

FAMILY MISSION STATEMENT


WORKSHEET

FIVE LAKES CHURCH



Family Mission


“Why?” This question echoes through every home. We may understand what needs to happen, and we may even know how to get it done. But why do we do what we do? Your family mission statement will help to answer this question in the most important facets of life. This is a guide for developing a shared purpose that will help to unite your home.





Commit to the Process

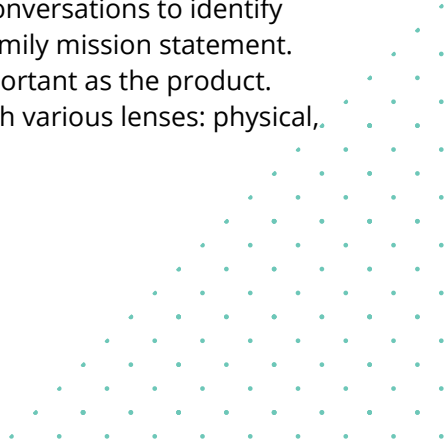
The impact of a family's mission statement will be determined by the level of ownership within the family. Some will arrive at a statement more quickly; other families will take more time. The process begins by deciding to create something together.

- Are you committed to creating a statement?
 - When would you like to have it complete?
 - When will you intentionally develop it together? Put a few times on the calendar to discuss this together.
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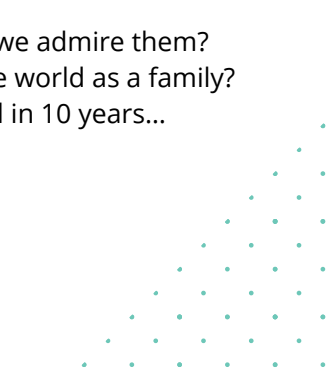
Identify Family Values & Priorities

Think about what you do and how you treat one another when you're at your best. Our values drive our actions, so identifying and sharing these as a family can make a significant impact. Several questions and ideas below will help you to describe these patterns of behavior. Here are some encouragements as you enter this process:

- Some of your values and priorities may be aspirational, but if they are too far removed from how you actually do life, then they won't work. In general, identify what is already most important rather than stating what you wish was most important.
 - This is an exercise in brainstorming, so keep attitudes positive. If your response to someone else's idea is not affirming or encouraging, keep it to yourself. You'll refine the list later; keep the dialogue creative here.
 - Keep your focus on active things to be done or attitudes to be embraced rather than ones to be avoided.
 - Take your time. It may take several conversations to identify your values over time to develop a family mission statement. Remember that the process is as important as the product.
 - Consider values and priorities through various lenses: physical, emotional, & spiritual.
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Questions to Consider

- What is the purpose of our family?
 - What kind of family do we want to be?
 - What kinds of things do we want to do?
 - What makes you want to come home?
 - What kind of feeling do we want to have in our home?
 - If our home could be filled with one emotion, what would it be?
 - What sort of relationship do we want to have with one another?
 - How do we want to treat one another or speak with one another?
 - How do we want to resolve our differences?
 - What qualities do we want to affirm and encourage in one another?
 - What gifts, abilities, and/or passions are shared by your family and could be developed?
 - What kind of home environment would we like to invite our friends to?
 - What are three adjectives we would like people to use to describe our home environment?
 - How do we want to be remembered?
 - What things are truly important to us as a family?
 - What are the top four priorities we want our family to value?
 - What are our responsibilities as family members?
 - Who are our heroes? What is it about them that we like and would like to emulate?
 - What families inspire us and why do we admire them?
 - How can we serve our church and the world as a family?
 - Describe how our family will look/feel in 10 years...
 - financially:
 - intellectually:
 - emotionally:
 - relationally with each other:
 - relationally in our community:
 - physically:
 - spiritually:
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Examples of Core Family Values & Actions

- Love
- Honesty
- Generosity
- Compassion
- Health
- Humor
- Learning
- Gratitude
- Creativity
- Discipline
- Faith
- Friends
- Fun
- Hard work
- Integrity
- Service
- Adventure
- Creativity
- Discipline
- Education
- Faith
- Worship
- Fun
- Health
- Honesty
- Humor
- God
- Integrity
- Kindness
- Hospitality
- Excellence
- Respect
- Saving
- Tithing
- Courage
- Patience
- Perseverance
- Church attendance/service
- Standing up for others
- Volunteering time and skills
- Treating everyone equally
- Open-minded to new things
- Working hard
- Serving together in a team
- Express ideas and creativity
- Making education a priority
- Honor up, honor down, honor all around
- Willing to do anything, everything, or nothing
- Never giving up
- Adding value to the world
- Taking personal responsibility
- Spending intentional time together
- Put your best effort toward every task
- Learning from failures
- Celebrating successes
- Showing love every day
- Listening well

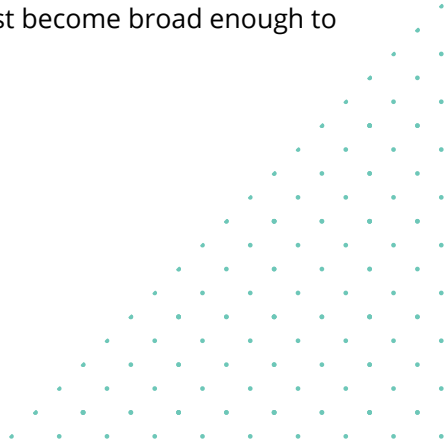


Ask for God's Direction, Refine, & Refine Again

You may begin brainstorming many things, but the goal is to refine your list to a few highly significant parts. Pray through the list you have generated and see which parts of it rise to the top. Invite the Holy Spirit to guide your discussion and help you to discern your next steps.

Think missionally! Your family mission statement establishes both how you interact with one another and the impact your family will have on the world. How are you asking or allowing God to use your family to influence your neighborhood, community, or world?

Narrow the list to 10 big ideas/values/priorities, then let it rest. Return to it later with fresh eyes and narrow to 5 or less. If possible, develop a few statements that are short, memorable, and relevant to everyone in your home. Your family mission statement may begin with individual passions, but it must become broad enough to be shared by everyone.





Put Your Family Mission Statement to Work

Determine a way to keep your family mission statement in front of you. Put it on the screen of your phone or your computer background. Attach it to your refrigerator. Print it out and have it framed to hang on your wall. Put it somewhere you will see it often, and revisit it often when making decisions. As time goes on, you may want to consider refining it further over time to add or change components so that it works better for your family.

