

Looking back, we often see how God has worked things out in our lives. It can be harder to see His hand when we are in the thick of change, especially during challenging periods.

Yet if there is no change, no movement in our lives, then we are probably not allowing God to do much either.

A strong connection with Jesus and a positive expectant attitude will propel us forward into God's plans. Being disconnected and caught in fear, sin or passivity will hold us back. We need to be aligned with His will to move in His plans.

This daily connection through the Bible, prayer and fellowship needs intentionality to be effective. That is one of the biggest hurdles most of us face.

Thanks for joining me in WiseChoices. My aim is to help you, as well as myself, to move forward into God's exciting plans.

My hope is in Him and I want a significant life that creates a great legacy. You probably want the same. Let's focus first on Jesus so that His plans for our lives come to pass.

With gratitude







God's Plans fo Summer 2014

by Norm McLeod

"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." Jer 29:11

> Thirty-four years ago I didn't know God's plan for my life. Because I didn't know His plan I didn't have any hope for the future. The only plan I had was getting drunk and stoned, parties, wine, women and song... and a bit of violence thrown in the mix. As a consequence I was experiencing the devil's plan for my life and it was harming me.

I was raised in a good household with parents who loved me and taught me good values but I had a chip on my shoulder toward society. I had a spiritual disease that I call blamatitus. I blamed everyone else for my bad choices in life.

- When the cops pulled me up for criminal activity I blamed them for harassing me.
- When I got sacked for not turning up to work every day I blamed the stink boss.
- When I never had money because I wasted it I blamed rich people.
- When my wife complained that I wasn't being a good husband I blamed her.

On the 19th of December 1979 I was cured of blamatitus when I heard the plans of God for my life. Today I have been happily married to the same woman for 34 years, both my children are married and saved, and I have 8 moko who all love God. I experience God's plans of good for me. He has prospered me and my household. None of my kids have been stoned, drunk, in fights or locked up, they only know God's goodness. God has given me hope for future generations. Today I am privileged to oversee amazing churches in NZ and India that see hundreds of souls saved every year.

God's plans for you are also for good - to prosper you and to give you hope. My desire is to help encourage every man to come to a place where they experience the same.

To help you enter into greater realms of God's plan for your life I want to share with you three steps:

1. REPENT

I often used to wonder why so many who believe in God still have trouble with a selfish nature, with anger, violence, addictions, pornography, lying. When we come to God who has for us plans for good we are to come on His terms which are repent first then believe. (Mark 1:14-15) Most western Christians believe first and



often never learn to repent.

What's going to happen if you try to build a house on a sand foundation? It will collapse (Luke

6:46-49). What's going to happen if you believe in Jesus Christ but have never repented? You're going to fall.

Before I began to experience the plans for good in my life I had to first make the choice to give up my sinful selfish living. If a Christian is struggling with this stuff I suggest they need to look at their spiritual foundation. Is it a foundation of repentance?

2. RECEIVE JESUS AS LORD

Why do you call me, "Lord, Lord," and do not do what I say? Luke 6:46

The Lord says: "These people come near to me with their mouth and honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. Their worship of me is made up only of rules taught by men." Isa 29:13

If we want to experience God's plan for good in our life it means we have to follow Him with our walk not just our talk. "Lord" means I give my life fully to God.

There were times when I used to get attitudes with my wife when she wanted me to spend time listening to her. I used to think she was just nagging, until I heard the call to lordship: Husband love your wife.

Are there areas of your life that Jesus is not Lord over? What action do you need to take today?

3. BELIEVE

Having answered the call to repent and receive Christ as Lord, you can now go to the next call which is the call to believe.

- Believe you are forgiven and free from all your sins, shame and guilt.
- Believe you are who God says you are, son of the living God.

Your life and identity are defined by who God says you are, not by who the devil or the world says you were. God says you are a forgiven and beloved son, a work in process. How you see yourself determines who you become.

Believe and see yourself through the eyes of God:

- See yourself as the most amazing husband that your wife boasts about, and the most amazing, caring dad your kids could ever have.
- See yourself as the best worker your boss could ever have.
- See yourself as the most caring, ready to serve helper in the church your pastor could ever hope for.

Make room for God's plans, hear the call to repent, to lordship and to believe.



FEATURED SPEAKER: Wes Chambers - God's Plans for You

Wes worked in heavy construction for 8½ years, building boats and sailing and fishing in his spare time. He has been the senior leader of Living Waters Christian Centre in Christchurch since 1992. Wes has really impacted the men at Promise Keepers by combining scripture with exhortation and expectancy to see the Holy Spirit move in power. In this message he looks at

our identity in Christ and how we can understand God's plans for us better when we walk more closely with the Holy Spirit. 22 min

DRAMA: Out of Body Experience 3 min 20

BONUS FEATURES:

- PK Music Every Praise 3 min
- Mark Gungor The Tale of Two Brains 6 min 15
- My Story Dale Phillips 1 min 30

• Angus Buchan -Chastening 4 min

• Graig Gross - Willpower Pt 1 - Known as the "porn pastor", Craig and his wife head up XXX Church. They specialise in reaching people in the porn industry with the love of Jesus. XXX Church is also focused on helping people break free from porn. This is the first part of a message



Craig gave at PK Canada. Part 2 will be on the next issue. 28 min

• You Can Combat Child Trafficking - World Vision 4 min

HUMOUR CLIPS: Truck crash; Aussie chick; rocket-powered tooth removal; light a match; jet truck 3 min 30

BETTER WORK STORIES: Some Drivers Are Better Than Others Intelligent truck driver; Steel beam truck; Cleanup at Pike's Point; loading Bobcat 3 min 30

DVD EXTRA RESOURCES: Access these using Windows Explorer (PC) or Command F (Mac)

ARTICLES: Including Derek Prince God's Abundance - Tapping the Source Pt 2; Francis Frangipane Removing the Burden of Regret, The Unshakable Kingdom; Kevin Forlong Attention to Detail Determines Destiny; Pat Morley Biblical Christian or Cultural Christian?; Nikki Bray Gifts from the Heart; Luke Gilkerson Husbands Who Watch Porn: 12 Ways to Reassure Your Wife; Mark Buchanan Trust God for the Results; Pure Power 2014 Event Summary Transformed by God's Pure Power; Tom O'Neil Stance Blogs Oct & Nov

RESOURCES: Including *Weekly Studies* for Men's Groups with Facilitator Guidelines; *Event Photos Pure Power* WLG 2014; *Men's Life Stories* WLG 2014; *GO 2015 Advance Brochure; Wes Chambers Study Questions & PowerPoint; Bible Reading Plans* and more...

MP3s: Including Derek Prince *The Holy Spirit in You* 103 min James MacDonald *Act Like Men* 52 min **PKNZ Classics:** Steve Sonderman *Positioned for Purpose* 30 min Peter Lloyd *Journeying Together* 29 min **PK Canada:** Ken Bevel *Our Finest Hour* 43 min **PK Canada Classic:** Doug Weiss *Building a Legacy* 36 min

PROMISE #7

A Promise Keeper is committed to influencing his world being obedient to the Great Commandment (Mark 12:30-31) and the Great Commission (Matthew 28:19-20).

Next Issue: LEADERSHIP