

Lifework Summary Page

Personal Contribution Profile

Personality type _____

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Values

- _____ - _____
- _____ - _____
- _____ - _____
- _____ - _____
- _____ - _____

Strengths

- _____ - _____
- _____ - _____
- _____ - _____
- _____ - _____
- _____ - _____

Skills

- _____ - _____
- _____ - _____
- _____ - _____
- _____ - _____
- _____ - _____

Life Map Experiences and Lessons

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Spiritual Gifts

- _____ - _____
- _____ - _____
- _____ - _____
- _____ - _____
- _____ - _____

Personal Contribution Profile Trends:

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Lifework Summary Page

Personal Contribution Profile Summary Statements:

- I can contribute by _____
- I can contribute by _____
- I can contribute by _____

Describe your circle of Influence:

Life Vision Statement:

I am trusting God to use my _____
(Personal Contribution Profile)

to _____
(Describe an Action)

in my _____
(Circle of Influence)

resulting in _____
(Picture of End)

Unit 3

PUTTING IT TOGETHER!

Describing Your Personal Contribution Profile

If you have ever applied for a job, you know that the first requirement is the submission of a resume. This resume includes not only a listing of your various positions, but it should reveal something about yourself ... your strengths and contributions for the prospective job. Who you are should fit the requirements of the job.

Imagine a resume like this one:

- Educated at Princeton with post-graduate work at Harvard.
- Fluent in several languages.
- Skilled public speaker.
- Able to cross cultural boundaries in communication.
- A clear vision and agenda for the future.
- Able to recruit future leaders and develop them for positions of influence.
- A published author in both practical and philosophical works.
- An innovator and designer of new methods and tactics.
- A network of extensive contacts and friends.

If you strike the current references of Princeton and Harvard, this is the Apostle Paul's resume. Paul's life and ministry portrays how God uses a person's design to match a vision for ministry.

Consider his background. Paul was born to a well-to-do family and raised in a city which prized both the Greek and Jewish cultures. Because of this background, he possessed a Roman citizenship and was fluent in Greek and Hebrew. These abilities and credentials unlocked communication and accessibility to people within the Roman Empire.

Paul's education provided a cultural breadth that allowed him to minister to a variety of people. His spiritual gifts of apostleship, evangelism, and teaching uniquely prepared him for church planting and leadership development - - all necessary functions to advance the early church.

Paul valued his Jewish traditions but also grasped the importance of moving beyond tradition to new forms and perspectives ... qualities needed to advance the gospel to an "unchurched" Gentile audience.

The example of Paul illustrates how God uses a person's design to match a vision for ministry. In mapping your lifework, the discovery of your personal design and contribution is foundational for ministry.

Unit Goals:

- Identify characteristics of a Personal Contribution Profile
- Learn 4 steps to write your PCP
- Write your Personal Contribution Profile



Biblical Background

What do the following passages indicate about either a person's design, contribution, or circle of influence?

Psalm 139:13-16

Romans 15:15-20

Ephesians 2:10

Even though Paul possessed a clear understanding of his design and vision, he still faced the challenge of dealing with weaknesses (2 Corinthians 12:9,10). What is the balance between depending upon God and being confident about His design of you?

Characteristics of a Personal Contribution Profile (PCP)

In his book, *One of a Kind*, M. Blaine Smith describes the identity crisis he faced as he entered seminary. He thought he was a good Bible student but soon discovered that others were more gifted than he. Playing guitar had always provided a sense of contribution in the past but now more skillful players participated in worship. Teaching had always been a natural fit but now he rubbed shoulders with men and women who were both gifted and trained to teach.

This crisis of security and significance led to this discovery:

"It dawned on me that no matter how hard I worked, I would always find someone who was a better guitarist; no matter how hard I worked, I would always find someone who was a better teacher ... a better student. No matter what the talent was and no matter how hard I worked at developing it, I was always going to find others who could surpass me at that point. But no matter how far and wide I looked, I would never find another person who had my same gifts in the same combination. In this sense I am utterly unique."¹

***A Personal
Contribution Profile
pictures how God
has uniquely woven
together all the
elements of your
design for a special
contribution.***

A PCP has four basic elements:

1. It is a profile - a concise biographical description of your contribution.
2. It is personal - the profile describes how God has uniquely designed you!
3. It describes your God-given contribution - the ways which God has designed you to contribute to His purposes.
4. It is motivational - a clear PCP gives passion to your contribution!

