

BE MEAN ABOUT THE VISION

**PRESERVING
AND PROTECTING
WHAT MATTERS**

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FOREWORD BY ED STETZER

A PDF COMPANION TO THE AUDIOBOOK

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BEING MEAN

In My Journal

I've always found that writing in a journal helps me better absorb the events of a busy day, along with the new ideas I encounter. In this PDF I'll offer some questions for reflection that will help you apply the key principles in each chapter. I hope you'll take some time to consider how these ideas might play out in your organization.

- ▶ Does everyone in my organization know our vision?
- ▶ Is everyone passionate about the vision? Why or why not?
- ▶ Where are we going?
- ▶ Where do we want to go?
- ▶ How can we take everyone with us?



IT ALL STARTS WITH VISION

In My Journal

- ▶ What is God's vision for me? Have I wrestled with God until it has become crystal clear?
- ▶ If not, how can I pray until this happens?
- ▶ What does success look like for me? Why?
- ▶ What is the difference between a good idea and a God idea?



THREE

VISION AND SUCCESS

In My Journal

- ▶ What myth about vision have I tended to buy into?
- ▶ What do I need to do to debunk this myth in our organization?
- ▶ What is the most encouraging truth about these myths?



A VISION WE'RE WILLING TO DIE FOR

In My Journal

- ▶ What am I good at? What are my gifts?
- ▶ What can I be the best at?
- ▶ What one thing does my organization do better than any other?
- ▶ Would I die for the vision? Why or why not?
- ▶ What are some things my organization could benefit from *not* focusing on?



KEEPING THE VISION ALIVE IN ME

In My Journal

- ▶ Is the vision hot or cold in me? Was I ever more passionate than I am now? Why or why not?
- ▶ Could my pace be silently killing off the vision in me?
- ▶ If so, what can I do about it?
- ▶ How can I keep the vision alive in me on a consistent basis?
- ▶ Does the vision dictate my day? Or does my day dictate the vision?



KEEPING THE VISION ALIVE IN OTHERS

In My Journal

- ▶ Is the vision in danger of becoming stale in our organization? How can I keep it fresh?
- ▶ Does everyone in our organization know what we value?
- ▶ How are we holding each other accountable to what we value?
- ▶ How can we circle the wagons more in our organization to re-cast the vision?
- ▶ In what ways can we communicate the vision more creatively? Both verbally and visually?



IDENTIFYING A VISION HIJACKER

In My Journal

- ▶ How can I discern the difference between a critique and a criticism in my organization?
- ▶ How can I be more discerning in identifying potential vision hijackers?
- ▶ What might the potential fallout look like when a vision hijacker is not dealt with?
- ▶ How can I deal with potential hijackers, while displaying care and compassion?



KEEPING THE VISION FROM BEING HIJACKED

In My Journal

- ▶ What role does vision play in my discussions with potential leaders?
- ▶ With whom do I need to have a courageous conversation regarding the vision? Why?
- ▶ How and when will I do it?
- ▶ How will I balance grace and truth? Speak the truth in love?



WHEN IT'S NOT WORKING OUT

In My Journal

- ▶ If I were starting the organization today, would I re-hire everyone who is currently on our team? Why or why not? If not, who?
- ▶ Right now, if I had to write down the name of someone who is at risk of being released from our organization, who would it be? Why do I think so?
- ▶ Do I really believe that releasing someone from our organization could also benefit them? Why or why not?
- ▶ What could potentially keep me from releasing someone who needs to be released?



GETTING BACK ON TRACK

In My Journal

- ▶ What changes need to be made in our culture?
- ▶ Who would I begin with and how would I start gaining support of change in our organization's culture?
- ▶ When and how am I tempted to give up on the vision?
- ▶ Take some time here to map out a rough draft of the transition process to get things back on track. Include key people, events, and meetings.



PLEASING THE RIGHT AUDIENCE

In My Journal

- ▶ Who or what drives most of my leadership decisions?
- ▶ Do I care too much about what people think? Why or why not?
- ▶ How can I better differentiate the critiques from the criticisms?
- ▶ What adjustments do I need to make in my life to live more for an audience of One?



RELEASING THE VISION TO A NEW LEADER

In My Journal

- ▶ When was the last time I wanted to quit? Why?
- ▶ If I could do anything to my organization before leaving, without fear, what would it be?
- ▶ What is my plan for the vision to outlive and outlast me?
- ▶ What decisions am I making now that could work against that?
- ▶ What decisions do I need to begin to make now to prepare my organization to live beyond my leadership?