

CrossWalk **notes**

Christmess

Hope for Messed Up Plans (Or... What to Do When Life Punches You in the Gut)

December 12-13, 2020 / Jeff Gunn

Should a Christian even be _____? Isn't the old saying true that, "We _____, and God _____"?

¹⁸ This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. **Matthew 1:18, NIV**

⁹ In their hearts humans plan their course, but the LORD establishes their steps. **Proverbs 16:9 NIV**

Live in the AND. Planning our future always involves the melding together of two plans: _____ plan AND _____ plan.

¹⁹ Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly. **Matthew 1:19, NIV**

³ Let love and faithfulness never leave you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart. ⁴ Then you will win favor and a good name in the sight of God and man. **Proverbs 3:3-4, NIV**

Determine to be _____ in all things to Godly values. Seek God's help, _____ when you've been punched in the gut.

²⁰ But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David,

do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." **Matthew 1:20-21, NIV**

⁴⁵ "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls. ⁴⁶ When he found one of great value, he went away and sold everything he had and bought it. **Matthew 13:45-46, NIV**

Resist _____ - _____! No matter what shattered plans have _____ you, you've already _____ the most valuable possession (and _____!) in the world.

²² All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: ²³ "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" (which means "God with us").

²⁴ When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. **Matthew 1:22-24, NIV**

¹² When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." **John 8:12, NIV**

Finally, allow Jesus and his promises to lift you up and draw you _____ the dark tunnel. Jesus is the _____ that guides us when our plans get messed up.

MEMORY VERSE

⁹ In their hearts humans plan their course, but the LORD establishes their steps. **Proverbs 16:9 NIV**

My next step: I will humbly AND confidently surrender my plans to God's plan for me. His plan is to give me the kingdom of heaven through Jesus.

What's your next step today?

Mark it on your communication card.