

Discussion Guide

Read and reflect on this passage:

”To humans belong the plans of the heart,

but from the LORD comes the proper answer of the tongue.

² All a person’s ways seem pure to them,
but motives are weighed by the LORD.

³ Commit to the LORD whatever you do,
and he will establish your plans.

⁴ The LORD works out everything to its proper end— Proverbs 16:1-4

1. Growing up, how did you envision the future? Describe it in detail to the group. How do you see the future today? Describe how you see things playing out in the next 20 years. Are you more optimistic or pessimistic about the future today than you were when you were younger or do think you are being merely realistic?
2. Name some great movies that you enjoyed that depicted the future. How do most films see the future playing out?
3. As best as you can tell, how do your co-workers and circle of friends view the future?
4. Of the three mistakes made towards the future, which one do you tend to make?
5. Do you think most Christians include God in their plans and goalsetting? What do Christians tend to consult God about and are there things we tend to forget to ask God what his will is for that area(s) of our life?
6. As a Christian what were you taught about the will of God and what you should seek his will on? Do you tend to consult God about everything or nothing? What do you think we should consult God on and what do you think he leaves up for us to decide?

It’s okay if people disagree in this area. Just don’t be disagreeable. Have a fun and educational conversation!
7. What’s the difference between referencing God’s will, paying deference to God’s will and giving preference to God’s will? Take an example, like tithing, dating, time on social media, entertainment, retirement, spending, making a career choice etc. and show the difference between the three approaches to God’s will.
8. Share a time when you experienced a sudden change in fortune, either when you were flying high and then hit hard times suddenly or the reverse. What did you learn from the experience?
9. In lieu of the unpredictability of life and frailty of life, how are we to live? How can we respect both truths so we flourish?
10. What’s on your “One of These Days” list? What have you been putting off doing that you really need to take care of now before it’s too late?
11. Any further comments, reflections, insights you gleaned from the message that you’d like to share? Do you have any unanswered questions about the message or topic?