For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Isaiah 9:6 (NIV)

Merry Christmas from CPFI

"Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own." Matthew 6:34 (NIV)

I imagine I am not the only pharmacist who is made uneasy by verses like these. It is a daily routine to review the upcoming day's activities on my phone, where I can find my pre-set reminders, flagged emails, and five calendars are integrated in one place. Sound familiar? How, then, do we reconcile our type A personalities with verses like the one above? My first instinct is to flip through my Bible to find verses to justify myself. I think of Nehemiah and his years of planning to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem. I turn to Proverbs to read about hard work and the wisdom of planning: "Go to the ant, you sluggard; consider its ways and be wise! It has no commander, no overseer or ruler, yet it stores its provisions in summer and gathers its food at harvest." Proverbs 6:6-8 (NIV)

At this point we must choose either to accept these verses as contradictions or look to a different explanation that pulls them together. When we take the Bible as a whole, we recognize that each instruction and proverb is a piece of God's story for us to be reconciled with Him. Out of context, the Bible can be skewed to justify many choices, but in this context, it serves as a guide for daily living.

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” Matthew 28:19-20

If we go back to the first two verses, we might first ask whether the planner or the improviser is the sinner. What we should ask ourselves is whether we are standing in the way of God's plan for us. It takes some life planning to go and make disciples. Is this planning something we are neglecting? Similarly, God often gives us unexpected opportunities to serve him throughout our daily lives. Are we too focused on our calendar events and check-off lists to even notice? It can be easy to lose sight of this from time to time, but as Christians we can rest in God's grace knowing that he is always eager to include us in his plans.

"Commit your work to the LORD, and your plans will be established." Proverbs 16:3

Dr. Daniel J. Wilson, Vice President
Bloomfield, Indiana
CPFI Prayer Breakfast at the 2018 American Pharmacy Association Annual Meeting & Exposition

- March 18, 2018
- 7:30 am to 8:45 am
- Speaker: Dr. Joy Greene
- Title: “When I Grow up, I want to Be ______________.”
- Location: Nashville Music City Center, Nashville, TN
- Cost: $25.00 (Pay when you register for the conference. A small quantity of tickets will be sold at the door on a first come first serve basis.)

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