

Personal Mission Statement

What is a Personal Mission Statement?

Peter Drucker defines mission as "your statement of why you do what you do; your declared reason for being; your purpose." Your personal mission statement clearly states what, in the end, you most want to be remembered for. It articulates what you believe God is calling you to do, and it assists you in making life choices that align with that calling.

A personal mission statement is dynamic. It will change over time as God grows and leads you, and as your circumstances change. Your personal mission statement comes out of a combination of three things:

- Your gifts and abilities
- Your passions
- The impact you want to make in the world

Here are three examples of well-structured mission statements:

To serve as a mentor to teens, investing my ability to counsel, teach, and motivate them to make choices in accordance with God's will for their lives.

To use my skills in research, database exploration/access, and information analysis to provide strategic information for pro-life organizations.

I am trusting God to use my technical and business skills to help churches run as efficiently and effectively as possible.

As with these examples, we recommend that your mission statement assumes that your second-half plan includes a balance of family time, marriage investment, and enough marketplace work to provide your financial needs. These are non-negotiable elements. But write your mission statement to reveal your specific focus on providing overarching direction for how you will invest your discretionary time, talents, and treasure. Be aware that your mission statement may ultimately influence your career and lifestyle choices as well.

Your Mission Statement

Complete the following phrases to form the skeleton of your mission statement. If possible, include your ministry passions.

I desire to use my skills in

to impact and serve

(the need or group of people I am most passionate about)

in order to (the desired outcome)

^{*} Excerpts taken by permission from From Success to Significance: When the pursuit of success isn't enough (Zondervan 2004)



Your "Best Fit" Serving Role

Based on your mission statement how do you actually find a place to serve. Often it involves trying several ministry roles before you find a fit, but it will dramatically improve your effort if you have clarity yourself before you begin the search. You'll probably still experiment with three or four kinds of ministries and a variety of roles, reflecting on what you learn from each one and building on it as you go.

Filling in the Blanks

Based on your personal mission statement, take a shot at filling in the outline for your best fit serving role.

The Organization or Ministry I Might Work In Based on my *interest* in

and

The following ministries might be a good fit for me (list ideas both inside and outside your church).

The Role I Might Play in That Organization

To utilize my skills in

and

the roles that might fit me best are:

The Scope of My Assignment

The scope of my assignment in this ministry will be determined by how much time I have to give and how far out I can commit to being involved. I have hours per week/month that I can dedicate to this role for the next months/years.