



Mission Statements For Moms

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Most of us would never go to the grocery store without some sort of shopping list. We know that planning our list saves us time, money and sanity.

Creating a life mission statement is a lot like creating a shopping list. We decide ahead of time what we want so that as we wander through the years we only add to our lives things that match our “shopping list for life.”

.....{crickets}....

Wow, Kat. That's the cheesiest analogy I've ever heard.

Well, my friends, you get what you pay for. Good thing this ebook was free.

Welcome!

And with that, I welcome you to the Mission Statements for Moms eWorkbook. I also wrote an ebook called Maximize Your Mornings.

Clearly I have a thing for alliteration. And the letter M.

Moving on.

This ebook is a collection of content from previous blog posts combined with a few new ideas. And mixed in throughout are forms for you to fill out, so that as we discuss things, you will be actively creating your mission statement.

As a special bonus, several of our wonderful, amazing and inspiring blog readers

submitted their mission statements to help get your creative juices flowing.

So if you're reading this on your computer... **STOP!!!** I don't want you to read it on the computer and tell yourself, "I'll work on my mission statement later." Later never comes.

Print this out. Don't read another word until you've printed it out.

Alright. Printed? Good. Let's get started.

Why Moms Need Mission Statements

Mission statements are for Fortune 500 companies. They're for women who close deals, carry briefcases and wear their hair in something other than a ponytail.

I'm a mom. I change diapers, watch Sesame Street and listen to the "Choo Choo Song" seven thousand times a day. Why do I need a Mission Statement? Isn't that a bit over the top? What kind of mom does something like that?

A purposeful one.

I love this quote from G.K. Chesterton:

"How can it be a large career to tell other people about the Rule of Three, and a small career to tell one's own children about the universe? How can it be broad to be the same thing to everyone and narrow to be everything to someone? No, a woman's function is laborious, but because it is gigantic, not because it is minute."

Leading a company or a country is no greater or more important than leading a child. Motherhood should be approached with just as much vision, passion and purpose.

Passion is something mothers have in abundance, but we are rarely taught to have vision and purpose. Today is a great day for that to change. Are you ready?

How A Mission Statement Can Help You

1. Make Better Decisions.

A Mission Statement gives you a guideline to help you make wise decisions that

benefit you and your family. It helps you to differentiate between the seemingly urgent and the truly important. When you need to simplify your life, you know what needs to go and what needs to stay.

2. Get A Bird's Eye View.

Developing a mission statement is an opportunity to think big about your life. We get caught up in the day to day and lose sight of why we do what we do.

3. An Unwavering Reminder.

Mission Statements don't have a monthly cycle. They don't get discouraged. They don't get overwhelmed. Having a Mission Statement is like having the best version of yourself beside you on your worst days, encouraging you to press on and pointing to the goal.

4. Freedom From Comparison

When we know what our priorities are, we FREE ourselves from comparison, because no one else has the same strengths, goals or circumstances that we do. We can only compete with ourselves. Challenging ourselves to be better each day.

Write down your priorities. What is important to you? In what order? What are your goals?

Tape that list to your fridge, your laptop, your TV. Tape it on your face. Or not.

Whatever it takes to remind you that you aren't pursuing Perfect Mom, you're pursuing what God created you to be.

If God wanted clones He would have made them. He's kinda powerful like that. But, since he didn't make clones, I think we can assume He has specific purposes for each of us. Let's find out His plans and align our lives to be successful in His eyes.

How to Create Your Mission Statement

Now we're going to create our mission statement. Yay!

We'll walk through the whole process together, step by step. It will require some focus, thought and prayer. But don't worry about making it perfect, just get a good rough draft. You can tweak it and refine it in the coming weeks.

First Things First

Pray. Spend time praying as you develop your mission statement. Ask God to help you align your desires with His. Ask for wisdom and words that will inspire you when times get tough. He has big plans for you, take time to find out what they are.

"Unless the LORD builds the house, its builders labor in vain. Unless the LORD watches over the city, the watchmen stand guard in vain." Psalm 127:1

STEP 1 - List Your Roles

The first step in creating a mission statement is to identify your roles in life. Some of them might be things you do. Some of them might be things you are. As you write things down, don't worry about your order, just write.

Examples:

Wife

Writer

Christian

Business owner

Employee

Mother

Sunday School Teacher

Small group leader

STEP 1 Action Form - List Your Roles

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

7. _____

8. _____

9. _____

10. _____

STEP 2 - Prioritize Your Roles

Now order your roles according to what is important to you. Don't order them according to the places of your greatest responsibility or reward, but rather based on what is most vital and important to you.

For example:

When I was making my mission statement my list looked something like this.

