

## Why The Best Planning And Advice Can Ruin Our Lives

### The story:

2 Samuel 16:15-17:23, Psalm 55:12-15

### The unseen story:

2 Samuel 16:15-17:23, 15:31, 7:12-16, Romans 8:28-39, Job 42:2, Philippians 1:6

*Sovereignty:* Supreme **POWER** or **AUTHORITY**

*God's Sovereignty:* His **RIGHT** and **POWER** to do  
all things that **HE DECIDES** to do

God may not be **OBVIOUS**, but He is never **ABSENT**.

God's hands might not be **SEEN**, but He is never **SILENT**.

### Our story:

Romans 8:28-39, Matthew 16:24-27, Proverbs 14:12

There are a lot of things that we can do **ALONE**.  
**CHRISTIANITY** is not one of them.

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### The unseen story:

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*Sovereignty:* Supreme \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_

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### Our story:

Romans 8:28-39, Matthew 16:24-27, Proverbs 14:12

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## Food for Thought for the week of September 11, 2022

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1. No matter our life stage, having people we can turn to for wise counsel can help us to make better decisions. In Psalm 1, what stands out to you most about the contrasts between those who follow counsel based on the Word of God and those who don't?

**Psalm 1 New International Version (NIV)**

<sup>1</sup> *Blessed is the one*

*who does not walk in step with the wicked*

*or stand in the way that sinners take*

*or sit in the company of mockers,*

<sup>2</sup> *but whose delight is in the law of the LORD,*

*and who meditates on his law day and night.*

<sup>3</sup> *That person is like a tree planted by streams of water,*

*which yields its fruit in season*

*and whose leaf does not wither—*

*whatever they do prospers.*

<sup>4</sup> *Not so the wicked!*

*They are like chaff*

*that the wind blows away.*

<sup>5</sup> *Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,*

*nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous.*

<sup>6</sup> *For the LORD watches over the way of the righteous,*

*but the way of the wicked leads to destruction.*

When in your life has following biblical counsel benefited you most?

2. In his message this weekend, Chris talked about how the sovereignty of God was at work in David's life. From Colossians 1:16-17, what is God's sovereignty doing for all of creation and how can this truth provide you encouragement in the stressful moments of life?

**Colossians 1:16-17 New International Version (NIV)**

<sup>16</sup> *For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him.* <sup>17</sup> *He is before all things, and in him, all things hold together.*

Even if you can't see that God is working in your life, the Bible tells us that He is. Is there a decision, challenge or ambition in your life today that you can entrust to God's sovereign control?

3. As we seek to follow Christ, Hebrews 10:24-25 asks us to engage in specific ways with others seeking to follow Christ. Have you ever been positively impacted by someone doing these things for you?

***Hebrews 10:24-25 New International Version (NIV)***

*<sup>24</sup> And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, <sup>25</sup> not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.*

Have you noticed a difference it has made in your pursuit of Christ?

Is there anything you can do this week to show your appreciation for what they've done?

*Looking for a way to not do Christianity alone? Life Group Sign-ups are happening now! Visit [northcoastchurch.com/groups](http://northcoastchurch.com/groups).*