¹ M. Blaine Smith, *One of a Kind*, p. 48.

Writing Your Personal Contribution Profile

Writing Your Personal Contribution Profile Involves Four Steps:

1. Collect and Review



2. Synthesize Your Information



3. Write your PCP

What Does Looking for a House and Writing Your Personal Contribution Profile Have in Common?



If you have ever gone house hunting in a new city, you know how difficult it is to find the perfect location and home. Driving in a car with a realtor is some help, but your bearings are not internalized until you look and drive for yourself.

Your drive helps you **collect facts** about your new location. Fact collecting starts by exploring the neighborhoods and talking to people. Neighborhoods with lots of junglegymns and swingsets indicate families with young children. Neighborhoods with basketball hoops in the driveways are inhabited by teens. Apartments and townhouses indicate a large singles population.

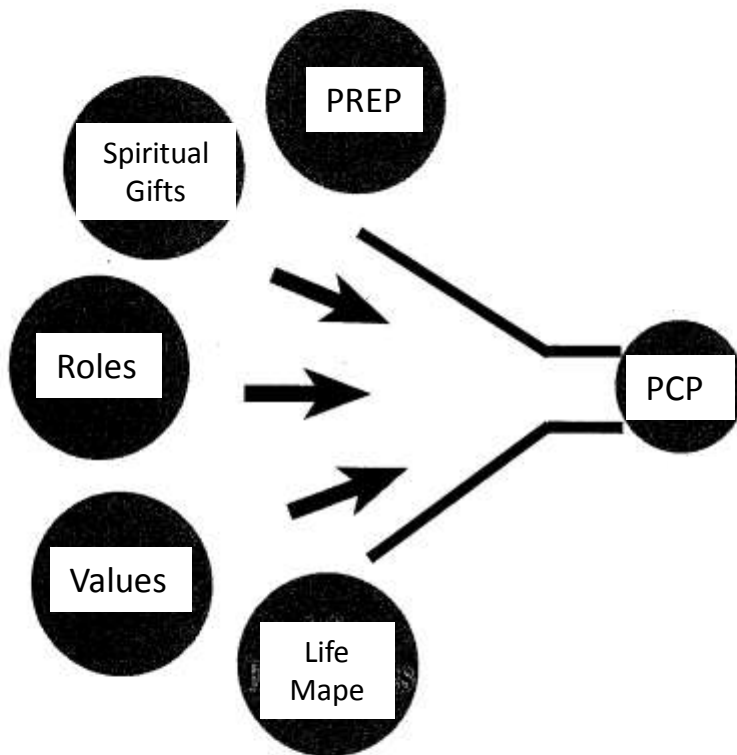
Your driving will give you a mass of facts about size and shapes of homes, types of neighborhoods, etc., but you are still missing the big picture.

The next step is to **synthesize your findings** by tying together the observations into a bigger picture. A map of the city would show you the relationship of neighborhoods to freeways, shopping malls, city parks, etc. This global view puts all of the particulars in perspective and narrows the choices for you. The next step will help you make the decision.

The process in identifying your PCP is similar to purchasing a home. First, you collect and review the facts; you synthesize these facts by drawing relationships; and then you enlist others to help you assess the findings.

Step 1: Collect & Review

From the Assessment Seminar and Roles Inventory, you have a lot of data about your design. This data could be pictured as the wide end of the funnel. Your job now is to “funnel” all of this data into a clear and concise profile of your contribution and then to ask others to assess the findings.



Getting Started.

The following example of Ben will illustrate the process of collecting and reviewing, synthesizing, and writing your PCP.



The Profile of Ben

Ben is in his mid-forties and serves on the staff of a Christian organization. He has completed the various assessment assignments and is now ready to record his findings on the Lifework Planning Page. Here are his summaries:

PREP

- Develops new ideas, theories & principles
- Highly independent & prefers to work alone
- Intellectually creative
- Must understand ideas behind projects
- Can seem aloof, argumentative & cold
- Not interested in maintenance or consolidation
- Can see long-range consequences
- Enjoys analyzing and clarifying intellectually complex issues

Spiritual Gifts

- Teacher - loves to learn & communicate,
- Wisdom - able to discern, synthesize and design applicable principles
- Pastor/Shepherd - care for spiritual needs of group and oversees growth
- Rule/Lead - coordinating efforts and oversees the big picture

