



LWML CNH CHRISTIAN LIFE LINE

MAY 2019

LaVada Terrell - VP, Christian Life

LWML CNH RETREAT – August 23-25, 2019

Episcopal Conference Center Oakhurst (ECCO)

God's Surprises: Gleanings From Ruth

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11 (NIV)

PLANS, PLANS, PLANS

Growing up, you make plans about what you will do when you are grown up: your education, your wedding, your children, your career. The years pass quickly and you find yourself planning for mid-life; approaching empty nests, new occupations. Then you begin to plan your retirement years and where to travel, how to spend your time productively. You never seem to quit planning...until you die.

Planning is good. It gives our hopes, dreams, and aspirations shape, and it helps keep us on a straight course. Yet when we take time to reflect on our past, we realize that some plans did not turn out quite as we had anticipated. Detours had to be made and experiences endured, but a guiding hand was always there...*the Hand of the Lord.*

Solomon reminds us that while we consider our plans, it is the purpose of our Father that will stand.

Many are the plans in a person's heart, but it is the Lord's purpose that prevails. Proverbs 19:21 (NIV)

In their hearts humans plan their course, but the Lord establishes their steps. Proverbs 16:9 (NIV)

Our plans are often very limited and encompass only our little corner of the world – what we can see and understand. Our Heavenly Father's plans are so complex that He knows what we need to experience in our early years of life to sustain us in our later years. He knew when He sent His Son, Jesus, to be our Savior what we needed in order for us to be able to look forward to our future in His Heavenly Home.

In Jeremiah 29:11, our Heavenly Father promises that He has great plans for us. He promises to give us hope and a future. He has a purpose for our life. As we plan, let's begin with prayer and meditation on the Scriptures. Again Solomon teaches us in Proverbs 3:5-6: *Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.* Keep your eyes open to the Lord's words for He guides, directs, and sustains us. Our plans have limits; His are limitless.

When we despair in life or fret over the future and wonder what to do, we need to remember that His ultimate plans are for our good. Pray for His guidance and direction. Know that His promise of hope and a future for you will be fulfilled.

Dear Lord, Our days are filled with plans for things to come. Give us the wisdom to plan wisely and to realize that You, in Your infinite wisdom, will bring forth what is for our good.

*Thank You for always being present for us. We know that in You we have a hope-filled future.
In Jesus' Name we pray. Amen.*

P L A N NOW TO COME TO THE LWML CNH RETREAT!

*The Bible Study Leader will be sharing with us about Ruth's plans
and God's plans for Ruth.*

The Retreat Package was sent to Zones and Societies end of March.