

Weekly Column  
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Melvin University  
and Me

## Planning and preparation

I was very interested in these two things when I set up a seminary in Nagaland, India. In other words, we made a plan and started preparing. These two words both are probably familiar, easy, but not taken seriously.

Usually, we decide to do a certain ministry or project, but now we plan. However, planning takes a lot of time and energy, but in reality, and often it is not possible to actually proceed with it. It's a long way from trying to put the plan into practice. That's why I am saying here, 'Preparation' is necessary before practice.

Preparation means that rather than preparing everything at once, as there is a saying that "when you light a candle at night, you can only see one to two meters ahead."

When I tried to start school in Nagaland, I talked a lot with the Mr. A who was a student that came to Korea to study. We had known each other while LPM/PACE training together for two years in Korea.

We decided to set up a school, and we said "Let's pray" to each other many times. While praying, I read one article in a summary of a book made by the Auxano Institute in the United States, which seems to have been the title "Preparation is More Important than Planning." So after praying and planning, I said to Mr. A, "Let's PREPARE for now," and he understood what I meant and accelerated the preparation. The word 'plan' was no longer needed for us. The word and concept of preparation, and the [verb form] of "preparing"

remained, and in fact, only that "preparing" was waiting for us. So as we continued to prepare, we were able to eventually hold the Opening Ceremony of the Seminary. It was the result of preparing steadily for almost a year. The plan alone does not produce results. It doesn't happen if we just expect something to happen.

In fact, we have learned and done a lot of things 'to make plans'. It's not that we don't have to plan, but the potential unconsciousness that planning itself is the end often binds us. In other words, it means that after planning, we need to focus more on preparation and put our energy into it.

Why is preparation important! Preparation is not a one-time slogan, it is not completed at once, and it is not a [static noun.] It is actually progressing by continuing to do something that has no end. Then one day, there will be a moment of ending that we have completed.

Anyway, once the preparations begin, we will get a lot of ideas, insights, and resources from both inside and outside. If we just 'stand still' to make plans, we can't see and find the resources around us. When we prepare for a goal, we will find a way, and when we do, people will help us.

Robert Fritz emphasized in his book, "The Path of the Resistance," that if we set one major goal and worked hard to achieve it, everything around us would help us. Because that's how people and things line up. This is what he called "structural dynamics."

Yes, God will be with us when we prepare for an important ministry. Planning alone is not enough. Many people make plans, but not many people execute them, and they no longer prepare in that direction, just standing still and waiting. Nothing happens, even you planed very well.

Personally, I found out that this was true because it came from my own experiences. We can't complete it if we just plan and stop there. It's a sad fact that many people stop before preparing. Because they make a plan, and then they stop as if they've done it. Then they are killing time looking

forward to something happened, and ask "What's going to happen!" but it doesn't actually happen. After you have planned, you should move on to preparation.