Primary Roles

- Abstract Designer - able to design macro solutions to problems
- Teacher - able to communicate ideas and information in an understandable and applicable manner
- Visionary Builder - envisions the potential of an idea or project
- Concrete Designer - able to design detailed, workable solutions to complex problems
- Leader/Manager - influences the direction and values of a group, provides leadership and organization

Life Experiences and Lessons

- Always attracted to ideas
- Desires to influence
- Enjoys completing major projects
- Experiments with ministry models
- Consistent ministry of teaching
- Variety of leadership opportunities

Values

- Creative expression
- Work on frontiers of knowledge
- Exercise competence - work in areas in which he has experience and he can excel
- Responsibility - opportunity for decision-making and control over work domain
- Work with others - needs close working relationships

Step 2: Synthesize Your Information

Synthesis blends the parts into a whole. You want to now pull together all of the diverse facts and insights into some categories or topics that make sense to you. Here is an example of how Ben pulled together the various facts to draw some relationships. Notice how he highlighted key words, phrases, and concepts.

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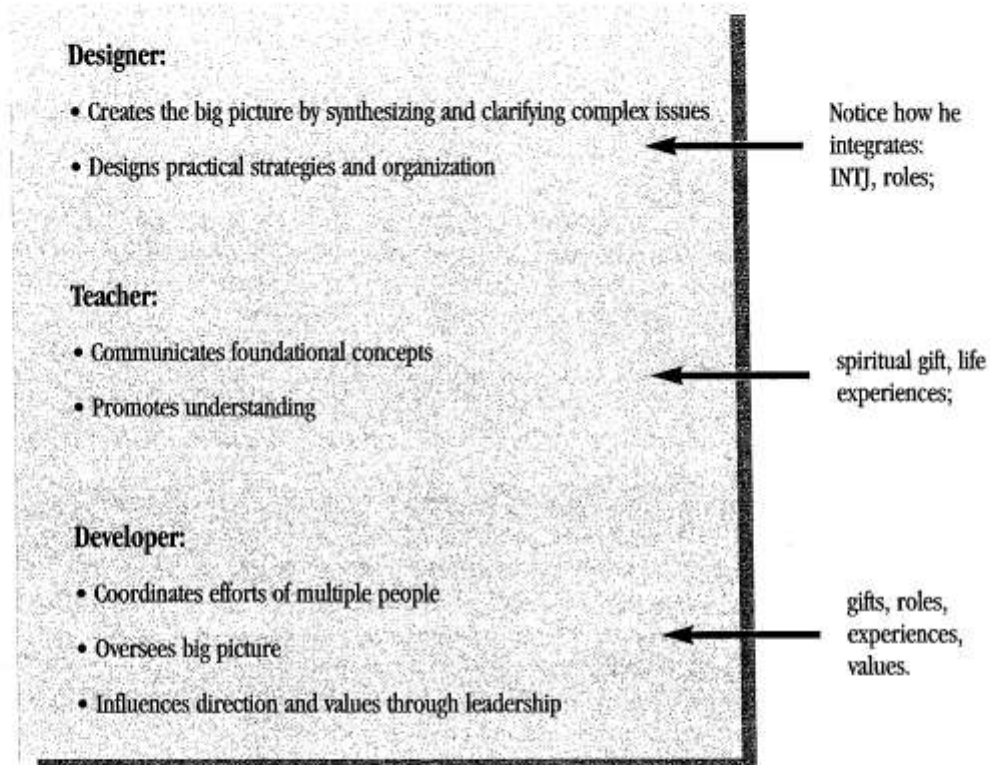
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- Responsibility - opportunity for decision-making and control over work domain
- Work with others - needs close working relationships

Possible Trends:

- Enjoys creating and designing
- Likes giving leadership to accomplish goals
- Teaching is a constant
- Analysis is useful for implementing new ideas.

Step 3: Writing Your Personal Contribution Profile

From his synthesis, Ben draws together his findings into some relationships. He develops three main categories, provides descriptions or definitions of each category, and then writes a one-sentence summary.



Ben's summary statements:

- I can contribute to a ministry by designing the "big picture" of vision and creating a practical action plan.
- I can contribute to a ministry by teaching in a way that helps people understand and apply.
- I can contribute to a ministry by providing leadership which organizes people around a vision.

