



## **WRITING A PERSONAL LIFE PURPOSE STATEMENT**

*Habakkuk 2:2-4 Then the LORD replied: "Write down the revelation and make it plain on tablets so that a herald may run with it..."*

If you can't figure out your purpose, figure out your passion. For your passion will lead you right into your purpose. — T.D. Jakes

Always do what you are afraid to do. — Ralph Waldo Emerson

### **IMPORTANT QUESTIONS**

Developing a "Life Purpose Statement" requires that we understand ourselves and ask ourselves important questions. Give this exercise the priority it deserves.

#### **PART 1**

##### **1. WHO has God created me to be?**

- A. This is an understanding of your spiritual gifts, passion, personality and natural talents and abilities.
- B. What type of work environment is best? (Long term, projects, short term, spontaneous, behind the scenes, etc.)
- C. What type of meaningful activity gives me the greatest joy?
- D. What are my strongest qualities?
- E. What strengths do others say I have?

F. Who is the one person who has made the greatest positive impact on my life and why?

G. What personality did the “16 Personalities” reveal? Write a summary below.

H. In a few sentences, summarize all the above.

**2. What do I want to BE?**

A. What are qualities and abilities you want to develop that are in line with what you are called to be and do?

B. What qualities of character do I admire in others? Explain why.

C. What is something I have wanted to do that would enhance who I am?

D. What will people remember me by?

3. **What am I PASSIONATE about?**

A. What are the important and significant things I feel I must do?

B. What is the area of need that is of ultimate importance to me? (List no more than 2-3)

C. If I had unlimited time and resources, and I knew I could not fail, what would I do?

4. **What do I want to DO?** It defines the legacy you want to leave.

A. What significant thing(s) do I deeply enjoy doing?

B. The most significant contributions I want to make in:

- In my own life.
  
- In the world.
  
- In the Kingdom of God.

C. What am I doing today that is bringing me closer to those things?

5. **What are my ROLES in life?**

A. Your life is expressed in terms of the roles you have chosen to fill (or must fill). Your current roles may include: parent, occupation and position, responsibilities in church, etc. Put them in the order of priority.

B. What other roles (activities, responsibilities) have tugged at my heart?

C. Identify roles or activities I am doing that may not be in line with who I am created to be and what I am called to do. Some roles are obviously unchangeable.

6. **What are the BIG rocks in your life?** (Stephen Covey's video of the jar with stones)

A. Identify them and place them in order of priority.

## PART 2

1. Based upon the information from the previous pages, begin to write (and rewrite) a rough draft of your purpose statement on separate pieces of paper.
  - A. It must be birthed from a personal, growing relationship with Jesus Christ.
  - B. It must be an inspiration to you.
  - C. It must be bigger than your ability to accomplish without supernatural help of the Holy Spirit.
2. Evaluative questions.
  - A. What Scriptural principles is my purpose statement based on?
  - B. Is it challenging to me? If not why not?
  - C. Does it inspire me? If not why not?
  - D. Do I need the power of the Holy Spirit to accomplish it?
3. Examples of brief purpose/mission statements.
  - A. The International Foursquare Church — We are a Great Commission movement transforming communities through the multiplication of disciples, leaders, churches and movements.
  - B. Google — To organize the world's information and make it universally accessible and useful.
  - C. Amazon — It's our goal to be Earth's most customer-centric company, where customers can find and discover anything at Amazon.com.
  - D. Starbuck's — To inspire and nurture the human spirit – one person, one cup and one neighborhood at a time.

## PART 3

1. Although goals are important, they are not the primary aim in life. Goals are simply a method of accomplishing the important things you want to accomplish. A goal is a statement of faith about a specific event in the future. They focus our priorities and force us to plan ahead.
  - A. Write down the goals and the steps needed to accomplish them.
  - B. Be accountable in accomplishing the goals.
  - C. Give God the glory AND reward yourself when completed.

2. Write three goals.

A. The first goal is to identify changes you need to make to begin the entire process. Do you need to prioritize your life? Is the management of your time something you need to focus on? Develop the habit of making lists of important things to do, etc.

B. The second goal identifies changes you would like to make that will empower you to become the person God has created you to be and the purpose you are created to fulfill.

C. The third goal is to follow through in writing your Life Purpose Statement.



# MY PERSONAL LIFE PURPOSE STATEMENT

Date \_\_\_\_\_

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**My three goals**

**Habit 1 — Be Proactive**

*The habit of personal vision*

- Highly effective people do not blame their circumstances, conditions, or others. Their behavior is the result of conscious and intentional choices.

**Habit 2 — Begin With the End in Mind**

*The habit of personal leadership*

- Highly effective people begin each day or task with a clear understanding of the desired direction and destination.

**Habit 3 — Put First Things First**

*The habit of personal management*

- Highly effective people live their life according to personal priorities established in habit 2.

**Habit 4 — Think Win-Win**

*The habit of interpersonal leadership*

- Highly effective people base their life upon the paradigm that success is not achieved in exclusion of the success of others. Win-win sees life as a cooperative, not competitive, adventure.

**Habit 5 — Seek First to Understand, Then to Be Understood**

*The habit of effective communication*

- Highly effective people seek first to understand and diagnose before giving a prescription. Effective communication first begins by understanding the other person's frame of reference.

**Habit 6 — Synergize**

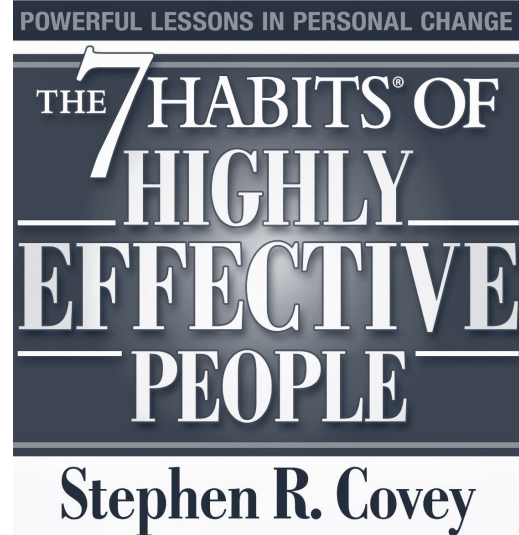
*The habit of creative cooperation*

- Highly effective people understand that the unified whole is greater than the sum of its individual parts.

**Habit 7 — Sharpen the Saw**

*The habit of self-renewal*

- Highly effective people spend personal time in spiritual, emotional, mental, physical and social renewal.



View the classic illustration of The Big Rocks from Covey's book, First Things First."  
Scan the QR code or go to [youtu.be/zV3gMTOEWt8](https://youtu.be/zV3gMTOEWt8)