





## DEVELOPING A VISION—EXERCISE TWO

Once you have put your many thoughts and ideas and dreams down on paper, you are ready to move on to the next step. It's time to start marking it up!

Get a highlighter or colored pen and go back through what you wrote. Read it several times and circle or highlight key phrases or words that stand out.

- Perhaps there are words that reoccur in different contexts.
- Perhaps there is a sentence that resonates with you.
- Look for words that are unique to your ministry, location, demographic, or culture.

Below, jot down the key words, phrases, themes, or ideas that you highlighted. These will form the structure of your vision. Before many tall buildings go up, you'll see that steel frame begin to form, and it gives you a good idea of the type of building that will soon stand there. Like that steel frame, your vision's structure will soon support the entire ministry.

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## DEVELOPING A VISION—EXERCISE THREE

Take all those heart-felt prayers, ideas, dreams, and creative thoughts that you narrowed down to key ideas and concepts. Then, translate them into a stated vision that you can champion to the volunteers and families at your church. Be sure to share your drafts with some friends who are good at editing. What may make perfect sense to you could be confusing to someone else. You are painting with broad strokes, so you don't need to include everything, but you don't want to be so broad that your vision would describe any ministry. It needs to describe your ministry at your church.

Write three completely different vision statements, then choose your favorite, perhaps borrowing parts of the others, and start to finalize what the end result will be.

## Draft One

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## Draft Two

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## Draft Three

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## Now Put it All Together

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