



**THE REDEEMED CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF GOD**  
**Anointed Chapel Brampton**  
**DIGGING DEEP**

Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> December 2020

**Topic: Make a Plan**  
**Text: Jer. 29:11, Prov. 15:22; 24:27, Luke 14:28-30**

**Introduction -**

**Planning** is the process of deciding in detail how to do something before you actually start to do it. It is thinking before the action takes place. It is a step by step conception for accomplishing an objective; a proposed or intended course of action; to aim at, to purpose or intend.

**Steps on how to make a successful plan**

1. **Start with a Goal** – A goal is simply what you want to do or achieve. All successful plans start with smart goals. Goals must be saturated in prayer, in accordance to the will of God and must contain good motives - James 1:5-8; 4:3, 13-16; Proverbs 16:2. Identify your long and short term goals. Write them down. Visualize them. Carefully determine the steps you need to reach them. Set priorities on which step to do first, second. Every goal must be SMART – Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic, Time bound. Goals could Spiritual, Ministerial, Professional, Health, Financial, Family, Business, Academic.
2. **Ask the “What” Question** – Luke 14:28-32. Questions like: What is my situation? What are my resources? What is my condition? For example, you have a BSc and you want to do an MSc or Licencing program. What you have is a gap between the present and the future. Your task is to find out how to bridge the gap, and that becomes part of your plan.
3. **Identify Obstacles and the Requirements to overcome them** – Spy on Jericho in Num. 13:17-29. An obstacle is what stands between you and the goal? Write down everything you need to get from where you are to where you want to be. Have a mental walk through on all the steps. Carefully identify and describe problems that might arise. Look for ways to get round the barriers if you must get to your destination.
4. **Take Action** – John 13:17, James 1:22. Sometimes our dreams and goals never materialize because we talk about them but don’t take action. Plan your work, and then work your plan - Proverbs 14:23.
5. **Be in Control** - You need some way to determine if your plan is working. Some mechanisms and checkpoints must be devised to verify if you are on target to reaching your goal. Be prepared to make adjustments if need be.
6. **Reduce Risks** – Heb. 12:1. Cutting risk, cutting cost, cutting unproductive tasks and cutting major distractions will give you a better chance of success. For example, if grades go down, spend more time studying than watching TV or playing video games.
7. **Maximize Opportunities** – 1 Cor. 7:21-23. Imagine a new immigrant can take a volunteering position and then affirm his experience to get a permanent position in the organization than to continue to wait for a longer time to get an interview from outside.

**Conclusion**

Following these seven planning principles will give you a big push to reaching your goals and desires as you fulfill God’s purpose for your life in the New Year. May God richly bless you.