



DATE	September 16, 2018
SPEAKER	David Smith
TITLE	I Will Answer
SERIES	The Bible has a lot to say to each of us. Different verses speak to us at different times, but often, there are a few highlighted verses we keep coming back to. Let's hear from our pastors about the verses they live by and why they're so meaningful.

So much of our worry and stress revolves around the fact that we don't always know what is going to happen in the future. Isn't it reassuring that we can be an active participant in the plan that God already has for us?

1. How would your life be if it was completely predictable? What if absolutely none of it was predictable? Does either option appeal to you?
2. God has a plan. In what way is this reassuring and/or unsettling? What are some of the dangers/consequences of treating His plan like a "lazy river?" How could it be motivating to have a genuine stake in God's plan for us?
3. David gave us 4 key phrases with accompanying *Bible* references to help us discover God's plan in our lives: Confession; Waiting; Direction; and Prayer. Consider Proverbs 3:5-6 and John 10:27. What phrase would you give each of these verses if added to the list?
4. Why is knowing God's plan prefaced by confession?
5. Revisit the idea of active waiting (Prayer/Listening/Taking the next step). What would it look like in your life to actively wait? What effect do you think active waiting would have on the Global Church?
6. If heaven is north and every other direction is going away from heaven, what would others think is your directional destination? If a person's direction is not completely north, what types of seemingly benign things could be changing his/her course? What would it look like to recalculate a person's spiritual GPS?
7. Even though God doesn't change, prayer does change the actions of God.
 - a. Why are we sometimes hesitant to pray? What can 2 Chronicles 7:14 reveal about our prayer life?
 - b. What does God promise us in Jeremiah 29:11-14 and Psalms 37:4-5? How do these verses direct the way we pray? Why is it sometimes easier to rejoice in the Lord than to trust in Him? Are you struggling to fully submit and trust in the Lord in an area of your life?
 - c. Look at James 1:5 and James 4:2 for more prayer advice. Are the two verses in support or conflict of each other?

We still may not know every exact detail and outcome of our future, but we do know that God is in control of it and has plans to "give [us] hope and a future" (Jeremiah 29:11). Consider being an active participant in God's plan for you this week.