



Unit: Personal Vision and Goals

Skill 7: Establishing Goals and Objectives

Activity B: Personal Goals and Visions

Activity Skills:

Small group interaction; group decision-making, writing and discussion.

Leadership Skills:

Understanding the differences between dream, vision and mission statement as well as why these concepts are important to leadership.

Suggested Level:

Advanced

Time:

30 minutes

Supplies needed:

- A leadership scenario for each group.
- Blank paper/cards to write out statement.
- Pens or pencils.

Do Ahead:

N/A

Source:

Developed by:
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Based on:

“How to write a goal” by Elizabeth Gregory, Texas Cooperative Extension, and “Goal Setting” by Gene Donohue

BACKGROUND:

Introduce the group to the definitions of dream, vision and mission statement. Go through some examples together and discuss as a group. How do these concepts relate to leadership?

When developing personal goals, it's important to consider the following:

1. What is your vision? Try to see the outcome that you desire, as this outcome will be part of your goal statement.
2. Start with the people. The subject of your goal will be the people affected by it.
3. What is the change? Describe the change you want with an action verb.
4. State the outcome. How will your subject have changed once the goal is accomplished?
5. Does your goal have conditions? For example, a time by which you need to accomplish the goal or where it will be done?

Your Goal = subject + change + outcome + conditions

For personal goals, there are some other important consideration:

1. Make sure the goal is something you really want – not just something that sounds good. Goals need to be consistent with our values, or they will not be relevant.
2. A personal goal cannot contradict any of your other goals. For example, you can't afford a \$750,000 house on an income of \$50,000/year.
3. If you need help from someone to achieve your goal, will you have their cooperation?

When you write your goal, follow these guidelines.

WHAT TO DO:

Break into teams of 3-5 people for the exercise, or conduct as one large group if numbers are small. Give each group ~10 minutes to review their scenario and write a dream, vision and mission statement for their scenario. Each group then gets ~3-5 minutes to present their statements to the whole group.

TALK IT OVER:

Reflect:

- How did your group interact to write your statements? What roles came out and how did people take on a particular role within the team?

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Notes:

- What do you think of your group's statements?
- What do you think of the other groups' statements?

Apply:

- Why does a group need a dream, vision or mission?
- Which is the most specific? Can all guide actions?
- What is the next step after having a dream?
- In what ways to leaders communicate their vision?

BEYOND THE BOX:

Optional Homework:

Ask students to research someone who conveyed a dream or vision to the public and became a leader as a result.

Resources And Web Links: