**THE FIVE-YEAR PLAN**

Creating a Plan for You and Your Family

Each person, couple, and family are unique and therefore, the format of our five-year plans make look a bit different. While many of us may like the short and sweet bullet pointed plan format, others may prefer to create a sort of simplistic mission statement for each year that promotes a purposeful focus. Others still may embrace a visual style and might want to create a vision board.

Keep in mind that the attached five-year plan PDF is to serve only a springboard for your praying and dream and discussing!

**1. Dream Together**

As a couple, dreaming is one of the most important things you can do together.

Everyone knows how to dream. Before you got married, you dreamed about what your life would be like, where you would live, what you would be doing, and how many kids you would have.

Dreaming and planning is the first step to getting a vision and setting goals that you can share, get in agreement on, and work toward together to bring to pass.

God has great plans for our lives – we know this from Jeremiah 29:11, which states, “For I know the plans that I have for you, says the Lord, plans for well-being and not for trouble, to give you a future and a hope.” It doesn’t cost anything to dream, so set time aside, get away or just find a quiet spot and just talk about your future.

**2. Pray Together**

Once you get some ideas together after taking time to dream, it’s time to start praying about it together. There is an incredible bonding that takes place between you and your spouse when you pray together. It will cause intimacy to grow in your relationship. That doesn’t mean things will always be perfect. But when you are committed to seeking God together and using His Word as the rulebook for your lives, you are on the right path to a building a great marriage.

1Make it a habit to pray with each other and for each other. Matt 18:19 (NKJV) says, “Again I say to you that if two of you agree on earth concerning anything that they ask, it will be done for them by My Father in heaven.” Keep a prayer list of specific things you pray about together on a routine basis. Watching God answer those prayers will be a rewarding part of your marriage, and it will give you victories you can celebrate together!

**3. Be Intentional – Make a Plan**

Vision without action is merely a dream. Action without vision is just passing the time. A vision with action can change the world. Habakkuk 2:2 states, “And the Lord answered me, “Then the Lord answered me, “Write the vision. Make it plain upon the tables, that he may run that reads it.” From this verse in the Word of God, we see a template for writing down our plans so that we can carry them to fruition.

The first step we need to take when we God gives us a vision is to write it down. Habakkuk 2:2 (KJV) says, “Write the vision, and make it plain upon the tables, that he may run that breadth it.” Writing the vision down helps you remember what the vision is. It also gives you the “big picture” view to keep in front of you as you plan smaller goals to achieve it.

**4. Revisit and Revise the Plan**

Keep in mind that things will happen – both positive and negative – and adjustments to the plan will need to be made. Also, realize that God does not give us the entire picture ahead of time and therefore, He will show us additional pieces of information that may require us to change course. Proverbs 16:9 states, “We can make our plans, but the Lord determines our steps.

During this process, take time to write out scriptures to remind you what God’s Word says. Write out scripture verses like Ps. 139:16-17, Jeremiah 29:11, Jeremiah 33:3, just to name a few, and personalize them by inserting your name in the verses. Make it a habit to regularly read the vision God has given you and also read the personalized scriptures He shows you. As you do, it will build faith in your heart so that you can put action to your vision and run with it!

**5. Celebrate Successes**

In the Word of God, we see the pattern of setting aside days to celebrate and to remember… It is important to remember that as you make achievements or adjustments to your plan, you take time to celebrate the time, hard work, or sacrifice needed to achieve those goals. Furthermore, it is even more important to take time to thank God for His goodness that provided your success.

Deuteronomy 4:9, “Only be careful, and watch yourselves closely so that you do not forget the things your eyes have seen or let them fade from your heart as long as you live. Teach them to your children and to their children after them.”

It is vital to model thankfulness to your children and what a better time than as you achieve goals along the way of the plan. Tell them what God has done to provide and promote your family and remind them that He will do the same for them at whatever stage they are at in their own lives.

**Other important verses…**

Psalm 127:1, “Unless the Lord builds the house, the builders labor in vain.”

