

**PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE**  
**Getting Ready for Your Future**  
**Grad Mini-Series 2023**

**FOOLISH MISTAKES TO AVOID...**

**1. USELESS WORRYING ABOUT THE FUTURE**

"... [Who] of you by worrying [can] add a single hour to [his] life?"  
Matthew 6:27 (NIV)

"... *Don't have so little faith! Don't worry and say, 'What will we eat... or drink... or wear?' The people who don't know God keep trying to get these things, and your Father in heaven knows you need them. [The thing you should want most is] God's kingdom and [doing] what God wants. Then all these other things you need will be given to you.*"  
Matthew 6:30-33 (NCV)

"So don't be anxious about tomorrow. God will take care of your tomorrow too. Live one day at a time." Matthew 6:34 (TLB)

**THE WISE WAY: TRUST GOD.**

"*Trust in the LORD with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take.*" Proverbs 3:5-6 (NLT)

**2. ARROGANT ASSUMING ABOUT THE FUTURE**

"Do not boast about tomorrow, for you do not know what a day may bring [forth]." Proverbs 27:1 (NIV)

"Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. As it is, you boast [and brag]. All such boasting is evil."  
James 4:14; 16 (NIV)

"A prudent man foresees the difficulties ahead and prepares for them; the simpleton goes blindly on and suffers the consequences."  
Proverbs 22:3 (TLB)

**THE WISE WAY: LOOK AHEAD AND PREPARE.**

"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." Proverbs 6:6-8 (NIV)

**3. FAULTY PLANNING ABOUT THE FUTURE**

"Now listen, you who say, 'Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city, spend a year there, carry on business and make money.'" James 4:13 (NIV)

"Since no [man] knows the future, who can tell [him] what is to come?" Ecclesiastes 8:7 (NIV)

"Instead, you ought to say, *IF* it is the Lord's will, we will live and do this or that." James 4:15 (NIV)

**THE WISE WAY: PRAY AS YOU PLAN.**

"Many are the plans in the mind of a man, but it is the purpose of the LORD that will stand." Proverbs 19:21

"May he grant you your heart's desire and fulfill all your plans."  
Psalms 20:4 (TLB)

"We may make our plans, but God has the last word."  
Proverbs 16:1 (GNT)

"We should make plans – counting on God to direct us."  
Proverbs 16:9 (TLB)

**4. LAZY PROCRASTINATING ABOUT THE FUTURE**

"... Anyone, then, [who] knows the good [he] ought to do and doesn't do it, [sins]." James 4:17 (NIV)

"Do not withhold good from those [who deserve it], when it is in your power to act. Do not say to your neighbor, 'Come back [later]; I'll give it [tomorrow]' -- when you now have it with you." Proverbs 3:27-28 (NIV)

**THE WISE WAY: DO IT NOW! OBEY.**

"We [can be sure we know Christ if we obey] His commands. [The one] who says, 'I know Him' but does not do what He commands is a liar...." 1 John 2:3-4 (NIV)

"... *RIGHT NOW* God is ready to welcome you. *TODAY* He is ready to save you!" 2 Corinthians 6:2 (TLB)