

“God has a plan 4 ur life”
Series: *“Tweets You Can Live By”*
(Part 3 of 4)

Open: When it comes to everyday life which phrase is most like you: a) I like to live spontaneously, or b) I like to have a plan to follow? Explain.

Explore: Read Romans 12:1-8.

Throughout the first 11 chapters of Romans, Paul explains that righteousness comes only through faith in Christ. Then, in Chapter 12, Paul turns the coin over and points out that faith must also be expressed through obedience to God’s will.

1. How did Paul indicate that we worship God (vs. 1)? What did Paul say should motivate us to live a life of worship to God?
2. What must happen in order for a person to know and agree with the will of God (vs. 2)? To what worldly lifestyles might we be tempted to conform?
3. How does our attitude toward others fit into God’s plan for our lives (vs. 3)?
4. What are the different gifts Paul mentions in this section (vs. 4-8)? How does the church fit in with God’s plan for our lives?

Reflect: Review the LG and discuss the questions below.

1. If God gave people a clear day-to-day list of decisions to make and follow, do you think they would follow it or not? Explain.
2. God has a carefully designed plan for our lives, but there are many misconceptions about God’s will. According to the lesson, what key truths about God’s plan must we understand first? How have these truths broadened your own understanding about God’s purpose for you?
3. As a group, summarize each of the three attitudes (from the lesson) that can hinder God’s plan. Share a time when you struggled with one of those attitudes. Who or what helped you during that time?
4. Our attitude can hinder us from God’s plan, but it can also help us relax in God’s plan. Which verse (from the last section of the lesson) really spoke to you this week? Read the verse aloud and explain why it impressed you.
5. In what area do you need a clearer picture of God’s plan (work, finances, spiritual life, family, ministry, other)?

Live:

As a group: Break into sub-groups (men / women) then answer the following question. God’s plan is that we be in a growing relationship with Him. How would you describe your relationship with God today? How can we pray for you?

On your own: Make a plan to spend time with God this week. It could be in the morning with coffee or in the evening at the kitchen table. Meditate on the lesson, and then thank God for having a plan for your life.

Listening Guide Notes

Truths about God’s plan for your life...

1. Is not a feeling.

“The heart is deceitful...” -Jeremiah 17:9 (NIV)

2. Is not a formula.

3. It is a relationship.

“God, who has called you into fellowship with his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, is faithful.” -1 Corinthians 1:9 (NIV)

Attitudes that hinder God’s plan in your life...

1. Being fatalistic about God’s will.

“If anyone chooses to do God’s will, he will find out whether my teaching comes from God or whether I speak on my own.” -John 7:17 (NIV)

2. Being frightened of God’s will.

3. Being frustrated by God’s will.

“We know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.” -Romans 8:28 (NIV)

Attitudes that help God’s plan in your life...

1. Be hopeful.

“‘For I know the plans I have for you,’ declares the LORD, ‘plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.’” -Jeremiah 29:11 (NIV)

2. Be focused.

^[5] *“The purpose of my instruction is that all believers would be filled with love that comes from a pure heart, a clear conscience, and genuine faith.”^[6] But some people have missed this whole point. They have turned away from these things and spend their time in meaningless discussions.” -1 Timothy 1:5-6 (NLT)*

3. Be ready.

“The eyes of the LORD range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him.” -2 Chronicles 16:9 (NIV)