Believer

Wife

Mother

Writer

Small group leader

Runner

Web designer

STEP 2 Action Form - Prioritize Your Roles

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

7. _____

8. _____

9. _____

10. _____

STEP 4 - Simplify Your Roles

Which of your roles are absolute? Which ones **MUST** you do?

This is where it gets hard. We don't want to exclude anything, but we must. Our mission statement should not include everything we want to do. It's kind of like a map. If we stop in every single town along the way, we'll never reach our destination.

Your mission statement needs to be focused, so that when you're feeling scattered, you can rely on it to get you back on track.

Example:

When I made my mission statement, I focused on my top four roles. Not that the others weren't important to me, but the top four are my core.

Believer

Wife

Mother

Writer

(Remember 4 isn't the magic number. Decide which roles are YOUR core.)

STEP 4 Action Form - Simplify Your Roles

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

STEP 5 – Dream/Pray

Now select your first priority. Write it down. Take a few minutes to decide what your ultimate dream goal for that role would be. When runners run a race, they don't just run. They always know where the finish line is and they run to it. If someone were to talk about you in this role, what would you love for them to say?

It doesn't need to be perfectly worded. Just jot things down.

Another, simpler option for this step is to just write down a list of words that you hope would describe you someday in this role. For example, as a mom, you might write the words loving, patient, fun etc.

Now continue this process for each role.

Example:

Now this may be kind of morbid, but when I worked on my mission statement, I thought about what I would want people to say about me when I die.

I'd want God to say, "Well done, good and faithful servant." I'd want Jimmy to say I was a good and loving wife. I'd want my kids to say that I loved them well and helped them live lives in passionate pursuit of God. And I'd want others to say that I inspired them to love Jesus more.

STEP 5 Action Form – Dream/Word List

Role #1 - _____

Dream Goal or Descriptive Words:

Role #2 - _____

Dream Goal or Descriptive Words:

Role #3 - _____

Dream Goal or Descriptive Words:

Role #4 - _____

Dream Goal or Descriptive Words:

STEP 6 - Create Action Statements

Now it's time to work your list for each role into actionable phrases. Your mission statement should be active. It should tell you what you should be doing.

Example:

Here's what I came up with for my mission statement:

To pursue Jesus with my whole heart and surrender all that I am and all that I have so that I can be fully used by Him.

To make Jimmy feel loved, cared for and admired.

To have fun with my children and help them grow up to be people who know, deeply love and wholeheartedly serve God.

To live my life in such a way that others are inspired to fully pursue Jesus and desire constant growth in their personal lives.

It doesn't need to be fancy, final or flowy. You just need words on paper that indicate your dreams for each role in life. Don't let your desire for perfection keep you from writing *something* down right now. Because once you have *something*, you can work with it and tweak it. You can't work with *nothing*.

So, go ahead and write *something* right now.

And, of course, this might be a good time to do pray and listen as well.

STEP 6 Action Form - Create Action Statements

Role #1 - _____

Action Statement:

Role #2 - _____

Action Statement:

Role #3 - _____

Action Statement:

Role #4 - _____

Action Statement:

Congratulations!

You now have the beginnings of a mission statement! Great job! Your next step is to live with it awhile. See how it fits. Review, revise and refresh. Tweak it until it truly reflects and inspires you.

Don't worry if your words seem like a stretch from the person you are right now, remember that His plans for you are bigger and better than you could even hope or imagine. Your mission statement, no matter how grand - it's nothing for Him.

He is "the God who gives life to the dead and speaks of things that are not as though they were." (*Rom. 4:17*)

How to Make Your Mission Statement Work for You

So how do you "use" a mission statement?

1. Post Your Mission Statement Where You'll See It Often

Make sure you post it in one or multiple places where you'll see it throughout the day and week. I have mine posted at the top of my weekly planning sheet that I keep in the front of my notebook. Some places you could post it are:

- * On your refrigerator
- * On your bathroom mirror
- * Keep it in the front of your Bible
- * Write it in your prayer journal
- * Make it the screen saver on your computer
- * Frame it and put it on your wall

2. Measure Things Against Your Mission Statement Regularly

Your mission statement needs to be a part of your regular decision making. When you are planning for the week, month or year measure your plans against your mission statement. Do they line up? Do the things you plan to do help you reach

your goals?

When new opportunities arise, measure them against your mission statement. Don't say yes unless they are a match.

3. Review and Revise Your Mission Statement

Your mission statement shouldn't be set in stone. As you grow and change, it should change with you. The changes will be small and subtle but hopefully each incarnation of your statement will only inspire you more.

When it comes to our Mission Statement, we need to either use it or lose it. There's no point in creating one if we're not letting it affect our goals and decisions. So put it in a prominent place. Constantly review it to make sure it's relevant. Expand it to give you direction in every aspect of your life.

