

WHEN YOUR PLAN DOESN'T MATCH GOD'S PLAN

A Faith That Works When Life Doesn't
Rick Warren

"I am testing my people, and they can do nothing to stop me," says the Lord.
Ezekiel 21:13 (CEV)

THE DEADLY Ds – NEGATIVE EMOTIONS

When our plans don't work out, we can feel . . .

damaged, debilitated, deceived, defeated, defensive, dejected, delayed, demeaned, demoralized, denigrated, denied, depleted, depreciated, depressed, deserted, desperate, despondent, destroyed, disgusted, disillusioned, discouraged or disappointed.

WHAT SHOULD YOU DO WHEN YOU'RE DISAPPOINTED?

1. ALWAYS _____

"God did not give us a spirit that makes us afraid but a spirit of power and love and self-control." 2 Timothy 1:7 (NCV)

2. ALWAYS _____

"God is the one to fear, because God is in control and rules the heavens."
Job 25:2 (CEV)

"For promotion and power come from nowhere on earth, but only from God. He promotes one and deposes another." Psalm 75:6-7 (TLB)

"GOD decides who will rise and who will fall." (NLT)

"HE puts down one and lifts up another." (AMP)

3. BE PATIENT! IT'S _____

"HOW LONG, Lord? How long do I have to keep begging for you to help our nation? HOW LONG before you listen? HOW LONG before you rescue us from all this violence?"
Habakkuk 1:2 (CEV)

God says: *"The things I plan won't happen right away. Slowly, steadily, surely, the time approaches when the vision will be fulfilled. If it seems slow, do not despair, for these things will surely come to pass. Just be patient! They will not be overdue a single day!"*
Habakkuk 2:3 (TLB)

"Wait patiently, my friends, until the Lord comes. Think of how patient farmers are as they wait for their land to produce. They wait patiently for different seasons and rain."
James 5:7

"We know that in ALL things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose." Romans 8:28 (NIV)

"So we (Christians) set our eyes not on what we see but on what we cannot see. What we see will last only a short time, but what we cannot see will last forever."
2 Corinthians 4:18 (NCV)

4. DON'T _____

"Don't be too quick to go to court about something you have seen. If another witness later proves you wrong, what will you do then?" Proverbs 25:8 (GNT)

"Be warned that there is no end of opinions ready to be expressed. And studying them can go on forever and become very exhausting!" Ecclesiastes 12:12 (NLT)

"Only fools believe everything they are told." Proverbs 14:15 (NLT)

"The gullible will believe anything but the prudent sift and weigh every word."
Proverbs 14:15 (The Message)

"Get the facts at any price!" Proverbs 23:23 (TLB)

5. LOOK _____

"Remember today what you have learned about the Lord through your experiences with him." Deuteronomy 11:2 (GNT)

"Who gave up our nation to the looters? It was the Lord himself, against whom we sinned! We would not live as he wanted us to live or obey the teachings he gave us. So he made us feel the force of his anger and suffer the violence . . . his anger burned throughout Israel, but we never knew what was happening and we learned nothing at all from it." Isaiah 42:24-25 (GNT)

6. BE _____

"We must bear the burden of being considerate of the doubts and fears of others—of those who feel these things are wrong. Let us please the other fellow, not ourselves, and do what is for his good and thus build him up in the Lord." Romans 15:2 (TLB)

7. LOOK _____

"Give thanks IN all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."
1 Thessalonians 5:18 (NIV)

"Remember, our REAL citizenship is in heaven! And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ!" Philippians 3:20 (NIV)

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