

Priorities and Planning

Priorities

“Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but **understand what the Lord’s will is.**” Eph 5:15-17

This verse tells us that **God has a will, or desire, for the use of our time.** We would expect then that the Bible would help us determine proper priorities and planning - in fact the Bible does offer guidance.

“Go to the ant, you sluggard; consider its ways and be wise! **It has no commander, no overseer or ruler, yet it stores its provisions** in summer and gathers its food at harvest. How long will you lie there, you sluggard? When will you get up from your sleep? **A little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to rest—** and poverty will come on you like a thief and scarcity like an armed man.” Prv 6:6-11

Initiative is necessary in planning.

Waiting for another to direct our ways or being satisfied with idleness when others are not commanding action will lead to uselessness.

“The way of the sluggard is **blocked with thorns**, but the path of the upright is a highway.” Prv 15:19

Making excuses will always be an option, just not a good one.

Setting priorities will allow you to differentiate between serious obstacles and obstacles that are easily fixed.

“Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to **serve others**, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms.” 1 Peter 4:10

You have a gift.

That giftedness should be being used to help others, especially other believers.

“Don’t let anyone look down on you because you are young, but **set an example** for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity.” 1 Tim 4:12

Your age is not an obstacle.

You can make a difference by seeking purity in word, action, and thought.

“**Seek first his kingdom** and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.” Mt 5:33

Giving the right opinion of God should be **the first thing we think of** when setting priorities or planning out our week.



Planning

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
7 : 00							
8 : 00							
9 : 00							
10 : 00							
11 : 00							
Noon							
13 : 00							
14 : 00							
15 : 00							
16 : 00							
17 : 00							
18 : 00							
19 : 00							
20 : 00							
21 : 00							
22 : 00							
23 : 00							

Planning

1. Setting Priorities is the first step in Planning.
List your top 6 healthy Priorities.

2. Setting Boundaries is the second step in Planning.
Write in your rest times for the week.

3. **Now, Plan** your 6 healthy Priorities in the Calendar above.
(ex. Mon. 9a - school; Mon 8p - God, etc.)

4. Next, **Think of specific gifts or interests** you have that you could use during these times.
(ex. Mon. 9a - math homework; Mon 8p - Bible, etc.)

5. Finally, **identify people, places, or things that are obstacles to your 6 healthy Priorities.**
Begin to address them with the help of a counsellor or trusted friend.

