

# Clarifying Your Mission



A written Mission Statement will enable you to focus your time, talents and treasure on what you were sent to earth by God to do. Jesus prayed, “*I have brought You glory on earth by completing the work You gave me to do.*” With God’s help, you can complete the work he gave you to do.

A personal Mission Statement is a short summary of a person’s “reason for being” or “purpose for existence”. It is what a person seeks to do, rather than what an individual wants to be. Mission is something to be “accomplished”, but never fully achieved or completed. We do not create our mission; God reveals it to us. He is working in you. “*For it is God who works in you to will and act according to His good purpose.*” (Philippians 2:13)

Now it’s time to write out your Mission Statement. Drawing from the understanding of yourself and God working in and through you (revealed in the various exercises you have completed), develop a Mission Statement.

## **Although there is no right or wrong way to write a Mission Statement, the most effective ones are:**

- *no more than one sentence in length*
- *easy to remember*
- *simple to understand*
- *inspiring to you – and to others*
- *applicable to all areas of your life*

## **There are three parts to a Mission Statement:**

- Action** – that I will take to create the desired result  
The “action” you want to take is revealed in the key verbs from the Motivation Verbs exercise.
- Receiver**  
Every mission implies that someone or something will receive the benefit of your action. Who or what is that? (See the Focus Areas exercise.)
- Desired Result**  
What effect/result do you desire to have on the receiver?

**My Mission is to . . .**

<b>Motivating Verbs</b> <i>• Check (✓) verbs from each category which you enjoy and are motivated to do. Choose no more than 20 verbs. Then go back to the checked verbs and circle the top three. List them on the next page.</i>	Arrange	Appraise	Lead	Talk	Call	Integrate
	Collect	Evaluate	Manage	Speak	Provide	Share
	Prepare	Prioritize	Oversee	Broadcast	Win	Respect
	Maintain	Diagnose	Represent	Translate	Launch	Yield
	Plan	Interpret		Edit	Pursue	Participate
		Define		Teach	Entertain	Dream
		Predict	<b>Persuade/ Influence</b>	Train	Realize	Amplify
	<b>Task/ Completing</b>	Project	Influence	Debate	Extend	Judge
	Schedule	Reason	Sell	Listen	Claim	Sort
	Follow-through	Resolve	Promote	Display	Record	Sacrifice
Execute	Review	Motivate	Dramatize	Refine	Worship	
Arrange	Summarize	Recruit	Explain	Compete	Play	
Attend	Systemize	Negotiate	Express	Reclaim	Drive	
Work	Test	Fundraise	Illustrate	Forgive	Work	
Inform	Understand	Advertise	Inform	Compel	Appreciate	
Develop	Know	Market	Instruct	Combine	make	
Maintain	Consider	Inspire	Lecture	Build	Supply	
Achieve	Perceive	Persuade	Present	Reduce	Safeguard	
Adapt		Publicize	Print	Reflect	Hold	
Attain	<b>Research/ Investigate</b>	Recommend	Report	Sustain	Elect	
Detail	Question	Move	Respond	Live	Associate	
Implement	Interview	Enlist	Demonstrate	Complement	Navigate	
Monitor	Gather	Excite	Show	Foster	Team build	
Obtain	Research	Affect	Tutor	Develop	Save	
Program	Classify	Prove	Verbalize	Relate	Practice	
Produce	Experiment		Write	Reform	Embrace	
Accomplish	Explore	<b>Help/Serve</b>	Communicate	Team	Believe	
	Study	Counsel	Converse	Love	Process	
	Observe	Diagnose	Share	Connect	Unify	
<b>Create/ Modify</b>	Remember	Treat	Discuss	Franchise	Stand	
Visualize	Survey	Facilitate	Testify	Expand	Illuminate	
Invent	Examine	Resolve	Educate	Remember	Praise	
Design	Discover	Mentor	Enlighten	Touch	Endow	
Conceptualize	Hypothesize	Give feedback		Master	Bestow	
Compose	Inspect	Support	<b>Craft/ Perform</b>	Contact	Produce	
Generate	Learn	Assess	Sculpt	Generate	Upgrade	
Adapt	Read	Evaluate	Craft	Restore	Summon	
Improve		Serve	Compose	Release	Involve	
Create	<b>Lead/ Manage</b>	Help	Decorate	Validate	Engage	
Devise	Initiate	Consult	Landscape	Mature	Cause	
Formulate	Start	Advise	Draw	Grant	Light	
Found	Direct	Help	Paint	Give		
Imagine	Supervise	Consult	Photograph	Select		
Initiate	Control	Advise	Sketch	Rely		
Innovate	Coordinate	Show	Shape	Value		
Originate	Decide	Hospitality	Layout	Mold		
Improvise	Plan	Arbitrate	Color	Delight		
Integrate	Delegate	Ascertain	Act	Acquire		
Enhance	Produce	Coach	Sing	Improve		
Engineer	Account	Empathize	Play	Separate		
Revise	Take risks	Help	Conduct	Renew		
Conceive	Hire	Mediate	Direct	Venture		
	Fire	Model	Perform	Nurture		
	Facilitate	Reconcile		Choose		
<b>Analyze/ Summarize</b>	Empower	Rehabilitate		Purchase		
Solve	Enforce	Heal	<b>General</b>	Advance		
Identify	Establish	Encourage	Deliver	Increase		
Analyze	Guide	Affirm	Protect	Shape		
Organize	Determine		Utilize	Resonate		
Synthesize	Head	<b>Communi- cate/Teach</b>	Labor	Volunteer		
		Read	Promise	Open		
		Write	Enliven	Draft		
				Alleviate		

