

**“James: Authentic Christianity (10) – Planning for the Future” (4:13-17)**

**Do you make Plans for the Future?**

**Godly Wisdom: \_\_\_\_\_ upon God**

**Earthly Wisdom: \_\_\_\_\_...**

**Conflict within Self, with others and... Rebellion against God**

**Pride – Boastfulness: “Play God” – Sitting in God’s Place to Judge others, and...**

**Making Plan for One’s Own Life apart from God**

**I. The Wrong Way to “Plan for the Future” (4:13-14)**

**A. Rely on \_\_\_\_\_... and Play the \_\_\_\_\_**

**B. The Foolishness of Ignoring the \_\_\_\_\_**

**1. The Complexity of Life (v 13)**

**2. The Uncertainty of Life (v 14a; cf. Luke 12:16–21)**

**3. The Brevity of Life... In terms of \_\_\_\_\_ (v 14b; cf. Job 14:1-2)**

**Seek \_\_\_\_\_ to Live in accordance with God’s Plan (Ps 90:12)...**

**Invest our Lives in those things that have \_\_\_\_\_**

**II. The Right Way to “Plan for the Future” (4:15-17)**

**The Wise and Mature Believer includes \_\_\_\_\_**

**as the Source of Guidance in Planning for the Future**

**A. God has a Good, Pleasing and Perfect Plan for His children (Rom 12:2)**

**B. A Humble Believer is not Boastful, but Submits to God’s Will**

**Submitting to God’s Will is not \_\_\_\_\_, but an Attitude of focusing on the Good, Powerful and Sovereign God as one’s Life’s End Goal (2 Cor 5:7 and 9)**

**C. God’s Will is not an \_\_\_\_\_; Failing to be a “Does of the Word” is Sin**

**Reflection (1 John 2:17): No \_\_\_\_\_ at the End of your Life**

**“Stay Close to your Guide”**

**Witness to the World an Authentic Christian Life marked by Simplicity and the Quiet Assurance of Knowing and Living in God’s Will**

## The Right and Wrong Approaches to Conflict (Source: Unknown)

<b>Area of Concern</b>	<b>Constructive Approach</b>	<b>Destructive Approach</b>
<b>Issues</b>	<b>Raises &amp; clarifies issues</b>	<b>Brings up old issues</b>
<b>Feelings</b>	<b>Expresses both positive &amp; negative feelings</b>	<b>Expresses only negative feelings</b>
<b>Information</b>	<b>Complete &amp; honest information</b>	<b>Selective information</b>
<b>Focus</b>	<b>Conflict focuses on issue</b>	<b>Conflict focuses on person</b>
<b>Blame</b>	<b>Accepts mutual blame</b>	<b>Blames other person(s) for problem</b>
<b>Perception</b>	<b>Focuses on similarities</b>	<b>Focuses on differences</b>
<b>Change</b>	<b>Facilitates change to prevent stagnation</b>	<b>Minimizes change, increasing conflict</b>
<b>Outcome</b>	<b>Both win</b>	<b>One wins, one loses; or both lose</b>
<b>Intimacy</b>	<b>Resolving conflict increases intimacy</b>	<b>Escalating conflict decreases intimacy</b>

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**Earthly Wisdom: Selfish Ambition...**

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**A. Rely on Self... and Play the Role of God**

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**3. The Brevity of Life... In terms of Length and Content (v 14b; cf. Job 14:1-2)**

**Seek Wisdom to Live in accordance with God’s Plan (Ps 90:12)...**

**Invest our Lives in those things that have Lasting Values**

### **II. The Right Way to “Plan for the Future” (4:15-17)**

**The Wise and Mature Believer includes God as the Source of Guidance  
in Planning for the Future**

**A. God has a Good, Pleasing and Perfect Plan for His children (Rom 12:2)**

**B. A Humble Believer is not Boastful, but Submits to God’s Will**

**Submitting to God’s Will is not Fatalism, but an Attitude of focusing on  
the Good, Powerful and Sovereign God as one’s Life’s End Goal (2 Cor 5:7 and 9)**

**C. God’s Will is not an Option; Failing to be a “Does of the Word” is Sin**

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