

Plan Well Traction- Part 10

James 4:13-17
August 9, 2009

If You Want To Ruin Your Future Right Now...

1. PLAN WITHOUT GOD.

"Look here, you who say, 'Today or tomorrow we are going to a certain town and will stay there a year. We will do business there and make a profit.'" James 4:13

❖ **A BETTER IDEA! : INCLUDE GOD!**

"What you ought to say is, 'If the Lord wants us to, we will live and do this or that.' Otherwise you are boasting about your own plans, and all such boasting is evil." James 4:15-16

"Mortals make elaborate plans, but God has the last word." Proverbs 16:1

"Many are the plans in a man's heart, but it is the Lord's purpose that prevails." Proverbs 19:21

"In his heart a man plans his course, but the Lord determines his steps." Proverbs 16:9

How Can I Get In On God's Will?

- **I have to desire it.**

"I desire to do your will, O my God; your law is within my heart." Psalms 40:8

- **I have to discover it.**

"Your word is a lamp to guide my feet and a light for my path." Psalms 119:105

"For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God." Romans 8:14

"But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all truth." John 16:13a

- **I have to do it.**

2. PRESUME UPON TOMORROW.

"How do you know what your life will be like tomorrow? Your life is like the morning fog—it's here a little while, then it's gone." James 4:14

- **Life is short.**

"Seventy years are given to us! Some even live to eighty. But even the best years are filled with pain and trouble; soon they disappear, and we fly away.... Teach us to realize the brevity of life, so that we may grow in wisdom." Psalms 90:10, 12

- **Death is sure.**

"And just as each person is destined to die once and after that comes judgment." Hebrews 9:27

- **The future is uncertain.**

"Don't brag about tomorrow, since you don't know what the day will bring." Proverbs 27:1

❖ **A BETTER IDEA! : LIVE TODAY!**

"So don't be anxious about tomorrow – God will take care of your tomorrow too. Live one day at a time." Matthew 6:34

"This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it." Psalms 118:24

3. PROCRASTINATE DOING GOOD.

"Remember, it is sin to know what you ought to do and then not do it." James 4:17

❖ **A BETTER IDEA! : ACT NOW!**

"Do not withhold good from those who deserve it, when it is in your power to act. Do not say to your neighbor, 'Come back later; I'll give it tomorrow' when you now have it with you." Proverbs 3:27-28

"For God says, 'At just the right time, I heard you. On the day of salvation, I helped you.' Indeed, the 'right time' is now. Today is the day of salvation." 2 Corinthians 6:2