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**Narrow your list to a group of three** "Motivation Verbs" which you believe best describe what you *excel* at doing.

**List these verbs in the blanks provided below.**

- Your final list encompasses actions that you both "particularly enjoy" and "excel" at doing.
- These words should evoke a sense of action, excitement and passion.

	Motivation Verbs
<b>1</b>	
<b>2</b>	
<b>3</b>	

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## Focus Areas

Circle one or two items from each of the following categories that you feel identifies a special concern or burden you have. This is not a comprehensive list. The possibilities are endless. Feel free to write in your “other” selections.

<b>PEOPLE GROUPS</b>		
<b>I gravitate toward working with people from this group . . . (circle 1 or 2)</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Infants</li> <li>• Pre-schoolers</li> <li>• Children</li> <li>• Junior/Senior Highers</li> <li>• College Students</li> <li>• Career Singles</li> <li>• Young Marrieds</li> <li>• Couples</li> <li>• Young Parents</li> <li>• Parents of Teens</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Older People</li> <li>• Internationals</li> <li>• People of different Race</li> <li>• People of different Religion</li> <li>• Women</li> <li>• Men</li> <li>• Uneducated Classes</li> <li>• Educated Classes</li> <li>• Executives/Leaders in business</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• People of public influence</li> <li>• Rural People</li> <li>• Military People</li> <li>• My extended Family</li> <li>• Media People</li> <li>• Educators/Teachers</li> <li>• Pastors/Church Leaders</li> <li>• Poor/Homeless</li> <li>• Other: _____</li> </ul>

<b>PEOPLE NEEDS</b>	
<b>I gravitate toward working with people . . . (circle 1 or 2)</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• in crisis</li> <li>• in pain</li> <li>• in transition</li> <li>• in normal stages of development</li> <li>• who are shut in</li> <li>• who are hungry to grow</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• who need motivation</li> <li>• who need special skills</li> <li>• who need basic life skills</li> <li>• who need resourcing</li> <li>• who need encouragement</li> <li>• Other: _____</li> </ul>

<b>MINISTRY NEEDS</b>		
<b>I gravitate toward engaging in this type of ministry . . . (circle 1 or 2)</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Giving leadership</li> <li>• Administration</li> <li>• Worship/Prayer</li> <li>• Strengthening Fellowship</li> <li>• Teaching</li> <li>• Discipling</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Giving</li> <li>• Mobilizing people/resources</li> <li>• Networking</li> <li>• Recruiting</li> <li>• Evangelizing</li> <li>• Equipping</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shepherding</li> <li>• Caring/meeting needs</li> <li>• Writing</li> <li>• Other: _____</li> </ul>

# Examples of Mission Statements



## My Mission is to . . .

- influence and inspire emerging leaders to live and lead like Jesus.
- support, believe for and assist others in the accomplishment of their God-given vision.
- teach, lead and inspire people to fulfill their purpose.
- shepherd and serve people so that they feel God's embrace.
- create a safe refuge for others through compassionate listening and joyful intercession.
- encourage and empower people in need to realize their potential and self-worth.
- influence others through authenticity and honesty to pursue excellence in every area of their lives.
- help others feel valued and loved through compassionate acts of service.
- instill and inspire self-worth in young people so they know they are valued and loved.
- mentor and shepherd people by leading them into experiences and relationships that transform their lives.
- bring beauty and joy into the world by designing images and surroundings that reflect God's creativity.
- connect with people to encourage them to grow, heal and love.
- encourage others to find hope and fulfillment in life.
- encourage and motivate others to reach their God-give potential.
- lead others to develop authentic and intimate relationships.
- promote peace and unity in the people's lives through friendship and kindness.
- show the love of God to people in need through basic acts of service.

## Other resources:

- Matt Perman, ['What if you don't know your life's work?'](#)
- Matt Perman, [What's Best Next \(Review\)](#)