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The Path

7. Your Passion Is Your Power: Building Your Mission Statement

A workbook chapter that walks you through crafting a personal mission statement. It ties enthusiasm (from 'in God') to purpose, then gives a three-part formula: your action verbs, your core value, and the group you're here to help. It closes with tests for a good statement and examples of weak ones.

Key takeaways

- Passion is the test of a true mission: if it holds no personal passion, it's not your path. Use what excites you to fix what angers you.
- The formula has three puzzle pieces: (1) your three key action verbs, (2) your core value, (3) the one group or cause you most want to help. Combine them: 'to [verbs], [value], to/for/with [group].'
- Be specific about whom you serve — like Jesus focusing on 'the lost sheep of Israel,' a clear 'for whom' keeps your energy focused.
- A good statement covers both work and personal life, is big enough for a lifetime, and names something you can actually control (an environment you create, not others' happiness).

- Weak statements are uninspiring ('to survive'), self-serving ('to beat the competition'), unintelligible to outsiders, or full of trite phrases.
- Match your mission to your employer's, or expect frustration. Don't fear picking the 'wrong' one — any honest mission beats having none, and you'll be corrected as you go.

Passages worth keeping

“Once we set our feet on a path, we will be corrected and guided as long as our hearts stay focused on integrity—both ours and God's.”

Answers the fear of choosing wrongly: starting matters more than perfection.

How it connects

The chapter frames mission as a spiritual calling: 'enthusiasm' means 'in God,' and a real mission both fits you and moves others, echoing how Jesus' every act traced back to one clear purpose.

Scripture referenced

- **Matthew 15:24** -- Jesus' focused 'for whom'—the lost sheep of Israel—as a model of a specific mission
- **John 10:10** -- Jesus' own mission, 'to give life more abundantly,' as an all-encompassing statement every action flowed from