**Developing a Personal Mission Statement**

## Laurie Beth Jones, in her book, The Path, states that “having a clearly articulated mission statement gives one a template of purpose that can be used to initiate, evaluate, and refine all of one’s activities.”

**Definitions:**

## “**Mission**” is defined as a specific task that a person or group is sent to perform. Having a personal mission statement helps you to focus on what God has called you to be and do.

“**Vision**” can be defined as looking into the future and visualizing the results that you anticipate happening as a result of your mission and the plan of action that is implemented. Developing a personal mission statement is the first step in identifying/clarifying what God has called you to do. This becomes the basis for formulating your ministry plan.

Romans 1:5, expresses in a few words the personal mission statement of the Apostle Paul. “*Through him and for his name’s sake, we received grace and apostleship to call people from among all the Gentiles to the obedience that comes from faith.*”

## There are several simple steps that you need to take to develop your mission statement.

***Step One: Every mission requires action, and action words are verbs. Select the three verbs from this list which most excite and inspire you, (or add your own.)***

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| accomplish | confirm | enlist | integrate | progress | speak |
| acquire | connect | enliven | involve | promise | stand |
| administer | consider | entertain | keep | promote | summon |
| adopt | construct | enthuse | know | provide | support |
| advance | contact | envision | labor | realize | surrender |
| affect | continue | evaluate | launch | receive | sustain |
| affirm | counsel | excite | lead | reclaim | take |
| alleviate | create | explore | master | reduce | tap |
| amplify | decide | express | mature | refine | team |
| appreciate | defend | extend | measure | reflect | touch |
| ascend | delight | facilitate | mediate | reform | trade |
| associate | deliver | finance | model | regard | translate |
| believe | demonstrate | forgive | mold | relate | travel |
| bestow | devise | foster | motivate | relax | understand |
| brighten | direct | franchise | move | release | uphold |
| build | discover | further | negotiate | rely | use |
| call | discuss | gather | nurture | remember | utilize |
| cause | distribute | generate | open | renew | validate |
| choose | draft | give | organize | resonate | value |
| claim | dream | grant | participate | respect | venture |
| collect | drive | heal | pass | restore | verbalize |
| combine | educate | hold | perform | return | volunteer |
| command | elect | host | persuade | revise | work |
| communicate | embrace | identify | play | sacrifice | worship |
| compel | encourage | ignite | possess | safeguard | write |
| compete | endow | illuminate | practice | satisfy | yield |
| complete | engage | implement | praise | save |  |
| compliment | engineer | improve | prepare | sell |  |
| compose | enhance | improvise | present | serve |  |
| conceive | enlighten | inspire | produce | share |  |

***Step Two: Combining Your Verbs - Write down your three most meaningful, purposeful, and exciting verbs.***

1. , 2. , and 3. .

Q. Write a sentence or two about what each verb means to you.

Q. How do you feel looking at the verbs you selected? Did any of them surprise you?

**Step Three: *Identifying Your Core Values***

Examples of Core Values

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Truth | Self-worth | Inner Peace | Equality | Humility |
| Safety | Dignity | Service | Positive Attitude | Simplicity |
| Integrity | Relationships | Trust | Nobility | Joy |
| Honesty | Kindness | Love | Excellence | Charity |
| Respect | Freedom | Faith | Hope | Justice |
| Wholeness | Honor | Righteousness | Family | Commitment |

Q. What do you most want to teach and represent in this world?

Q. What concept or principle would you be willing to die for?

List your Core Values:

# Step Four: Identifying Your Tribe - Get clear on whom you want to serve, be around, inspire, learn from, and be affected by.

Q. Who do you most want to impact, influence, and be with?

Q. Why?

***Step Five: The Formula for Your Mission-* Mission = V3 + CV + t**

This formula puts it all together. Write your mission statement below.

**M =** My mission is to:

**V3** (Your three verbs)

 , and

**+ CV** (Your core value or values)

**+** (to, for, with or through) **t** (your tribe – the group/cause which most moves/excites you)

**A good mission statement will be inspiring, exciting, clear, true, and engaging.**

Example of a mission statement:

My mission is to:

* To communicate to young people the urgent need to know Christ and to make Him known.
* To inspire others to commit themselves to reaching the youth of the world by giving adequate resources.
* To motivate, train, and assist qualified men and women who will go to the ends of the earth to reach young people who have never heard the Gospel.

# Step Six: Wordsmith Your Mission Statement

## Strive for the greatest clarity, brevity, and impact.