Two More Examples of a Personal Contribution Profile

Sue's Profile.

After sorting through her data, Sue has identified this profile:

Perceptive:

I quickly evaluate people and situations, recognize needs and desires, empathize with feelings, and anticipate consequences of actions.

Practical:

I am able to take practical needs of people into account and design detailed, workable solutions to practical problems.

People Developer:

I have a passion to influence, motivate, and guide people toward personal growth and commitment to God's design for them.

Jeff's Profile.

After sorting through his data, Jeff has identified this profile:

Teacher:

As a teacher, I want to use humor to make truth understandable and applicable

Developer:

I am not an originator but I can take ministry tools and ideas and package them in useful ways.

Remember - Your Personal Contribution Profile must describe you.
Don't walk around in borrowed clothes by wearing another person's PCP!

Unit 5

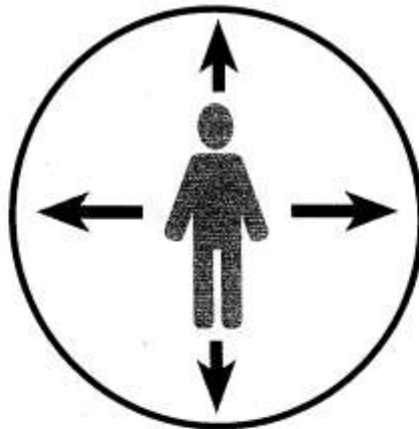
WHERE CAN YOU CONTRIBUTE?

Identifying Your Circle of Influence

"Not another emotional appeal! I feel so guilty about not being involved in everything. Can't I invest my time and talents in just one area of ministry?"

Have you ever felt like Sue? Her exasperated response to another service opportunity speaks for many of us. Sue has opportunities for ministry in her office, in the church, to the parents in her daughter's soccer league, and with friends in the neighborhood. All of these groups of people are important, but is Sue "called" to minister to each with the same sense of priority and urgency?

All too often, there is a compulsion to serve from an extreme sense of duty to do everything. All ministry opportunities appear to be equal and demand your attention. How do you set priorities? An understanding of a **Circle of Influence** will help answer this question. Identifying your circle of influence (COI) is the second component in Mapping Your Lifework.



Unit Goals:

- Describe a circle of influence
- Think differently about life's opportunities
- Identify your circle of influence



Biblical Background

The New Testament offers several pictures of how God providentially draws a circle and defines a ministry for His people. Peter was called to the Jews while Paul was sent to the Gentiles (Galatians 2:7). Sometimes God sends His people to other places ... such as Paul and Barnabas in Acts 13:1,2. In other settings, He asks them to have an impact right where they live ... such as the healed demoniac in Mark 5:19.

Another picture of God designing a circle of influence is in 2 Corinthians 10:13-16. In defending his apostleship, Paul asserts that as a result of his evangelism, Corinth was his "field" of ministry (NIV) or "sphere" (NASV) apportioned by God (2 Cor. 10:13). This "assigning" or "apportioning" conveys the picture of a person surveying a field and marking out plots of ground.¹ Paul underscored this sense of boundary by saying that he does not want to boast about work "done in another man's territory (10:16)" or "sphere of another (NASV)."

God had prescribed a circle for Paul's ministry. Did this limit his vision? No, he was confident that as the Corinthians' faith grew, his "area of activity ... will greatly expand (10:15)." Paul's circle among them would touch other circles thus multiplying the impact of the gospel.

"But Paul was an apostle, I'm a computer programmer. He was "called" to the Gentiles. I relate to co-workers, neighbors and friends in church. Is a circle of influence the same for me?"

The New Testament gives several glimpses of "non-professionals" (people who were not apostles) reaching others in their circles of influence. Priscilla and Aquila is one example of people who used the circle of influence of their vocation to have a ministry. This ministry was to individuals (Apollos in Acts 18:26) and to a home church (Romans 16:3-5).

Church historian Michael Green describes the spread of the gospel in the early church in this way:

"... the great mission of Christianity was in reality accomplished by means of informal missionaries... chattering to friends and chance acquaintances, in homes and wine shops, on walks, and around market stalls. They went everywhere gossiping the gospel; they did it naturally ... and with the conviction of those who are not paid to say that sort of thing."²

Within their circles of influence, men and women from every walk of life influenced their worlds with the gospel.

