

# Following Jesus Together

## "WHEN GOD REWRITES THE PLAN"

Checklists and to-do lists! What a busy summer! Between the VBS Carnival, our family's 4th of July party, and a large work project, I was overwhelmed. Or so I thought. A couple of weeks ago, my calendar transformed completely—no longer filled with meetings and projects, but with brain scans, surgery, and recovery. Without warning, **I was rushed to the ER for emergency brain surgery.** One minute, I was planning my week. The next, I was waking up in a hospital bed, utterly dependent on others—and on God.

This experience reminded me how fragile our control really is. **James 4:13–15** speaks directly to this: **"Come now, you who say, 'Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town...'—yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring... Instead, you ought to say, 'If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that.'"**

We all make plans, and planning is good. But we're not in control of the outcomes. **Proverbs 16:9** echoes this truth: **"The mind of a person plans his way, but the Lord directs his steps."**

Lying in a hospital room, my carefully arranged to-do list no longer mattered. And yet—something deeper did matter. **Psalms 115:3** says, **"Our God is in the heavens; He does whatever He pleases."** For the unbeliever, this must be deeply horrifying, but for the believer, what an awesome truth to rest upon!

Even emergency brain surgery didn't take God by surprise. He wasn't scrambling. He was sovereign. And He was with me—no matter what happened.

There is deep comfort in that. When our strength fails or our plans unravel, God's purposes hold firm. He is not only wise enough to allow trials—but kind enough to use them for our good and His glory.

My recovery time gave me time to reflect on a very important question: "What is the chief end of man?" Answer: To glorify God and enjoy Him forever!

That answer didn't change in the hospital. If anything, it became clearer.

**For believers—whatever you are facing—uncertainty, illness, success, or sorrow—remember we follow Jesus together by trusting His will above our own.** We don't always understand His plan.

But we know His character. **And Jesus is worthy of our trust.**



Dan Feezor  
Elder

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