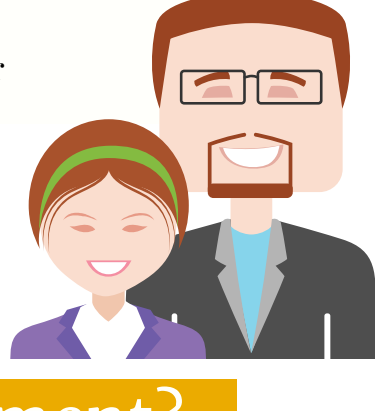




# Create a Family Mission Statement



Most of us work for businesses that have Missions and Core Values. During this time that many of us are at home with our families, it's a great time to reflect on the Mission and Core Values for your family. Incorporate this fun and interactive exercise in your time together and will see your family strengthened and inspired for the future while reinforcing your family values and faith.



## Why create a Family Mission Statement?

Having a shared sense of purpose and values help parents and children come together. It establishes ideals for each person in the family to strive for and assists them in choices, both individually and together. It also assists in guiding parents' decisions for the family.

## Call a Family Meeting!

Let your family know that you are looking for everyone to participate. Make it fun and interactive. Base the length of the meeting on your children's ages. For younger children, perhaps meet for less than a half hour each day. If you have teen or adult children living (or sheltering) at home, perhaps meet for 1-2 hours once or twice a day.

Remember to be kind to each other and respectful of each person's opinions. Value what each person says and record it all. If you have big sheets of paper or construction paper, you can put the information on the wall. At the very least, name someone in the family a "scribe" who will record everything.

**Start with some questions that help your family identify how you want to be and what you aspire to be. Some great questions to ask include:**

- What is the purpose of our family?
- What inspires us?
- What kind of family do we want to be?
- What things are import to us as a family?
- What are our God given gifts and talents of our family members that we value?
- How do we want to contribute to the world with our time, talent, and treasure?

Incorporate your answers into The Catholic Foundation of Central Florida's Family Mission Statement worksheet below.



## Identify Your Family's Core Values

Use The Catholic Foundation of Central Florida's list of 67 core values below to brainstorm what your family's core values are. Let your family share the values that speak to them the most. **Compile a list of 20 values that your family contributes to making.** Make a list and ask each of your family members to **vote for their top 10.**

Each person may vote for 10 different ones or vote up to three times for the same one. You may use different colored pens to make this easier, or different colored post it notes, stickers, etc. Make it fun and move around while doing this. Have one person add up the votes and announce top values. You will then incorporate these principles into your mission statement.

## A List of 67 Core Values

Authenticity	Determination	Hopeful	Patience	Thoughtful
Achievement	Dignity	Humble	Peace	Tolerant
Adventure	Diligence	Humor	Perseverance	Trustworthiness
Authority	Discipline	Imagination	Pleasure	Truthful
Authentic	Dream	Influence	Poise	Wealth
Autonomy	Dutiful	Inner Harmony	Popularity	Wisdom
Balance	Empathy	Integrity	Purposeful	Work Ethic
Beauty	Ethical	Innovation	Recognition	
Belief	Excellence	Intellectual	Religion	
Boldness	Fairness	Joyful	Reputation	
Caring	Faith	Justice	Resilience	
Catholic	Fame	Kindness	Respect	
Community	Family	Knowledge	Responsibility	
Compassion	Forgiving	Leadership	Security	
Courteous	Friendship	Learning	Self-control	
Challenge	Fun	Life	Self-Respect	
Citizenship	Generous	Long-suffering	Service	
Cleanliness	Gentleness	Love	Solidarity	
Committed	Giving	Loyalty	Spirituality	
Community	Gracious	Meaningful Work	Stability	
Competency	Goodness	Merciful	Strong	
Confident	Gratitude	Mildness	Success	
Contribution	Growth	Moral	Status	
Courageous	Happiness	Obedient	Teachable	
Creativity	Helpful	Openness	Tenacity	
Curiosity	Honesty	Optimism	Tenderhearted	

## Create Your Family Mission Statement

Using your core values and The Catholic Foundation's Family Mission Statement worksheet, create phrases that describe your family's mission and purpose.

*There is no right or wrong way of creating your mission statement, as long as it is positive and reflective of your family.*

For parents with young children, this might be a job for Mom and Dad after the children go to bed. If you are creating a multi-generational Family Mission Statement you may ask

each adult sibling to create two or three phrases.

Put the words together and you can narrow it down from there.

## Some examples include:

*"In this family we are real, we make mistakes,  
we say 'I'm Sorry',  
We have fun, We love each other,  
We give hugs, We forgive,  
We believe in God and in each other."*

*In our Family  
WE  
...are strong and courageous - 1 Corinthians 16:13  
...trust in God's plan - Jeremiah 29:11  
...let our light shine - Matthew 5:16  
...pray for one another - James 5:16  
...are joyful in life - Ecclesiastes 8:15  
...trust in the Lord with all our hearts - Proverbs 3:5-6  
...believe all things are possible with God - Matthew 19:26*

*"To celebrate our family member with Down syndrome and God who created her perfect in his image, we will support with time, talent, and treasure the ministries and organizations that help create opportunities and empowerment for people with disabilities."*

Once you have created the Family Mission Statement, discuss with the family. Get suggestions for tweaks or edits so that it **represents your family** and it **reflects your purpose** and who you **aspire to be in the world.**

**Write it out and display it.** It can be powerful to read it every day. It may also inspire others that see it and are encouraged to create their own.



BONUS  
EXERCISE

### Consider a Tagline

A tagline could also be considered a motto. **It's one sentence that encapsulates your family culture.**

Examples:

**"Our family is built on faith, hope, and love." 1 Corinthians 13**

OR

**"Always do your best, and your best is always good enough!"**



**It could be your family's mantra.** Incorporate your mission and core values when creating your tagline.

## FAMILY MISSION STATEMENT WORKSHEET

Create a shared purpose for your family by sharing your experiences, values and most important priorities. Take some time to answer the following questions and use those to build your Family Mission Statement. Share this with your loved ones, your professional advisers, and include it as part of your family culture and legacy. Make sure to refer to it frequently and encourage your extended family to build their own Family Mission Statement.

1. The values that inspire my family include:

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_ 3. \_\_\_\_\_

2. Our faith is important to us because:

\_\_\_\_\_

3. The most important days of our lives were:

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_ 3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. As a family, how do we donate our time, talent and treasure.

\_\_\_\_\_

5. What do you admire about your parents and grandparents? As a family, what can we give to others and how can we help people outside of our family?

\_\_\_\_\_

6. What causes do we want to impact the most as a family?

\_\_\_\_\_

7. What are the principles we want our family to be based on?

\_\_\_\_\_

8. How can we pass down our value of faith?

\_\_\_\_\_

9. What values do we want to share together?

\_\_\_\_\_

10. How have our values been shaped by our faith? What life lessons do I want my family to live by?

\_\_\_\_\_

## OUR FAMILY MISSION STATEMENT

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