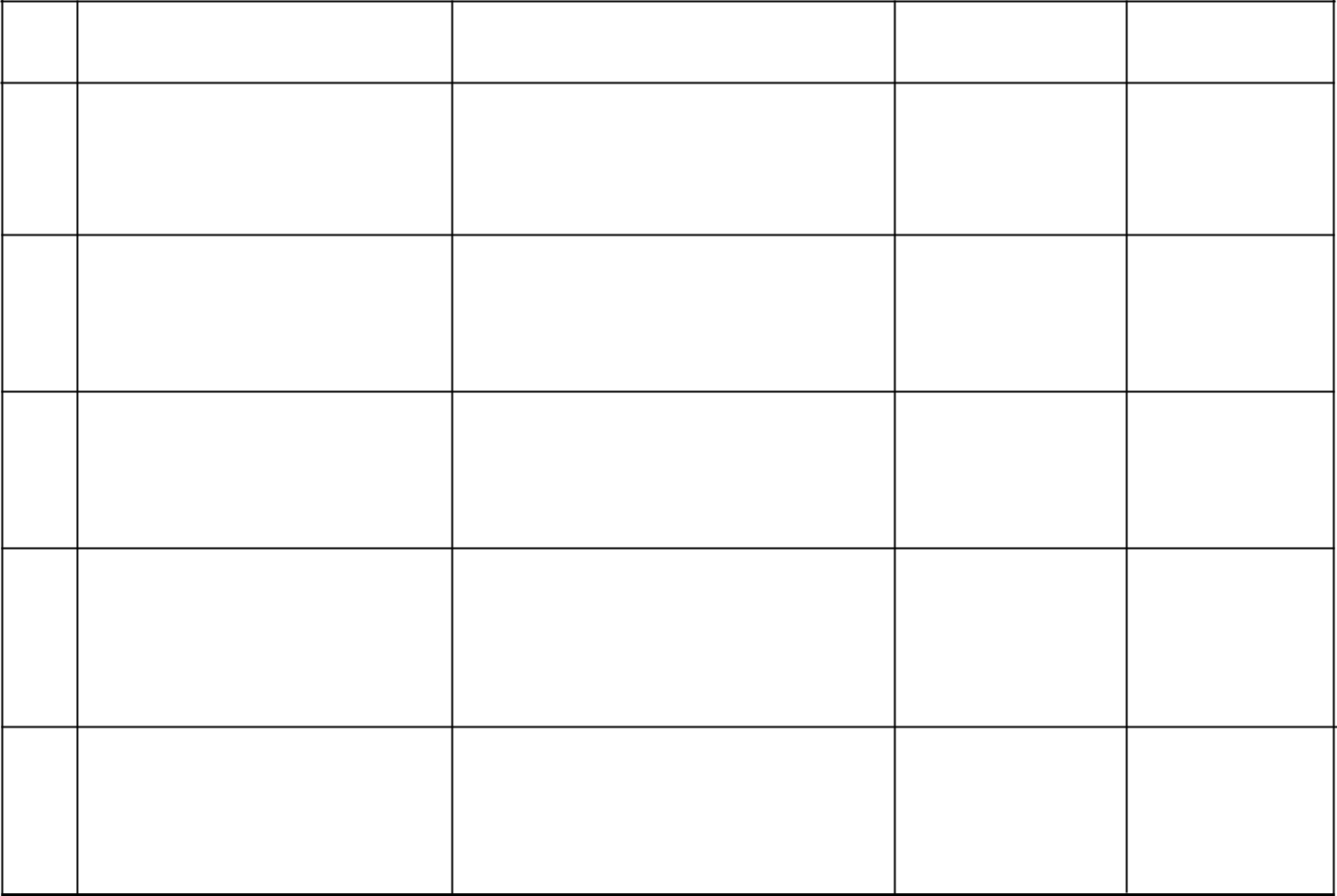
Proverbs 3:6, “Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.”

Proverbs 16:3,” Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and he will establish your plans.”

2 Chronicles 15:7, “But as for you, be strong and do not give up, for your work will be rewarded.”

**Five-Year Plan Worksheet**

**Personal Goals**



|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Goal** | **Description** | **Start** | **Finish** |

