

Vision-Driven Decision Making

Guiding Verses and Application Questions for Making Plans

1. **Seek first his kingdom & his righteousness, not wealth or providing for felt needs.**

Matthew 6:19-34

- Do my plans reflect that growing in righteousness and contributing to God's kingdom are of first priority?
- What end comes to those who choose riches or comfort over following Christ?

(Matthew 26:14-16 and 27:3-5; Acts 5:1-11; Mark 10:17-22; Jonah 1)

2. **Labor in the harvest**

Matthew 9:36-38

- Will my plans help me to become more of a contributor to the needs of the harvest (the lost world)?
- Follow the story of Peter and John. What decisions do they make to labor in the harvest?

(Matthew 4:19-22; Matthew 10:1-2; Matthew 10:7-8)

- What happens as a result of their decisions to grow?

(Acts 4:1-13)

3. **Have daily fellowship with the body of Christ**

Hebrews 10:24-25, 3:12-13

- Will my plans allow for consistent encouragement and accountability with God's people?
- Is someone going to be present who will be thinking for my growth?
- What amazing things happened in this community of Christians as they spent time together?

(Acts 2:42-47)

4. **Be thinking about & applying God's word daily. This will lead to spiritual prosperity.**

Ps 1:1-2, Josh 1:8

- Will my plans make daily study & application of God's word easily attainable or challenging? What factors contribute to this?
- Follow Nehemiah's prayer for his people & subsequent actions. How does he use God's word & prayer? What is the result?

(Nehemiah 1:2-9 and 2:1-8)

5. **Make disciples and teach them Christ's commands**

Matthew 28:18-20; 2 Tim. 2:2

- Will my plans allow me to be involved in discipleship relationships? Allow me to lead spiritually and be led?
- Do my plans provide outlets for me to consistently share Christ and resources to be trained in evangelism?
- How did Jesus teach his disciples through this miracle?

(Matthew 14:13-21)

6. **Guard yourself from temptation**

Matthew 26:41; 2 Tim. 2:22

- Will my environment help protect me from temptation and the flesh?
- Or could it actually contribute to my temptations? What are my temptations?

Read / Peter 5:8.

- How does the Devil devour David when he fails to guard himself from temptation?

(2 Samuel 11:1-5; 11:14-24; 12:15-19)

7. **Be willing to make dramatic sacrifices in order to follow Jesus**

Luke 9:58-62, 14:26, 18:22

- Could God be asking me to sacrifice something that is really precious to me in order to obey his word?
- What sacrifices did these men make to follow Jesus?

(Matthew 10:5-10 and 10:16-25; Acts 6:8-15 and Acts 7:54-60)

8. Consider changing your plans to accomplish God's best

2 Corinthians 1:16-23, Phil 1:9-11

- Am I holding on to a commitment that isn't the best for me spiritually?
- How did Ananias' plans change? What would have happened if he decided his thoughts were the ones to listen to?
(Acts 9:10-19; Acts 11:25-26; Acts 14:1; 14:21-22; Acts 17:12; 17:34; 18:8; 19:9-10)

9. Do the will of the Father, for this is Christianity

Matthew 7:21, Luke 9:23-25

- Am I truly committed to the Father's will over my own wants and plans?
- How does Jesus decide God's will over his own will? How did Daniel do God's will? What were the results?
(Matthew 26:38-39, Daniel 1:5-16)