

If you know me well, you know I am an on-time schedule follower and planner. I don't like surprises and I don't do well with "last minute" activities or changes. That's just the way I am. My daddy was much like that too. But life does not often follow a schedule.

I wonder if the Apostle Paul liked schedules and plans. After all, he seemed to be a pretty organized guy; hard-working and disciplined. But as I read and study the letters he penned, I get the feeling that Paul, even if he liked a schedule and a plan, learned to be flexible. It's obvious that the agenda Paul followed was God's agenda and most of the time God's agenda doesn't always follow a schedule. Especially not our own.

In Paul's letter to the Ephesians, he wrote, "For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." (Ephesians 2:10). Paul understood he was created for the purpose or assignment God had specifically planned for him. His greatest desire was to do that assignment and win people to Christ no matter what it required. Even when "the best-laid plans went awry". As I ponder Paul's determination, I have to ask myself, is that my desire too?

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