**1**

**2**

**3**

**4**

**5**

**Thoughts for This Section…**

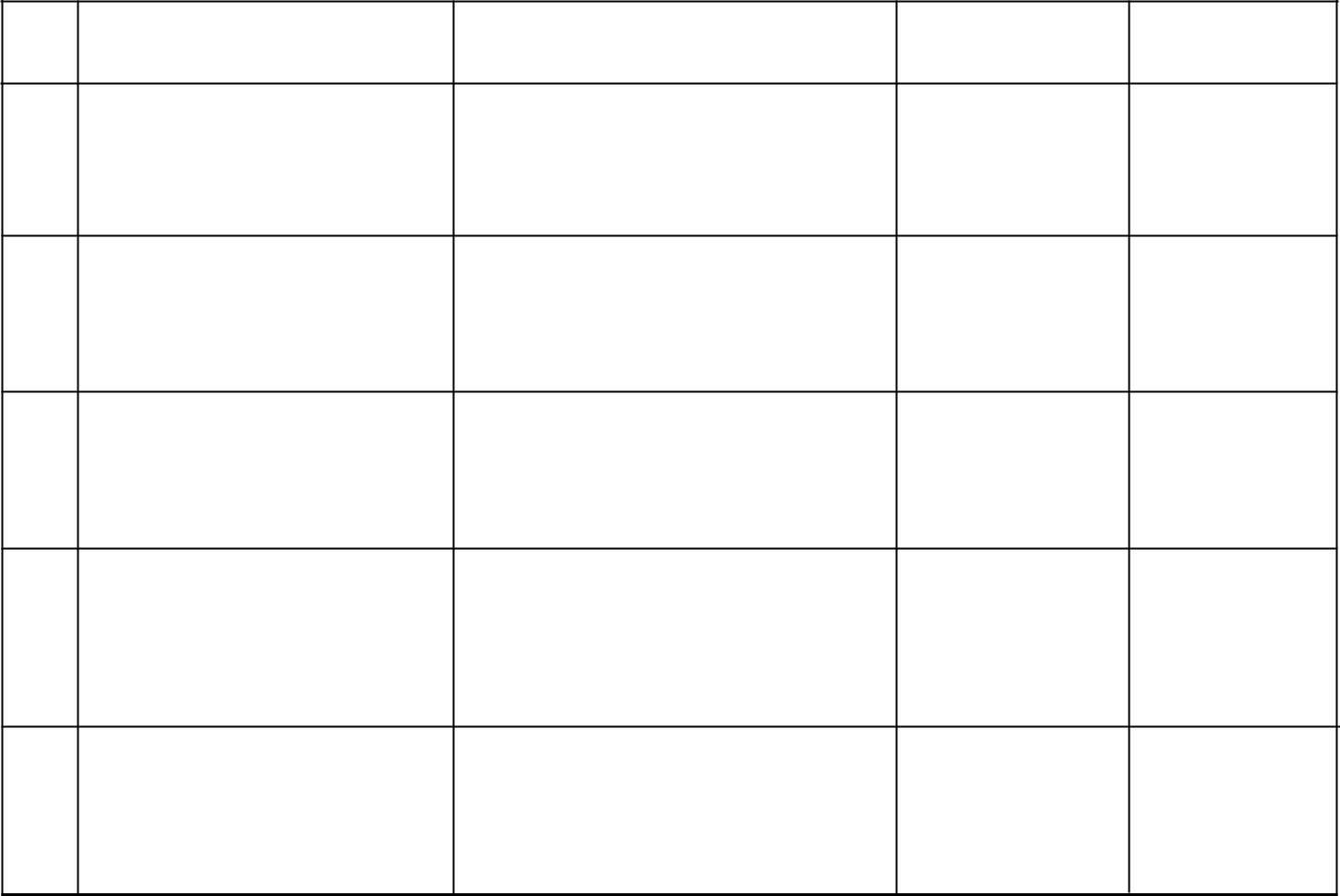
Personal: Health, Friendships/Mentors, Extended Education or Training, Hobbies, Financial Goals, Character Traits or Personal Habits

**Action Step:**

Write out 3 scriptures to pray over your goals.

**Five-Year Plan Worksheet**

**Professional Goals**



|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Goal** | **Description** | **Start** | **Finish** |

**1**

**2**

**3**

**4**

**5**

**Thoughts for This Section…**

Professional Goals: Education, Career or Job Changes, Career Achievements and or Awards, Contributions to the Profession.

**Action Step:**

Write out 3 scriptures to pray over your goals.

**Five-Year Plan Worksheet**

**Family Goals**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Goal** | **Description** | **Start** | **Finish** |

**1**

**2**

**3**

**4**

**5**

**Thoughts for This Section…**

Family Goals: Relationships, Finances, Family Trips or Vacations, Children and their Character Growth or Education, Buying Home or other major purchases.

**Action Step:**

Write out 3 scriptures to pray over your goals.