

Facing the Future

No matter what the pollsters claim, no one can accurately predict all that's going to happen in the next 365 days. The best forecasts are really just educated guesses.

Changes in our society have not only increased in speed and intensity, but also in their unpredictability. How can anyone succeed when the future's so uncertain?

Start by including God in your plans. It's really dumb to make plans without consulting Him first. He's the only one who DOES know the future.

The Bible says, "We can make our own plans, but the Lord gives the right answer" (Proverbs 16:1). You may think after reading this verse that since the final outcome of the plans we make is in God's hands why bother to make plans? Don't misunderstand what this verse is really saying.

There needs to be a partnership between our efforts and God's control. He wants us to use our minds, seek the counsel of others and plan. But ultimately the end results are up to him. That's why we need to live for God, seek his guidance and then trust him. Remember he always knows what's best for us – after all he made us. The hard part for us is to give up control - having the confidence that God's going to take care of us as we rely on him.

While you can plan for tomorrow, you can't live it until it arrives. Many people spend so much time worrying about the future; they have no time to enjoy today!

Jesus said, "So don't worry about these things, saying 'What will we eat? What will we drink? What will we wear?' These things dominate the thoughts of unbelievers, but your heavenly Father already knows all your needs. Seek his kingdom of God above all else and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need" (Matthew 6:31-33 NLT).

Someone once said, "Plan as if everything depends on you. Pray knowing that everything depends on God." When you put your plans in God's hands, you can face the future with peace, hope and anticipation.

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