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## The Proverbs Series

### **How to Have the Best Results**

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**Proverbs 16:1-10** <sup>1</sup>The plans of the heart belong to man, but the reply of the tongue is from the LORD. <sup>2</sup>All a man's ways are pure in his own eyes, but his motives are weighed out by the LORD. <sup>3</sup>Commit your works to the LORD and your plans will be achieved. <sup>4</sup>The LORD has made everything for His purpose—even the wicked for the day of disaster. <sup>5</sup>Everyone who is proud in heart is detestable to the LORD; be assured that he will not go unpunished. <sup>6</sup>By loving devotion and faithfulness iniquity is atoned for, and by the fear of the LORD one turns aside from evil. <sup>7</sup>When a man's ways please the LORD, He makes even the man's enemies live at peace with him. <sup>8</sup>Better a little with righteousness than great gain with injustice. <sup>9</sup>A man's heart plans his course, but the LORD determines his steps. <sup>10</sup>A divine verdict is on the lips of a king; his mouth must not betray justice. BSB

**Intro:** What does the name the LORD mean?

#### I. What are the details of this passage?

- A. The first verse is very controversial. There are two interpretations. The first interpretation says that we are **puppets**, and that God controls what everyone speaks. The second interpretation is that the condition of our heart is **controllable**. V. 1, 5, 9
- B. Godly council is needed in major **decisions**. V.2
- C. When God is made the **center** of one's life the other details fall into place. V. 3, 7
- D. God is **sovereign** and it is wise to serve him now. V.4
- E. Change is **always** possible as long as you are still living. V. 6
- F. **Contentment** overrides greed. V. 8
- G. Our leaders will be held **accountable** to God. V. 10

#### II. What can we learn from this?

- A. We must deal with unforgiveness, lies and worldly priorities if we are to be what **God** wants us to be.
- B. We must **seek** godly council through relationships, prayer and Scripture.
- C. **True belief** in the LORD is the beginning of godly character.
- D. The time to start godly change is **today!**
- E. We need to **submit** to the authorities that God has put over us as long as it is within the perimeters that He has established.