

James 4:13 (NLT2)

Look here, you who say, “Today or tomorrow we are going to a certain town and will stay there a year. We will do business there and make a profit.”

Today, there are apps to help us organize our time each day. There are apps even for churches to organize the church service each Sunday, breaking it down into minutes, even seconds to determine who is doing what, and when, and how much times each aspect of the service is allotted. Be it worship, announcements, teaching/preaching, altar call, closing worship song(s), etc....

We also organize our time around our job, family time, yardwork, walk the dog, wash the car, wash our clothes, go grocery shopping, feed the fish, eat a meal... and in our organizing of our time, if God is lucky (in our minds) we'll pencil Him in to our busy schedule, yet rarely find the time that we penciled Him in for, so we erase it, and pencil Him in for another time or maybe tomorrow, if I can fit Him in.

And for you younger readers, to “pencil someone in” meant you would put them on your calendar or in your planner in pencil, that way if something, or someone else came up, you could erase their name, and pencil them in for some other time. Or think of it like this, you would not use an actual ink pen to write them into your schedule, you only did that for important people, but those not so important, you used a pencil just in case you needed to find an excuse not to meet with them at that time. But you younger people know that with apps now a days, you can do the same thing, just reschedule on your calendar or in the app, pretty much the same as erasing someone from your busy schedule.

But let's ask ourselves a question; Is God so unimportant in my lives that I chose to pencil Him into my busy schedule, or is He so important in my life that I choose to use ink, Permanent Ink, in my daily schedule, and pencil everything and everyone else in around me time with Him?

How do we know which one we are doing?

Let's say that we hear about a prayer meeting at our church next Tuesday, do we pencil that in, just in case something more important comes along, so we find excuses not to join our church family in prayer. Or when other things come up for that Tuesday, do we say, sorry, I can't make it or do that or watch that, because I WANT to go pray with my church family?

The same is true for a weekly bible study, and for some, it could even be church on Sunday.

I know Jesus said it best when He said:

† **Matthew 6:21** *For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.*

Or as the NLT puts it:

† **Luke 12:34 (NLT2)** *Wherever your treasure is, there the desires of your heart will also be.*

What or who are “*the desires of your heart.*” Just look at your calendar or scheduling app on your phone. It would be like, if a church has to pencil in worship for the Sunday service, that’s not worship, that’s a scheduled time to sing a few songs, but not to worship the Lord. Because worship and every aspect of the Sunday service should be led by the Holy Spirit, not some man-made app.

The same is true for us, if we have to pencil our time with the Lord or even the church family, it now has become a scheduled meeting and not a relationship with the Lord.

So let’s start each day, not telling God what our schedule is, but asking Him what His schedule is for us. You never know, His schedule may be the same one you have, with a few twists that will make you day more joyful and exciting.

† **Psalm 31:3** *For You are my rock and my fortress; Therefore, for Your name's sake, Lead me and guide me.*

† **Proverbs 16:9 (MSG)** *We plan the way we want to live, but only GOD makes us able to live it.*

† **Ephesians 1:11 (NLT2)** *Furthermore, because we are united with Christ, we have received an inheritance from God, for he chose us in advance, and he makes everything work out according to his plan.*