Laurie Beth Jones, in her book, *The Path*, states that “having a clearly articulated mission statement gives one a template of purpose that can be used to initiate, evaluate, and refine all of one’s activities.”

**Definitions:**

“**Mission**” is defined as a specific task that a person or group is sent to perform. Having a personal mission statement helps you to focus on what God has called you to be and do.

“**Vision**” can be defined as looking into the future and visualizing the results that you anticipate happening as a result of your mission and the plan of action that is implemented. Developing a personal mission statement is the first step in identifying/clarifying what God has called you to do. This becomes the basis for formulating your ministry plan.

Romans 1:5, expresses in a few words the personal mission statement of the Apostle Paul. “*Through him and for his name’s sake, we received grace and apostleship to call people from among all the Gentiles to the obedience that comes from faith.*”

There are several simple steps that you need to take to develop your mission statement.

**Step One: Every mission requires action, and action words are verbs. Select the three verbs from this list which most excite and inspire you, (or add your own.)**

| accomplish | acquire | administer | adopt | advance | affect | affirm | alleviate | amplify | appreciate | ascend | associate | believe | bestow | brighten | build | call | cause | choose | claim | collect | combine | command | communicate | compel | compete | complete | compliment | compose | conceive | confirm | connect | consider | construct | contact | continue | counsel | create | decide | defend | delight | deliver | demonstrate | devise | direct | discuss | distribute | draft | dream | drive | educate | elect | embrace | encourage | endow | engage | engineer | enhance | enlighten | enlist | enliven | entertain | enthuse | envision | evaluate | excite | explore | express | extend | facilitate | finance | forgive | foster | franchise | further | gather | generate | give | grant | heal | hold | host | identify | ignite | illuminate | implement | improve | improvise | inspire | integrate | involve | keep | know | labor | launch | lead | master | mature | measure | mediate | model | mold | motivate | move | negotiate | nurture | open | organize | participate | pass | perform | persuade | play | possess | practice | praise | prepare | present | produce | progress | promise | promote | provide | realize | receive | reclaim | reduce | refine | reflect | reform | regard | relate | relax | release | rely | remember | renew | resonate | respect | restore | return | revise | sacrifice | safeguard | satisfy | save | sell | serve | share | speak | stand | summon | support | surrender | sustain | take | tap | team | touch | trade | translate | travel | understand | uphold | use | utilize | validate | value | venture | verbalize | volunteer | work | worship | write | yield |
Step Two: Combining Your Verbs - Write down your three most meaningful, purposeful, and exciting verbs.

1. ____________________, 2. ________________________, and 3. ________________________.

Q. Write a sentence or two about what each verb means to you.
______________________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________________

Q. How do you feel looking at the verbs you selected? Did any of them surprise you?
______________________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________________

Step Three: Identifying Your Core Values

Examples of Core Values

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Truth</th>
<th>Self-worth</th>
<th>Inner Peace</th>
<th>Equality</th>
<th>Humility</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Safety</td>
<td>Dignity</td>
<td>Service</td>
<td>Positive Attitude</td>
<td>Simplicity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Integrity</td>
<td>Relationships</td>
<td>Trust</td>
<td>Nobility</td>
<td>Joy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honesty</td>
<td>Kindness</td>
<td>Love</td>
<td>Excellence</td>
<td>Charity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respect</td>
<td>Freedom</td>
<td>Faith</td>
<td>Hope</td>
<td>Justice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wholeness</td>
<td>Honor</td>
<td>Righteousness</td>
<td>Family</td>
<td>Commitment</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q. What do you most want to teach and represent in this world?
______________________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________________

Q. What concept or principle would you be willing to die for?
______________________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________________

List your Core Values: __________________________________________________________________
Step Four: Identifying Your Tribe - Get clear on whom you want to serve, be around, inspire, learn from, and be affected by.

Q. Who do you most want to impact, influence, and be with?
______________________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________________
Q. Why?
______________________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________________

Step Five: The Formula for Your Mission- Mission = V3 + CV + t

This formula puts it all together. Write your mission statement below.

M = My mission is to:
V3 (Your three verbs)
____________________, ___________________ and ___________________
+ CV (Your core value or values) ______________________________
+ (to, for, with or through) t (your tribe – the group/cause which most moves/excites you)
________________________________________________________________

A good mission statement will be inspiring, exciting, clear, true, and engaging.

Example of a mission statement:

My mission is to:
• To communicate to young people the urgent need to know Christ and to make Him known.
• To inspire others to commit themselves to reaching the youth of the world by giving adequate resources.
• To motivate, train, and assist qualified men and women who will go to the ends of the earth to reach young people who have never heard the Gospel.

Step Six: Wordsmith Your Mission Statement
Strive for the greatest clarity, brevity, and impact.