



Proverbs: Making Decisions | Proverbs 16:1-16:3, 15:22, 18:17, 21:5

Proverbs 15:33-16:9

- 16** The plans of the heart belong to man,
but the answer of the tongue is from the LORD.
- ²All the ways of a man are pure in his own eyes,
but the Lord weighs the spirit.
- ³Commit your work to the Lord,
and your plans will be established.

Proverbs 15:22

- ²²Without counsel plans fail,
but with many advisers they succeed.

Proverbs 21:5

- ⁵The plans of the diligent lead surely to abundance,
but everyone who is hasty comes only to poverty.

Practical Paradox of God's Will & Our Choices

Proverbs 16:1

- 16** The plans of the heart belong to man,
but the answer of the tongue is from the LORD.

Personal Process of Trusting God Today and Making Decisions for the Future

Proverbs 16:3

³Commit your work to the LORD,
and your plans will be established.

Romans 12:1-2

12 I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ²Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

“Does it make sense to pray for guidance about the future if we are not obeying in the thing that lies before us today? How many momentous events in Scripture depended on one person's seemingly small act of obedience! Rest assured: Do what God tells you to do now, and, depend upon it, you will be shown what to do next.” –Elisabeth Elliot

“Love God and do as you please.” –Augustine of Hippo

“The more we pay for advice, the more we're likely to listen to it. Advice which is from a friend is free, we may take or leave it. Advice from a consultant which we've paid much for personally, we're more likely to accept, but it's still our choice- we can take it or leave it. But the guidance of God is different. First of all we do not come to God asking for advice, but for God's will, and that is not optional. And God's fee is the highest one of all, it costs everything. To ask for the guidance of God requires abandonment. We'll no longer say, if I trust you, you'll give me such and such. Instead we say, I trust you, give me or withhold from me, whatever you choose.” John Newton says, “What you will, when you will, how you will.” –Elisabeth Elliot

1. Don't be impulsive

Proverbs 21:5

⁵The plans of the diligent lead surely to abundance,
but everyone who is hasty comes only to poverty.

2. Seek advise from differing points of view

Proverbs 15:22

²²Without counsel plans fail,
but with many advisers they succeed.

3. Prayerfully ask God to help you examine your motives

Proverbs 16:2

²All the ways of a man are pure in his own eyes,
but the Lord weighs the spirit.