In summary:

- God providentially designs circles of influence for His people;
- This circle may be defined by going somewhere (such as the apostolic circles) or it may be the everyday circles of your life (job, neighborhood, etc.). In either situation, it is an area for which you feel a particular burden;
- You have the freedom to concentrate your efforts to your circle of influence;
- You ministry has the potential for greater impact because your circle touches other circles;
- At the heart of a circle of influence is the gospel. Be careful not to limit your circle to only believers.

¹ *The New International Commentary on the New Testament: The Epistle to the Second Corinthians*

² Michael Green, *Evangelism in the Early Church*, pp. 172-173.



Describing a Circle of Influence

A circle of influence represents the circle of relationships in which you invest a significant portion of your time and energy. This circle represents a "harvest field" unique to your life's experiences. This circle could be a vocational ministry setting, your neighborhood, family, career, children's school, etc.

Your primary circle of influence is the people and place for which you are burdened and motivated to influence with the message of Christ.

An Understanding of your Circle of Influence:

- Focuses the contribution of your God-given design;
- Concentrates your creative energies;
- Opens up team situations with others of like heart and mind;
- Relieves a false notion of guilt. You have the ability to say "yes" or "no" to other appeals for service.

Time for Reflection:

Like Sue, you probably have a variety of circles in your life. List several characteristics you would look for to help you discern a *primary* circle of influence.

Identifying a Circle of Influence...

Means Thinking Differently about Life's Opportunities.

Choosing a circle of influence may mean changing your perspective on ministry. Instead of ministry being reserved for professional in public arenas, this new perspective believes that God values all of life and wants to use each of us in both public and private circles.

"It's obvious that all of life is important to God!" is the response that might be going through your mind right now. It may be obvious to you but is it obvious to Jill, a stay-at-home mother with pre-schoolers ... or is it obvious to Jim, a young accountant who has to continually work overtime? The tension we feel between ministry and the rest of life can be the result of a "two-story" mindset.

In their book, *Your Work Matters to God*, Sherman and Hendricks describe how many believe that the only part of life that "really counts" to God is the part committed to religious activities like Bible reading, prayer, church attendance, visitation, etc. Day-to-day work and day-to-day life can lack significant intrinsic value to believers.

Sherman and Hendricks describe this as a "two-story" system - - a system that sets up a dichotomy between two categories: the spiritual and the non-spiritual, with the spiritual one being superior.³

How did we arrive at this belief ... and is it biblical? Remember Plato the philosopher? This is where he comes in.

Plato has influenced the church in subtle but significant ways. In his philosophy, the spiritual realm is considered superior to the material. In this life, the aim is to dwell in the realm of the spirit as far as possible and to de-emphasize and devalue the material realm.

With this spiritual hierarchy, ordinary people who pursue earthly tasks in the material world are low in the hierarchy because they are not in close contact with the spiritual realm. Those who are at the top of the hierarchy are those who major on spiritual concerns and are, therefore, in touch with God.⁴

Given this definition, the construction worker who builds bridges and the homemaker with children in diapers are at the bottom of a spiritual hierarchy. Pastors and missionaries enjoy an exalted status at the top. The "real business" of life is carried on in the spiritual realm and in spiritual callings. Is this what the Bible really teaches?

Sherman and Hendricks write that "there is no distinction between the secular and the sacred. At any moment, no matter what we are doing, we are relating to God either properly or improperly. Thus we need to distinguish, not between secular and sacred, but between sin and righteousness."⁵ All of life relates to God.

Since all of life has value to God, we can view our individual circles of influence as opportunities to extend His Kingdom. Whether you care for children, teach school, work at IBM, or serve as a missionary, all of life has value to God and becomes a setting in which you can co-labor with Him.

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³ Doug Sherman and William Hendricks, *Your Work Matters to God*, p. 52.

⁴ Ranald Macaulay and Jerram Barrs, *Being Human: The Nature of Spiritual Experience*.

⁵ Sherman and Hendricks, p. 54.



Time for Reflection

Do you agree with Sherman and Hendricks that we are often guilty of a “two-story” mentality?

If all of life is important to God, what advice would you give to Jill, the homemaker in Unit 1, or to Jim, the aspiring CPA, when they question the value of what they do in relationship to the “spiritual” ministries of the church?

Are there ways in which your perspective needs to change about how you view your circles of influence?

Keep These Principles in Mind As You Prepare to Identify Your Circle of Influence:

- ✓ 1. Your COI may be seasonal. For mothers and wives, their COI may be determined by the ages of their children or whether they are “empty nesters.” When Brenda had children in school, she chose involvement in the local PTA as her primary circle of influence. With children out of the home, Pam saw her circle enlarged through a writing ministry.
- ✓ 2. Your COI may be an obvious one - - your place of work or neighborhood.
- ✓ 3. For some, your COI may be larger than a group of people in an immediate setting. Some people are burdened for cities, counties, states or countries. If God has burdened your heart in this area, don't be afraid to pray and think big.
- ✓ 4. If you are married, spend time praying and talking together about your mutual or differing circles of influence. There are a variety of models in the Scriptures of couples and their ministries. Deborah served a kingdom; [Aquila and Priscilla ministered through their common occupation; the Apostles' wives supported their husbands' travel ministries.]
- ✓ 5. If you are single, evaluate your circle of influence with your roommates, co-laborers in ministry, mentors, or spiritual leaders.



Assignment



1. List the variety of circles of relationships in which you could currently have an influence for the cause of Christ:

2. Is there a specific harvest field for which you are burdened? How does this harvest field differ/correspond to any of the above circles?

3. Review any promises or specific leadings of God in your life regarding people and places. What insights do they provide for identifying your primary circle of influence?

4. Identify the circle which is the best match with your PCP and describe why.



Turn to the **Lifework Summary Page** and write a description of your COI.

Unit 6

WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

Writing A Lifework Vision Statement

*"God's vision for your ministry is like a fingerprint: there is no other one exactly like it."
George Barna¹*

It had been an exhausting day for the itinerant minister. He had never experienced so many people with so many needs. With the weariness of work came the exhilaration of ministry. There is nothing as satisfying as God using your life to meet the needs of people. To most observers, the impact of this itinerant minister's service would guarantee a longer stay. After all, if God is blessing, you don't want to leave the site of His activity.

When his hosts pressed him to stay, his reply surprised everyone: "I need to keep my next appointment. My vision is to move on and leave the follow-up to you." The sense of purpose which brought him to this series of meetings drove him on to the next one. A commitment to a vision set his priorities. Who was this itinerant minister and what drove him onward? Mark 1:32-39 gives the identity:

*"Let us go somewhere else - to the nearby villages - so I can preach there also.
That is why I have come."*

When faced with multiple ministry opportunities, the Lord Jesus moved onward with a clear sense of mission. Even though people were tugging on His sleeve to have their needs met, Jesus pressed ahead.

The dilemma that our Lord faced is not unusual. Here are some current dilemmas which cry out for a sense of purpose or mission:

- "There are so many ministry opportunities to choose from; how do I set priorities?"
- "My schedule often seems controlled by the latest request of someone else."
- ✓ • "I know intuitively what my vision is but I feel uncomfortable explaining it to others."
- "I am facing a change in ministry; how do I determine whether to change or to remain in what I am doing?"

¹ George Barna, *The Power of Vision*.

Review

This is the third step in mapping your lifework. You have identified **the who** (your PCP), and **the where** (your COI); now you will describe **the what** - -a compelling vision for contribution.

MAPPING YOUR LIFEWORK...

Personal Contribution Profile
(Who you are)

Circle of Influence
(Where you live and minister)

Lifework Vision Statement
(How God will use your life)

to maximize your contribution

Unit Goals:

- Discuss the value of a vision statement;
- Describe the benefits of a lifework vision statement;
- Define a lifework statement;
- Apply 4 steps in writing a vision statement;
- Write a lifework vision statement.

Why Is A Lifework Vision Statement Valuable?²

Vision provides a God-given sense of meaning to life.

While people may choose to live without God, they cannot choose to live without meaning. A professed atheist and professor of adult education once commented over a meal that his "religion was adult literacy." In other words, what gave meaning and purpose to his life was helping adults learn how to read in order to advance socially, vocationally, and mentally. The author of Ecclesiastes is proven right again:

"What does the worker gain from his toil? I have seen the burden God has laid on men. He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the hearts of men; yet they cannot fathom what God has done from beginning to end. I know that there is nothing better for men than to be happy and do good while they live."

