**Sermon Title** (2-4 words)

SUBMISSION PRECEDES DIRECTION

**Sermon Blurb** (2-3 sentences)

A brand-new year, 2022, will I be planning and be strategic about the year ahead? Should I have a big plan or short-term plan and hope for the best? Should I be planning at all or just take one month at the time? Come on Sunday and find out what the wisest man, Solomon, has to say and the solution to those questions.

**Online Notes** (key verses, phrases, fill-in-the-blank sentences, quotes… whichever applies best to your sermon and how you write it)

**Sermon Online Notes:**

* Sermon Time: Submission Precedes Direction
* Sermon Texts
  + Proverbs 16:1-3; James 4:7-8

[1] The plans of the heart belong to man, but the answer of the tongue is from the LORD.

[2] All the ways of a man are pure in his own eyes, but the LORD weighs the spirit.

[3] Commit your work to the LORD, and your plans will be established

* Introduction

**When God providentially takes me on an unwanted journey, I should be alert to the signs that lead me to a place of glorifying Him and rejoicing in His presence**

* The Body

[1] The plans of the heart belong to man, but the answer of the tongue is from the LORD. - **HUMAN STRATEGY**

* + Our Planning has its LIMITS
  + God’s responses are not depended on our plannings

[2] All the ways of a man are pure in his own eyes, but the LORD weighs the spirit – **SELF-DECEPTION**

* + Misconception – THE SOLUTION FOR OUR PROBLEM IS OURSELVES
  + Facing disappointment has a way of making us aware of our true characters and our true identity.

[3] Commit your work to the LORD, and your plans will be established – **BIBLICAL SOLUTION**

* + God’s responses are not depended on our planning
  + Direction doesn’t begin with a search for direction
  + Direction begins with SUBMISSION
  + James 4:7-8  7 Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. 8 Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.
  + SUBMISSION PRECEDES DIRECTION
  + an intentional sort of commitment of our hearts and our minds
  + Daily PRAYER becomes a means of DAILY SURRENDER.
  + PRAYER is a process by which we grow
  + PRAYER is a school of self-forgetfullness
  + PRAYER, is a discipline.
  + PRAYER is fundamentally about surrender.

Application

1. In the next 3 weeks – 21 days
   1. Pray daily, spending at least 30 minutes, with your family if you can.
   2. In the next 3 Wednesday night – house of prayer at church

**When God providentially takes me on an unwanted journey, I should be alert to the signs that lead me to a place of glorifying Him and rejoicing in His presence**