

“We can make our own plans, but the Lord gives the right answer.” Proverbs 16:1 NLT

## lectio // Proverbs 16:1

listen to the text by reading out loud slowly and repeat up to 3x if desired

### Write a letter to yourself. This year I...

Three verses on making plans and when I was younger, each one confused and frustrated me. Now that I'm older - I get it! Finally, I get it. I've been making a lot of plans over the years, a lot of dreams and aspirations. And, I've more or less worked towards those plans to the best of my ability. Then I discovered a truth. God wants me to plan, he wants me to dream and aspire and move towards the things I desire - especially because they are GOOD things, not evil, selfish things. Of course I've thought about the Willy's four-wheeler, the RV, or the Forest green Tesla, but I never held God responsible to make those things come true. However, the real life pursuits: loving my wife, kids and now granddaughters or investing in friends no matter where they live or go to church has paid huge dividends in JOY. I'm still planning and God is still doing what he does - accomplishing his will and good pleasure in me. So I will continue to, “Commit your actions to the Lord, and your plans will succeed.” and I will “make our plans, but the Lord determines our steps.” Because, even in the chaos of enormous changes and the struggles of not knowing the future, God is still God and he is always - ALWAYS - right, true and good. So the letter to myself would say, keeping planning and keep watching God do amazing things with those plans.

I am honestly saying that I am

**HOPEFUL**

going into 2021 and I haven't been this hopeful going into a new year for a very long time!