Ecc 3:9-12

We cannot live without a sense of meaning or purpose. This is the "eternity" which God has set in our hearts and which makes sense out of life's complexities. Even the atheist recognizes the need for a purpose which gives meaning and direction to life.

Vision is characteristic of people who finish well.

Dr. Robert Clinton's passion is leadership development. Over the past several years, he has studied the life histories of over 900 spiritual leaders. These leaders are both biblical and historical. What conclusions has he reached?

Studies of effective leaders who have finished well show that, in general, they became increasingly more deliberate in what they did and how they accomplished it. There was a process whereby God led them to prioritize their lives and ministries around fundamental issues. This process is described as a focused life.³

This focused life stays focused because of a compelling vision.

People in healthy, growing ministries lead with a purpose or vision.

"What makes some churches effective and what keeps others from realizing their full potential?" This is the question which haunted researcher and author George Barna.

From his extensive research with healthy churches (as compared with declining ones), he found that "one of the key distinctives that emerges is the existence of true vision for ministry... a discernible link has been forged between the spiritual [growth] of those congregations and the existence, articulation, and widespread ownership of God's vision for ministry by the leaders and participants of the church."⁴

² Words such as "vision," "purpose" or "mission" have varying shades of meaning. For some authors, the words are interchangeable while others weave tight definitions of meaning. In this context, the three are interchangeable.

³ J. Robert Clinton, *Strategic Concepts that Clarify a Focused Life*.

⁴ George Barna, p. 12.



Time for Reflection

What Are the Desired Outcomes of a Lifework Vision Statement?⁴

Under each of the following statements, write a brief description of how a Lifework Vision Statement could affect this quality of life.

Concentration of Effort you would feel pulled to do things that matter
or was undivided your purpose

Conservation of Energy you would have more time to accomplish your
vision if you were not using energy for extraneous stuff

Productivity in Priority Issues

Objective Basis to say "YES" or "NO"

Lifestyle changes

New Decisions

⁴ Used by permission from *LinkUp Leadership Network*.

