



# Many are the plans in the mind of a man, but it is the purpose of the LORD that will stand.

PROVERBS 19:21

#### Plan Your 2024 for the Glory of God

This workbook will walk you through the mindset and process for planning your year in a way that puts Christ first.

Here's the process we'll follow to help you plan your year:



Clarify Your Priorities



**Choose** Your Goals



**Craft** Your Schedule

#### 1. Block Out a Time

This process works best if you are able to do it in one sitting. So, if possible, block out 1-2 hours of undistracted time on your calendar. Turn off your phone, and get away to a coffee shop or library if you need to.

The time you invest in this process will pay back dividends over the next year.

#### 2. Gather Your Supplies

- Physical calendar (if you plan to use one)
- Computer + power cord
- Paper
- Sticky notes
- Pens / Highlighters / Colored Markers

Okay, let's begin with having the right mindset!

### Mindset

As you are planning your year, the most important part is that you consciously put Christ first during the process. Here are a few tips for how to do that.

#### X Don't Not Plan

Yes, that's a double negative. Many Christians have a vague sense that there's something unspiritual about planning ahead. As if planning inherently means not trusting God. That's not true. God has called us to live wisely.

And wisdom requires planning.

Go to the ant, O sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise. Without having any chief, officer, or ruler, she prepares her bread in summer and gathers her food in harvest.

PROVERBS 6:6-8

#### X Don't Plan Arrogantly

James says the person who doesn't subject their plans to the will of God engaging in arrogant, evil boasting (James 4:13–16).

Be careful as you plan that you aren't trusting in your plans where you should be trusting God. And hold all plans with an open hand.

#### X Don't Plan Unrealistically

It's easy to look at the blank canvas of a new year and start to think you have all the time in the world. But if you try to set too many goals without respect to the realities of your own limited time and energy, you will fail.

We'll address exactly how to be realistic in your planning in a moment.

#### Do Plan for Holiness

A major part of a God-honoring year will be your spiritual growth. Make sure as you plan that you are thinking about your daily devotions, church involvement, and personal obedience.

#### Do Plan for Relationships

It's easy to focus your planning on your career, finances, and personal health. They are important areas of life. But it's easy to forget to plan to make time for family, friends, and your church family.

Planning days to have people over, having reminders to call someone on their birthday, or being intentional about date nights with your spouse are all important ways to put time into your relationships.

#### Do Plan for Growth

Make sure you plan for personal growth as well. Make time for reading, taking courses, exercising, and other ways of making sure you are growing in all areas of life.

### 2024 Is a Stewardship



#### Before you look forward, you must slow down and look back.

In this segment, you'll reflect on 2023 and evaluate your wins, what's working, and where to improve.

#### **Reflect on Your Highlights**

The purpose here is to give thanks to God for what he's done in your life in the last year.

## **Examples:**

- Got out of debt
- Renovated the kitchen
- Witnessed to my uncle

- Started new job
- Wrote my first book
- Was consistent with exercise

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#### **Evaluate Your Domains of Stewardship**

Next, closely examine the various domains of your life to see what went well, so you know where to focus your efforts in 2023.

- Walk with the Lord
- Relationships
- Career / Calling

- Health
- Finances
- Recreation

#### Walk with the Lord

#### Rank how you did last year

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#### Relationships

Reflect on your friendships, relationships with family, neighbors, and church family.

#### Rank how you did last year

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#### Career / Calling

Now think about the main focus of your life, whether it's your career or a specific calling like stay-at-home Mom, or pastor. How did you do in this area last year?

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#### Health

How did you do with nutrition, exercise, medical checkups, or any other things having to do with stewardship of your body?

## Rank how you did last year POOR **EXCELLENT** 5 1 2 3 4 What did I do in this area? What went well? What can I improve?

#### **Finances**

What about your finances? How did you do with stewarding your money, saving, giving, and not being wasteful?

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#### Recreation

How did you do with getting enough rest? Are there areas you overindulged in? Did you not make rest and recreation enough of a priority?

## Rank how you did last year POOR **EXCELLENT** 3 5 1 2 4 What did I do in this area? What went well? What can I improve?

# I will remember the deeds of the LORD; yes, I will remember your wonders of old.

**PSALM 77:11** 



# 2. Choose YOUR GOALS

#### To plan a successful year, you must get clear on your goals.

Now that you have your highlights from the previous year salient in your mind try to picture what it would be like to be sitting here next year on this same date. If you were looking back on a successful year, what would that year have looked like?

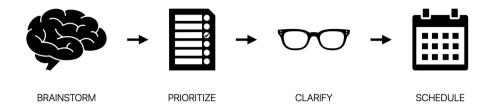
Use the space below to describe what success would look like if it had already happened. I find it helpful to write this in the **past tense**. You may also find it useful to **use your domains of stewardship as a guide**.

#### **Example:**

- I did my devotions almost every day (spiritual)
- Spouse and I had a date night at least once a month (relational)
- We bought a house (financial)
- I took time off of work at least once every two months (recreation)
- I currently have X number of clients (career)
- I consistently counted calories every week (health)

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By defining a successful year, you already have a jump start on some potential goals. Use the space write down any other goals you might want to consider tackling in the coming year.



#### **Brainstorm**

Begin by dreaming big. Make a list of every possible goal you might want to accomplish next year. Goals could be events like a vacation, projects like renovating a bathroom, or outcomes like a health goal. (Again, use the six domains of stewardship from page 8 to help spark your thinking.)



#### **Prioritize**

Next, using the numbered list below, sticky notes, or a computer document, rearrange the list in order of priority.