And remember, your change and growth are not a product of the strength of your own determination. They are a product of the current of His grace. Your job is to simply step into the flow.

Spend time with Him daily. Make sure your vision aligns with His. Read. Listen. Wait. Love well.

Welcome to Your Revolution

Finally, I want to share with you the beautiful thing about a mission statement. It's not just a cute little phrase; not just words on paper. It's a manifesto. A sign on the wall **announcing a revolution** and declaring, "I AM NOT WHO I WILL BE!"

You are in the act of becoming. You are a change in the making.

So, **let the revolution begin**, my friends.

Real Mission Statements

From InspiredToAction.com Readers

I'm so excited about this section of the ebook. I asked the ITA readers if they'd be willing to share their mission statements and they certainly came through! Here are nine pages of wonderfully inspiring declarations.

I love the variety and the creativity. From a specific homemaking mission statement (what a great idea!) from Laura at Orgjunkie.com, to a mission statement from Katie that is comprised completely of scripture.

I hope the words in these pages inspire you as you create your own declaration of revolution.

Katie

I want God's Word to not depart from my mouth, but I long to meditate on it day and night so that I can be careful to do all that is written in it. Joshua 1:8

I want the Word of God to be honored, as I love and submit to my husband, love my children, and work sensibly at home. Titus 2:4-5

I want to do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard others, especially my family, as more important than myself. Philippians 2:3-4

Because I have become the righteousness of God, through Christ, I will be His ambassador. I want my life to be used by God as an appeal to lost souls to be reconciled to God. I Corinthians 5:16

I will make disciples of all nations, starting first with my own children. As I go through this life I will teach others to observe God's Word, by the authority of Christ, in the power of the Holy Spirit. Matthew 28:18-20, Acts 1:8

Natalie

Disciple

Know His voice. Obey His word.

Wife

Respect, Admire, Serve and Encourage.

Mother

To love and encourage my children, to train them to respect, obey, and love God and to be present with them.

Friend

To be a friend who encourages, listens and loves

Artist

To not be afraid. To surrender and ask God for guidance and wisdom.

To make things that people can love because it enables them to accomplish their dreams.

Kathy

(It has really opened my eyes to work through things to get this down on paper. ...it is making a huge difference in our daily lives!!)

My mission is to inspire, delight and encourage those around me to live a life full of continual learning, abundant joy, and a relaxed pace of life.

Kerri

<http://www.mommyoffive4him.blogspot.com/>

To provide an inviting and peaceful home, for my family and all that enter, that promotes comfort, confidence and stability while living simply, loving deeply and laughing abundantly. I will try to attain this on a daily basis by practicing and teaching good habits and routines along with effective organizational skills. I will be devoted to my Home ChildCare as well as serving my family, being gracious and cheerful and genuinely enjoying my commitment to creating a home and "a home away from home" that is above all else pleasing to God.

Brie

<http://brieericandmaligomez.blogspot.com/2010/07/goallll.html>

To provide my children with a safe, loving environment at home where I teach them and help them to learn while also teaching them about loving God.

Laura

<http://orgjunkie.com/>

My Housekeeping Mission Statement:

To provide an inviting and peaceful household environment, for my family and all that enter, that is conducive to living simply, loving deeply and laughing abundantly. I will make strides everyday to achieve this by practicing and teaching good daily habits and routines along with effective organizational skills. I will graciously and cheerfully serve my family and genuinely enjoy my commitment to creating a home sanctuary that is above all else pleasing to God.

Emily

<http://kaolinmommy.blogspot.com>

I will strive each day to walk in faith in God and follow the example of Christ in His service and love. I will try to exhibit the love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, gentleness, faithfulness and self-control* provided me by the Spirit.

I will seek to be a loving, selfless and supportive wife and a fun, faithful and wise mother to my girls.

I'll do my best to create a haven of hospitality and simplicity in our home, and I'll seek to use my gifts to glorify God and possibly provide for my family.

Sarah

To Know Him * Glorify Him * & Make Him known

Elizabeth

I hope to leave a living legacy and remain suspended in His Grace through self-surrendering love, kindness and joy through peace-filled, present moment living.

Kristi

<http://mom-kristi-e.blogspot.com>

To know God intimately
thru study of His Word, Worship, Prayer and Fellowship
And live on His Precepts daily.

To love my husband and encourage him in his faith
To walk beside him and take care of and meet his needs.

To raise my children to know Jesus and serve Him
That they may grow in wisdom and stature, and that they may have kind and generous hearts.

To create a home where love grows, where people feel welcome and see Jesus in our lives.

And to live my life creatively, healthy, and simply. To not sweat the small stuff and to remember to FOCUS on what is most important. To act with integrity and give God glory in all I do.

