

# Youth Group Lesson Outline

## Instructor's Sheet

### LESSON TITLE: "God has a Plan for You!"

**INTRODUCTION:** "What do I want to be when I grow up"? That's probably a question you have pondered thousands of times while you were growing up. With high school graduation just around the corner, I am sure some of you are pondering this question more seriously now than ever. Before making your final decision, taking time to look inside the Word is vital. This lesson is designed to go through parts of the Word in order to gather some insight on how we can determine God's plan for our lives.

Let's start at **Jeremiah 1:5**:

*Before I shaped you in the womb, I knew all about you. Before you saw the light of day, I had holy plans for you: A prophet to the nations — that's what I had in mind for you." – Message Translation*

*Before I formed you in the womb I knew [and] approved of you [as My chosen instrument], and before you were born I separated and set you apart, consecrating you; [and] I appointed you as a prophet to the nations. – Amplified Translation*

#### POINT 1: Realize and acknowledge that God has a plan for you.

- According to the Message Translation, God had **holy** plans for Jeremiah.
- Jeremiah was God's **chosen** instrument, or in other words God's chosen "**person to be used by God**".
- God's plan for Jeremiah was to be a **prophet** to the nations.
- Just as God had holy plans for Jeremiah, God has **holy plans** for **you**.
- And, just as God knew Jeremiah in his mother's womb and called him to be a prophet, God also knew **each of us** and has called us to **be something**.

So you may be thinking, "Does this mean that God's plan for me is to be a prophet or a preacher?" No, not necessarily. There are many things you could be called to be, and they don't necessarily have to be "in" the church.

#### POINT 2: God calls different people to do different things.

Let's look at a few other people in the Bible to see what God's plan was for them:

- God's plan for Joseph was to be a **leader in government**. – *Genesis 41:39-45*
- God's plan for Samson was to be a **Nazirite** and to **deliver Israel** out of the hands of the Philistines. - *Judges 13:2-5*
- God's plan for David was to be a **king**. – *1 Samuel 16:1-13*
- God's plan for Mary was to be the **mother of Jesus**. – *Luke 1:26-38*
- God's plan for Paul was to **preach** the **gospel** to the **Gentiles**. – *Acts 9:15-16*

Do you like to write, talk,  
dance, play sports?  
What are you good at???

Even though God's plan for us may differ from Jeremiah and the others mentioned, each of us are called and ordained by God to do "**something**". It could be something in business, ministry, entertainment, government, education. There are many areas that God employs His people and there is much work to be done for His Kingdom.

So how do I find out what that "some thing" is?

#### POINT 3: First, realize that you do not choose it, rather you discover it.

Let's look at the story of David. Let's read **1 Samuel 16:1-13**:

<sup>1</sup> Now the LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you mourn for Saul, seeing I have rejected him from reigning over Israel? Fill your horn with oil, and go; I am sending you to Jesse the Bethlehemite. For I have provided Myself a king among his sons." <sup>2</sup> And Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears it, he will kill me." But the LORD said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.' <sup>3</sup> Then invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; you shall anoint for Me the one I name to you."

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<sup>4</sup> So Samuel did what the LORD said, and went to Bethlehem. And the elders of the town trembled at his coming, and said, "Do you come peaceably?" <sup>5</sup> And he said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD. Sanctify yourselves, and come with me to the sacrifice." Then he consecrated Jesse and his sons, and invited them to the sacrifice.

<sup>6</sup> So it was, when they came, that he looked at Eliab and said, "Surely the LORD's anointed is before Him!" <sup>7</sup> But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look at his appearance or at his physical stature, because I have refused him. For the LORD does not see as man sees; for man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart." <sup>8</sup> So Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. And he said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." <sup>9</sup> Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." <sup>10</sup> Thus Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel. And Samuel said to Jesse, "The LORD has not chosen these."

<sup>11</sup> And Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all the young men here?" Then he said, "There remains yet the youngest, and there he is, keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him. For we will not sit down till he comes here." <sup>12</sup> So he sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, with bright eyes, and good-looking. And the LORD said, "Arise, anoint him; for this is the one!" <sup>13</sup> Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers; and the Spirit of the LORD came upon David from that day forward. So Samuel arose and went to Ramah.

David did not **choose** what God's plan was for him, but he **discovered** it, or in other words, it was **revealed** to him by **God**.

- Just as God revealed His plan to those in the Bible, God will reveal His plan for **you to you**.

So, when you realize that you cannot choose the plan but you have to discover it. What do you do next?

### POINT 4: Make a quality decision to discover and pursue God's plan for you.

- **Knowing** that God has a plan for you and that you have to discover is not **enough**. You must make a **decision** in your **heart** to pursue it.
- One of the ways you pursue God's plan is by getting involved in **activities** that help develop your skill and knowledge in that area.
- Your **faithfulness** to pursue the parts of the plan you discover will allow God to reveal **more** of the plan to you.
- How will God reveal this plan to you?
  - During times of **Prayer**
  - While reading His **Word** or the **Bible**
  - By **listening** to your Pastor or other ministers teach the Word.
  - By the leading of the **Holy Spirit**
  - By **recognizing** your natural strengths and abilities – David was already a shepherd before he became a King. A shepherd is a person that is responsible for and watches over his flock; this is the same function of a king, to watch over the people. David was in a sort of "training" to be king even before he knew he would be!
  - Do you **enjoy** doing it? Whatever it is you are called to do, it should bring peace and joy to you. Even when things are a little rough, you should always find joy doing the thing you have been designed and fashioned to do.

Discovering God's plan is really not as hard as you may think!

**CONCLUSION:** So before you make your final decision about what you want to do after graduation, take into consideration God's plan for you. Ask yourself, "With what I plan to do, have I given any thought to how this fit into what God put me on the earth to do?" Then, pray and ask God to order your steps and direct your path. Having a heart to do God's plan for you will open the door for Him to reveal that plan to you. And once He begins to reveal it, look for opportunities to step out in faith to pursue it.

**Prayer Confession:** Father, I realize and acknowledge that You have a plan for me. I know that I cannot choose my plan, but I make a quality decision to discover it and ask that You reveal it to me. As You reveal Your plan for me to me, I will pursue it with all my heart. I believe I receive this now in the Name of Jesus.