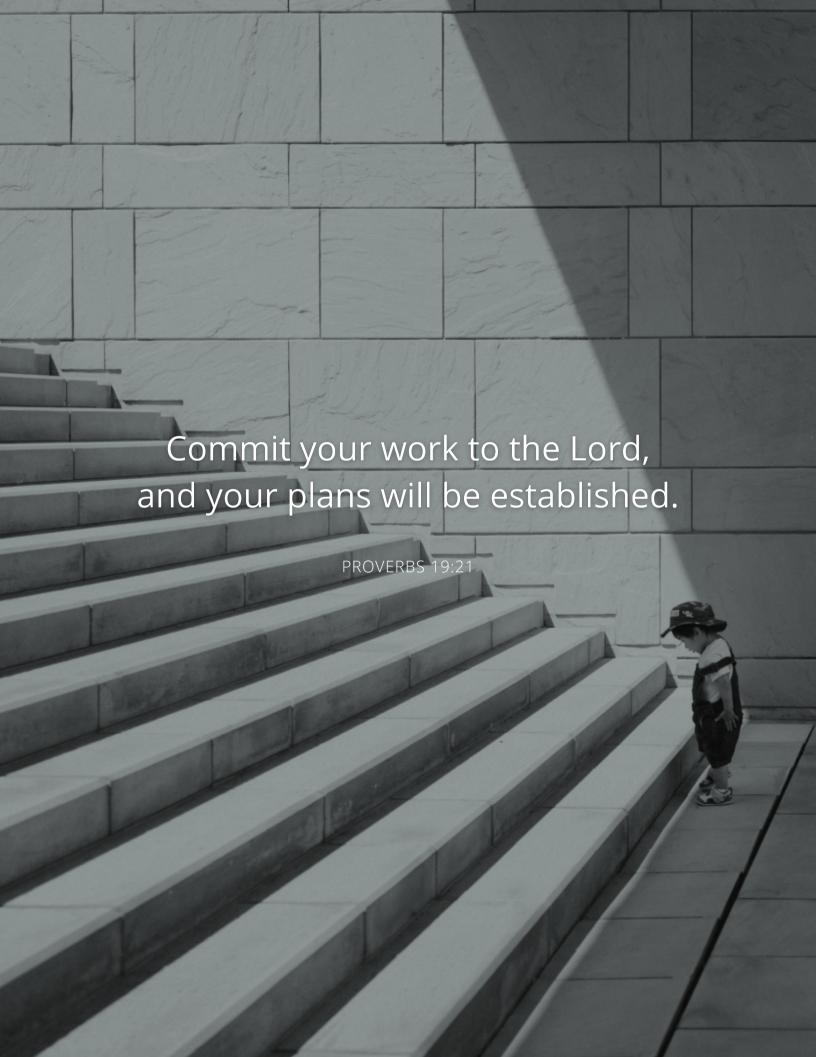
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Note: You don't need to fill in all of these goals. I usually have only about 6–10 major goals for the year.

#### Clarify

Take your top 5 goals and write down what it would look like to have that goal completed and when you would like to finish it by.

Goal 1:	Date:	_
Definition of done:		
Goal 2:	Date:	
Definition of done:		
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Goal 3:	Date:	_
Definition of done:		
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Goal 4:	Date:	_
Definition of done:		
Goal 5:	Date:	
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# 3. Craft YOUR SCHEDULE

#### Schedule

Now add your top 5 goals to the calendar by date when you hope to complete each of them.



If you're doing this on a paper calendar, consider using sticky notes or a pencil. These dates will probably change, especially the ones you set further in the future.

#### **Next Steps**

Now, you'll want to ask what habits will help me reach each of these goals.

Work backward and determine the **daily and weekly routines** that will ensure you can reach those goals by the desired date.

Try using the implementation formula to craft your habit.

#### I will [BEHAVIOR] at [TIME] in [LOCATION].

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Put this on your calendar as a repeating reminder.

#### What Next?

#### You're off to a great start!

But let's put some safeguards in place to make sure you keep the momentum going all year.

#### Add a once a month review event to your calendar.

- Look over your current goals
- Change deadlines if needed
- Make adjustments to your strategy
- Add or remove goals

#### Add quarterly review events to your calendar

- Do the same things you did at the monthly review but...
- Spend more time looking at and praying over each goal
- Ask: What's changed? Have priorities shifted? What's no longer relevant?
- Make the necessary changes to stay on track

#### Find accountability

It's much easier to reach your goals if someone is in it with you. Checking in with a spouse, friend, or mentor can be a great way to clarify your goals and keep you accountable to keep going.

If you want more help with having accountability for your goals as well as other resources for being more productive, consider joining **Redeeming Productivity Academy** or joining our **1-on-1 Coaching Program**.

#### Join Redeeming Productivity Academy!

Want to join other like-minded believers who are seeking to better steward their lives for God's glory?

Redeeming Productivity Academy is a membership that pairs a Christ-centered curriculum with a thriving community.

- Learn productivity techniques from a biblical foundation
- Get accountability for your goals and habits
- Read the best productivity books and discuss them live with other Christians

If you're a Christian who wants to become more productive with you life, get clarity on your priorities, and get accountability for your goals, Redeeming Productivity Academy is for you.

#### **Standard Membership**

#### **\$29**/month

- Our full library of 7
   Productivity Courses
- Private Community
- Quarterly Goal Challenges
- Expert Workshops
- Notion Template

1-on-1 Coaching

**\$500**/month

Everything in Standard plus....

- Customized Plan of Action
- Weekly 1-on-1 Calls
- Daily Check-ins
- Midweek Reminders
- Coaching Dashboard

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#### Plan Your 2024 for the Glory of God



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