are a child of God, you have every right to access God the Father's wisdom. Using God's wisdom actively in your day-to-day living is the secret to working "divinely directed decisions". Just imagine making 3D decisions 7 days a week, 7 months at a time, and 7 years in a row. How exciting! Are you truly using His wisdom? Being honest is the best beginning and reflects humility.

Life Application:

- 1) Looking out 7 years from today, where do you think God wants you?
- 2) What immediate decisions can you start this week, for 7 days in a row, that will initiate a habit for success (in alignment with the 7 year goal).
- 3) Now fill in the middle 'iron' sight. What short term goals can your new 7 day habits grow into? (It could be reading the Bible, walking on the treadmill, turning off your cellphone after 7 at night, saving \$5 a day, 8 glasses of water a day, etc.)

Now Pray The Word:

Get someone (or a few people) to lead out in prayer based on the Truth talked about. Pray according to the above scriptures:

"Father God You have thoughts and plans for us, and they're all good! Give us a vision of Your goodness and what it looks like in each of our lives. We commit our works unto You Lord, and ask You to help us make plans that lineup with Your amazing plans, Your will. Let us always honor You by having real evidence of our faith, and confidence in You. Give us wisdom so that we can walk in divinely directed decisions that glorify You. ..." (Continue to pray specifically for one another's needs ...)