



# Long-Range Planning

## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

In his book, *Daily With My Lord*, Glyn Evans begins a brief devotional with these words:

**“My greatest problem as a disciple is thinking naturally.  
I am bent that way from birth, and all my education reinforces it.  
But, Lord, how ceaselessly you try to teach me to think spiritually!”**

Isn't that the truth?! When we begin to make plans to accomplish something substantial... let's say building a house for example... we often begin by deciding the location where we want to build. Then we perhaps hire an architect or a builder. Then we begin to count the cost of the project (materials, fees and taxes, labor, furnishings, appliances, etc.). You get the point – we begin by addressing the earthly, “natural,” decisions that, of course, must be addressed. But what if we **began** the whole process by spending time in prayer, asking for God's guidance and provision so that whatever we do might be pleasing unto our Lord?

Proverbs is part of the “Wisdom Literature” contained in the Bible, along with Psalms, Job, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Songs. Proverbs, especially, provides common sense wisdom for everyday life. Proverbs 16:3 reads as follows:

**“Commit to the LORD whatever you do, and he will establish your plans.”**

Powerful words of wisdom indeed. As we move forward with our Long-Range Planning, our first step is to commit to the Lord all that we do. This is not our church; it is God's Church. We just happen to be the people God has chosen to work out His purposes in this place at this time. Therefore let us “seek first God's kingdom and righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.” Please pray for our Long-Range planning, that what we do might be in harmony with God's plans for us.

Grace and Peace,

*John A. White*

Pastor John