Jane

<http://fltngmoments.wordpress.com/2010/07/21/mission-statement/>

* To intimately know God by regularly spending time, reading, interceding, worshipping, and listening to Him.

* To show MrH my love and respect, and to allow myself to be vulnerable with him.

* To help my children feel unconditionally loved and healthy expression of emotion. To help them grow up to be people with life skills and a thirst for relationship with the living God.

* To engage in creative activities that help me feel invigorated and renewed.

Amy

<http://worshipwhileiwait.blogspot.com/>

To joyfully share the love of Christ with others through enthusiasm, teaching, actions, and perseverance.

Katrina F.

As a mother, I will delight in Zeke and Aidan, showing them grace love and merciful discipline.

As a wife, I will love Daniel wholeheartedly and without fear as his friend, lover and the keeper of our home.

As a follower of Jesus Christ, I will pursue wisdom, love others sacrificially and cultivate thankfulness daily.

As a teacher, I will share my curiosity and wonder as we learn and grow together.

Aidan

<http://www.dimartinochronicles.com/>

I want to...

love and know Jesus so well that, by being emptied of self, people cannot help but encounter Him through me.

support, encourage and challenge my husband to pursue faith and godliness.

selflessly serve my children and give them Jesus.

become a better steward of information regarding health and the environment.

Shari

My goal is to raise my children to love and know God and His Word. I want to nurture them and teach them Godly principals and characters so they will grow up to be men and women who are committed to their faith and personal beliefs, walk with great integrity and have great compassion, love and grace for every one of God's children. I want to instill a love for learning in them that will help grow intellectually and give them confidence so that they can fulfill the call that God has on their lives.

Kimberly

To intentionally seek and listen for God's will in all I do with my whole being and to heed Christ's command of self denial. To be a wonderful help meet to David by loving and caring for him physically, emotionally and spiritually daily as ordained by God. To make great family memories with my children and to let them know how much I love them and most importantly, to inspire them to listen to and live for God in all that they are. To prepare my family for the Kingdom and by seeing my joy, inspire others to follow Christ.

Rebecca

To embrace this season of my life as a blessing, while my children are young and I am still their whole world.

To nurture their development into self-confident, capable, compassionate adults.

To nurture myself in order to maintain my energy and enthusiasm.

To nurture my marriage and let it serve as a living example of respect and partnership.

Anonymous Awesome Mom

By God's grace, I purpose:

To love God and imitate Christ that I might glorify Him in all that I say and do as I am being changed from glory to glory;

To love, respect, and treasure Andy in ways that clearly communicate to him;

To enjoy and care for my children in such a way that they recognize my love for them and my desire
-that they grow up to be ladies who know, deeply love, and wholeheartedly serve God and
-that they be caring and competent in whatever roles of service God has planned for them;

To point others to Christ by my words and actions that they might desire to know Him and grow in their relationship with Him.

Tara

<http://www.bloggedissue.com/>

To know God and His Word and to trust him in everything, that His love for me may overflow into every aspect of my life.

To be a passionate and involved wife to Brett, that he feels loved and respected.

To have fun with our children, listening and being available, always leading them to God, so that they may grow up to know, love and want to serve Him.

To shine God's light to my family, friends and 'neighbours', using my gifts and talents and interactions to always point back to Christ and His gospel.

Nellie

To pursue the will of God each day, reflecting His love to all
To love, honor, respect, and cherish my husband always
To love, protect, and raise my children to be followers of Christ
To be the best student that God has created me to be

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men. Colossians 3:23

Holly M.

My Mothering Mission statement:

(To model in my life and teach C. - my daughter.)

Find fascination in God's beauty, not in this passing world

Be a lover of the Truth – to "Get wisdom, get understanding"
Proverbs 4:5

Search God out in all activities of life

Live simply and with purpose

Prioritize the inner life over the externals

Learn to Lean on the Beloved

Be at peace in heart and mind

Honor and love Max (my husband) unconditionally

Katie

<http://www.hipposanddinosaurs.blogspot.com/>

(I SOO SO loved doing this for myself. I had no idea how much it would center me and my everyday efforts.)

As a follower of Christ I want to be able to completely submit myself to my Heavenly Father's plan for me and make an active effort through study and prayer to come to know Him.

As a wife I want to make {my husband} accepted, admired and appreciated. I want to selflessly support him in all of his endeavors, at work and at home.

As a mother I want to create a peaceful environment, a "holy place" that inspires love, learning and creativity.

As a friend I want to be humble and faithful, leading by example and able to communicate God's love and purpose to others effectively.

**Thanks to all these great women!
I hope you've been inspired to create a mission statement of your own!**

-Kat

For more free ebooks, articles, prayer calendars and other resources, please visit our blog and website at <http://www.inspiredtoaction.com>