

WORKSHEET THREE

PAUSE FOR REFLECTION

Please spend some time reflecting on the information you have gathered about yourself thus far. These reflections will help you in developing your personal mission statement.

1. Review "Worksheet One: Equipped To Be Saints" and "Worksheet Two: Empowered To Be Sent Out." What patterns do you notice? Do you find yourself doing what you are equipped to do as well as what you enjoy doing?

2. What do you see yourself doing in the future? (Activities/services such as family, occupation, educational opportunities, church, leisure time or hobbies)

3. With what person or groups of people are you most frequently doing these activities from Question 2?

4. Why are you doing what you are doing? Why do you want to do the things you listed in Question 2?
What's really important to you?

5. Begin to identify descriptive statements that identify how you would like to be described; what you want to do; what gives you a sense of purpose. Examples may include:

- * I enjoy doing what I can to help others.
- * I am willing to learn from other people.
- * I enjoy being in service related professions or activities.
- * I give priority to my faith, my family, then my career or volunteer responsibilities.
- * I value healthy relationships.
- * I try to balance my volunteer activities and family responsibilities.
- * I am committed to nurturing the spiritual development of others.
- * I am uniquely blessed with...
- * I value ... (prioritizing your values will also help you as you begin to draft your mission statement.)
- * I am a person who ...

The last phase of the mission statement process will ask you to string together thoughts, learnings, phrases, and reflections to discover your unique ministry or service. It has been said that we detect rather than invent our mission in life. Using the gifts that God has given each of us, we need to determine how to best fulfill His vision for our life. Victor Frankl once wrote, "Everyone has their own specific vocation or mission in life. We cannot be replaced, nor can our life be repeated. Thus, everyone's task is as unique as is the specific opportunity to implement it." What an eloquent paraphrase of St. Paul's writing in 1 Cor. 12: 4-6: *There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but the same God works all of them in men.* In verse 11, Paul continues, *All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and He gives them to each one, just as He determines.* The rest of that familiar passage describes the unique, yet interrelated gifts of each part of the body. Each part is uniquely created with a special function, ALL of which are equally necessary.

Personal mission statements are exactly that- personal (unique to the author) and mission driven. There are some basic components:

- Personal strengths (character, qualities, blessings)
- Framework of your life's setting; roles you currently fill or wish to take on
- What contributions you want to make, accomplishments you would like to achieve