

THE FUTURE OF MBC

The Story of Scripture, part 17

Proverbs 16:1 - 9 & 1 Kings 18, ESV

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PROVERBS 16:1 - 9

The plans of the heart belong to man, but the answer of the tongue is from the LORD. All the ways of a man are pure in his own eyes, but the LORD weighs the spirit. Commit your work to the LORD, and your plans will be established. The LORD has made everything for its purpose, even the wicked for the day of trouble. Everyone who is arrogant in heart is an abomination to the LORD; be assured, he will not go unpunished. By steadfast love and faithfulness iniquity is atoned for, and by the fear of the LORD one turns away from evil. When a man's ways please the LORD, he makes even his enemies to be at peace with him. Better is a little with righteousness than great revenues with injustice. The heart of man plans his way, but the LORD establishes his steps.

IT IS WISE TO MAKE PLANS THAT AIM FOR GOD'S GLORY . . . ALIGN WITH GOD'S PURPOSE . . . AND YIELD TO GOD'S SOVEREIGNTY.

1 CORINTHIANS 12:27

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.

1 CORINTHIANS 12:26

If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together.

PROVERBS 18:1

Whoever isolates himself seeks his own desire; he breaks out against all sound judgment.

OUR MISSION: WHAT IS GOD CALLING US TO DO?

To glorify Him by making disciples and multiplying churches among all nations, beginning in greater Washington, D.C.

WE HAVE A PROBLEM.

11% feel like people know them at MBC.

43% are growing either a little spiritually or not at all.

62% hardly ever, if ever, share the gospel.

WE NEED A PLAN.

To care for one another like we're a family.

To grow in Christlikeness like we're a gymnasium.

To make disciples of all nations like we're on a mission.



OUR MAP: HOW IS GOD CALLING US TO DO IT?

THE DANGERS WE NEED TO AVOID:

Doing everything we can.
Continuing to do everything we've ever done.
Settling for the good and sacrificing the best.
Thinking that more is always better than less.
Thinking that fast is always better than slow.

THE QUESTION WE NEED TO ASK:

How can we most faithfully and effectively accomplish our mission?

1 KINGS 18:36 - 39

And at the time of the offering of the oblation, Elijah the prophet came near and said, "O LORD, God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, let it be known this day that you are God in Israel, and that I am your servant, and that I have done all these things at your word. Answer me, O LORD, answer me, that this people may know that you, O LORD, are God, and that you have turned their hearts back." Then the fire of the LORD fell and consumed the burnt offering and the wood and the stones and the dust, and licked up the water that was in the trench. And when all the people saw it, they fell on their faces and said, "The LORD, he is God; the LORD, he is God."

Do we want to see God work in our lives, our families, our city, and the world in a way that can only be explained by His power . . . and can only be attributed to His glory?

DEUTERONOMY 3:24

O Lord God, you have only begun to show your servant your greatness and your mighty hand.

