

Leadership

FAMILY MISSION STATEMENT

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Mission statements have long been a part of organizations; they provide a clear path for what the organization wants to accomplish and how they plan to go about doing it. Yet, seldom does a family take the time to write a mission statement, and what organization is more important than the family? By establishing who you are as a family, how you want to be known, and how you plan to do it, you are practicing Habit 2: Begin With the End in Mind.

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Ask yourself these seven questions:

- How do we want our family to be known?
- How do we want to treat each other?
- What is most important to us as a family?
- What are some of our talents, gifts, and abilities?
- What makes us the happiest?
- What makes us unhappy?
- What kind of home do we want to invite friends to?

Step 2.

Write your Family Mission Statement.

Consider all four areas:

- Body (health and physical welfare)
- Brain (learning)
- Heart (relationships)
- Spirit (inspiration)

Keep it simple, one to two lines, so the youngest family members can memorize it and find it meaningful. Examples: "We are builders," "No empty chairs," "To serve others," "All of us accomplish it."