

CHAPTER 12

DEVELOPING A PERSONAL STEWARDSHIP MISSION STATEMENT

When we use the word “MISSION” in the church, we mean “PURPOSE”; not so much our purpose, but “God’s PURPOSE” for us as we work and minister to the world. We are each richly blessed with special gifts of the Spirit to be faithful stewards of the gospel. One of the basic steps in our search for who and whose we are is a clearer vision of what it is that we truly believe and what it is that God is calling us to do. This is not an easy exercise, nor is it without change as we mature in our faith. Our mission changes as our faith grows and our personal mission becomes clearer as we allow the Holy Spirit to guide and direct us.

Getting Started

Take some time to write down your most profound(deepest) beliefs

Who has been the most influential person or persons in formulating your Christian way of life?
Your basic beliefs?

What qualities do you recognize in that person or persons that you would strongly like to have?

We live out our lives filling many different roles, often at the same time. These roles are often difficult to clarify, especially as we look for the core values and principles that apply to each role.

Roles may be: wife, father, son, daughter, friend, home-maker, Administrator, Manager, Mechanic.....etc., etc. In each role we can project how we would like to be described in that particular role. Such as:

Mother

Committed, loving, care giver,
responsive, grateful, etc...

Below, identify your life roles and write a short descriptive paragraph or bullets of descriptive words by which you would like to be remembered.

<u>Roles</u>	<u>Statement</u>
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Now that you have had the opportunity to look at your beliefs, the person or persons who have influenced your life and the various roles that you must play along with those spiritual gifts with which you have been blessed, you are prepared to begin a draft of a personal vision for mission.

Begin the first draft: My mission is on the next page.

Do I feel direction, purpose, challenge, and motivation when I read this statement?

Do I feel good about what I have written?

Is this statement the best that is within me?

Am I aware of the skills I will need to accomplish what I have written?

How can my church help me to accomplish my vision?

Am I inspired by my personal vision for mission?

Now What?

Keep this rough draft with you and review it, revise it, evaluate it. Then write a final draft that truly does inspire you. Review it often ... frame it....put it in a place where you will see and read it often and begin a process by which you are able to grow into your vision for mission.

Try this same approach with your family members and then with your family as a whole. One mission statement that is used as an example in Stephen Covey's book Principle-Centered Leadership is :

Our Family Mission

To love each other....

To help each other....

To believe in each other....

To wisely use our time, talents and resources
to bless others....

To worship together....

Forever.

Every congregation, every person, every family has a mission. Is the vision for each mission very very clear? If not, it may be out of reach!

