A BIBLE PASSAGE FOR STRATEGIC PLANNERS?

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Category: Theology

This morning's team devotions came from a passage that is well known, but which poses real challenges for strategic planners... Matthew 6:31-34

> *So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.*

So what do you do when the whole purpose of your job is to help people think about the future. We felt that the significance for us was that the verses tell us not to worry. Seeking God's wisdom for what you do is not worrying, and indeed can be an antidote to worry. Faithful planning, that puts God in the process and which holds on to the plans lightly because of the difficulties of human fallibility in the planning process and a fallen world which makes the best laid plans *gang agley* is, I believe, God honouring.

But, I'm still challenged by these verses - how do you tell a Christian in Darfur that *all these things will be given to you as well*? It isn't as simple as all that - God just doesn't seem to provide for some Christians - so what do we make of these well worn promises? If anyone has any answers, I'd be more than grateful!