Clear Direction, Simple Planning

1Co 16:1-24 ESV Now concerning the collection for the saints: as I directed the churches of Galatia, so you also are to do. 2 On the first day of every week, each of you is to put something aside and store it up, as he may prosper, so that there will be no collecting when I come.

- Giving clear direction
- Using a repeatable process (do the same as the churches of Galatia)
- Easy to accomplish goals (first day of every week)
- He looked for efficiency (no collecting when I come)

Accountability & Financial Integrity

3 And when I arrive, I will send those whom you accredit by letter to carry your gift to Jerusalem.

• Paul left no room for others to accuse him of misappropriation of funds

Willing to Accept Advice

4 If it seems advisable that I should go also, they will accompany me.

• Pro 12:15 ESV The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, but a wise man listens to advice.

Flexibility in Planning

5 I will visit you after passing through Macedonia, for I **intend** to pass through Macedonia, 6 and **perhaps** I will stay with you or even spend the winter, so that you may help me on my journey, wherever I go. 7 For I do not want to see you now just in passing. I **hope** to spend some time with you, **if the Lord permits**.

- Pro 16:9 ESV The heart of man plans his way, but the LORD establishes his steps.
- Hold your plans loosely...you only see things from TODAY's perspective...the LORD knows the future

Take Advantage of Opportunities - There Will Always Be Adversity

8 But I will stay in Ephesus until Pentecost, 9 for a wide door for effective work has opened to me, and there are many adversaries.

• Ecc 11:4 ESV He who observes the wind will not sow, and he who regards the clouds will not reap.

Delegation - Let Others Help You

10 When Timothy comes, **see that you put him at ease** among you, for he is doing the work of the Lord, as I am. 11 So **let no one despise him**. **Help him on his way** in peace, that he may return to me, for I am expecting him with the brothers.

• Trust others with tasks that need to be done

Not Dictatorial

12 Now concerning our brother Apollos, **I strongly urged him** to visit you with the other brothers, **but it was not at all his will to come now**. He will come when he has opportunity.

- 2Co 1:24 ESV Not that we lord it over your faith, but we work with you for your joy, for you stand firm in your faith.
- 2Co 4:5 ESV For what we proclaim is **not ourselves**, but **Jesus Christ as Lord**, with **ourselves as your servants** for Jesus' sake.

Balanced Encouragement

13 Be watchful, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong. 14 Let all that you do be done in love.

- Be men
- Do everything in love

Affirm the good work of others

15 Now I urge you, brothers--you know that the household of Stephanas were the first converts in Achaia, and that **they have devoted themselves to the service of the saints**-- 16 be subject to such as these, and to every fellow worker and laborer. 17 I rejoice at the coming of Stephanas and Fortunatus and Achaicus, because **they have made up for your absence**, 18 for they **refreshed my spirit** as well as yours. Give recognition to such people.

Encouraged Unity Among Churches

19 The churches of Asia send you greetings. Aquila and Prisca, together with the church in their house, send you hearty greetings in the Lord. 20 All the brothers send you greetings. Greet one another with a holy kiss. 21 I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand.

Not Afraid to Call a Spade a Spade

22 If anyone has no love for the Lord, let him be accursed. Our Lord, come!

Not Ashamed to Express Love

23 The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you. 24 My love be with you all in Christ Jesus. Amen.