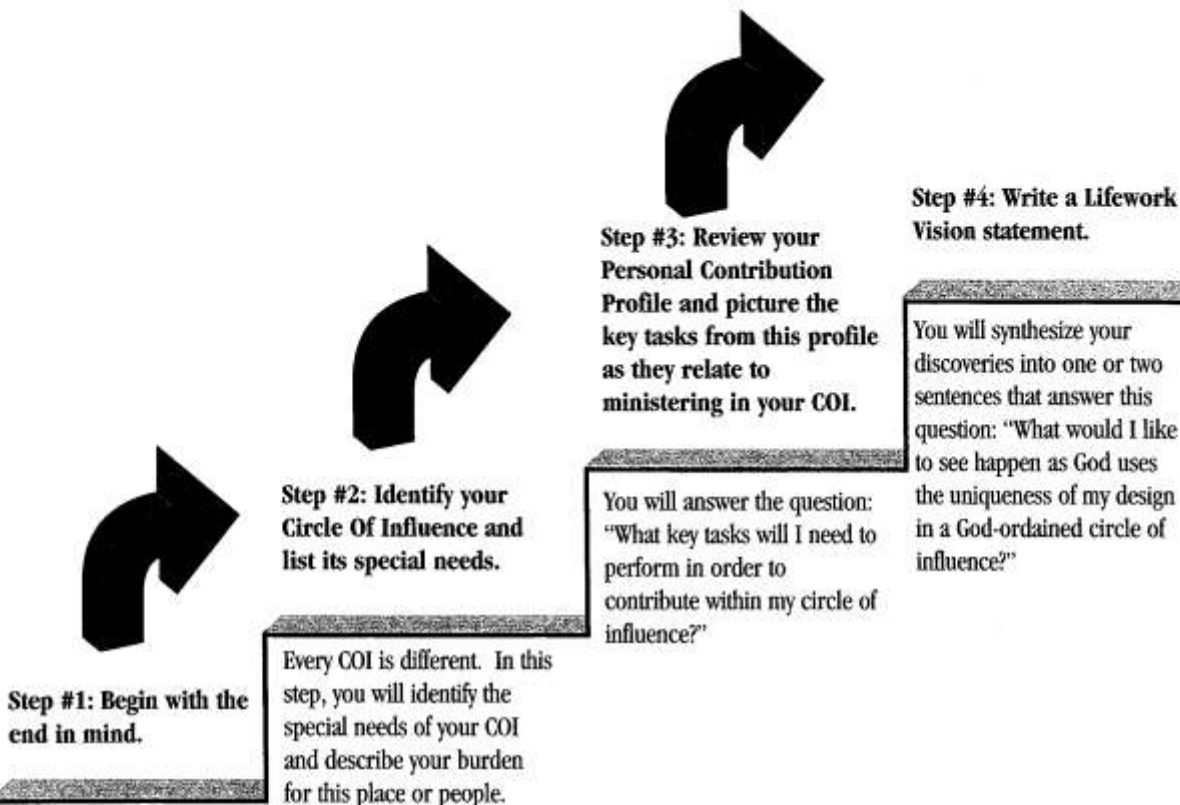
Defining A Lifework Vision Statement

A Lifework Vision Statement

describes how you are trusting God to use His unique design of you to contribute in your circle of influence.

- *Describes how you're trusting God...* A vision statement pictures the "end in mind." These are the dreams and desires of how God can use your life.
- *To use His unique design of you...* Your sense of mission is not an ideal imposed by others but is intimately connected with the unique way God has designed you to contribute (your Personal Contribution Profile).
- *To contribute...* Your God-given contribution is displayed in certain roles or tasks that reflect your PCP.
- *To your circle of influence...* You have identified a burden for a particular harvest field (a people and place).

Four Steps in Forming a Lifework Vision Statement



"To begin with the end in mind means to start with a clear understanding of your destination. It means to know where you're going so that you better understand where you are now and so that the steps you take are always in the right direction." Steven Covey⁶

Every COI is different. In this step, you will identify the special needs of your COI and describe your burden for this place or people.

You will answer the question: "What key tasks will I need to perform in order to contribute within my circle of influence?"

You will synthesize your discoveries into one or two sentences that answer this question: "What would I like to see happen as God uses the uniqueness of my design in a God-ordained circle of influence?"

This sequence will be helpful in crafting a vision statement:

I am trusting God to use my (key qualities of PCP) to (describe an action) in my (COI) resulting in (picture the end in mind).

⁶ Steven Covey, *The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People*, p. 98.

Two Examples of a Lifework Vision Statement

<p><i>Example #1: Remember Sue from Unit 3 and the Personal Contribution Profile? Sue uniquely blended her PCP into a clear vision statement:</i></p>	<p><i>Example #2: You last saw Jeff in Unit 1 as an example of someone who has mapped his lifework. Here is Jeff's vision statement:</i></p>
<p><i>I am trusting God to use my strengths of persevering and developing from a practical approach to influence, motivate and guide people toward personal growth and commitment to God's design for them.</i></p> <p>What are the unique qualities of her vision:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • her unique contribution is integral to the vision (persevering, developing, practical); • she clearly describes what she wants to do (influence, motivate, guide); • she has a goal in mind (personal growth and commitment); • the statement has her "personal bent" (a commitment to God's design). 	<p><i>I am trusting God to draw upon my teaching and training roles to design materials and teaching settings to equip leaders to be effective in ministry.</i></p> <p>What are the unique qualities of Jeff's vision:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • his unique contribution is integral to the vision (teaching and training); • there is a special focus of his contribution (design materials and teaching settings); • the focus of his efforts are directed to a COI (other leaders); • there is a goal in mind (effectiveness in ministry).

As you consider the two statements, you will notice that each one is different. Even though Sue and Jeff went through the same process, each statement reflects the personality and leading of the individual. Remember: no two vision statements should be alike. Vision statements reflect the unique fingerprint of God upon a person's life.



Assignment



A lifework vision statement describes how you are trusting God to use His unique design of you to contribute in your circle of influence.

1: Begin with the end in mind: At the close of your life, as you reflect back upon your ministry, how would you like to be remembered? (Keep it focused - this is a reflection upon ministry contribution!)

2: List the characteristics and special needs in your primary circle of influence. What is your burden for this place or people?

3: Review your Personal Contribution Profile and picture the key tasks that you bring to this COI.

4: Synthesize the above discoveries into one or two sentences that answers this question: "What would I like to see happen as God uses the uniqueness of my design in a God-ordained circle of influence?"



Turn to the **Lifework Summary Page** and complete the assignment.

