

Personal Battle Plan - Compass

Central Operational Beliefs

Operational beliefs are also absolute truths. The difference, however, is that they are actionable—they compel us to do something. They require a response and provide a general guideline for our behavior and actions. They provide the basis for our values—the filter through which we process our decisions, the hills we are prepared to die on, the principles we intend to live out in our daily lives. They have to do with our doingness.

Examples:

- I have a destiny to fulfill (Jer. 29:11).
- I have a contribution to make (1 Cor. 12:4–7).
- I have a ministry to complete (Eph. 4:11–16).
- I have a legacy to leave (2 Tim. 2:2; 1 Chron. 28:8).
- I am to live a sober, upright, and godly life (Titus 2:11–14).

Identify and select two or more operational beliefs with scripture to support them. Your selected beliefs will provide the foundation on which you will stand and from which you will intentionally and proactively engage the world around you. It represents the truth you will live going forward.

1. Belief:
Scripture:
2. Belief:
Scripture:
3. Belief:
Scripture:
4. Belief:
Scripture:
5. Belief:
Scripture:

Core Values

In addition to the fruit of the Spirit (God's family values given in seed form to every believer), identify other values you believe should mark your life. Values are the hills you are prepared to die on, the primary principles you hope to live by, the filter through which your life decisions will be made. Values are qualities that you esteem and by which you intend to direct your behavior. Your values are personal commitments that propel you to act. Values govern your underlying thoughts, attitudes, and decisions that result in God-honoring behavior.

Select two or more personal values. Each value identified should include a phrase or sentence describing it, as well as one or two scriptural references that provide a focus for

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the value and help explain what the value means to you. Then select the context within your sphere of influence where you believe that value can be most effectively practiced. That setting could involve your eternal relationships with others, such as your spouse, children, relatives, friends, or work associates, or the people you serve. Or it could involve more personal, internal dimensions of your life, such as the spiritual, intellectual, emotional, or physical areas.

Finally, select a time frame for each value—the time you will focus on a particular value in a given context. The time period should not exceed six months; three months is preferable. At the end of that time frame, evaluate your progress, noting your consistency (+), inconsistency (/), or failure (-) in practicing that value. Perhaps for the next six months, God will direct you to practice the value in a different sphere of influence.

Example:

Value: People First

Description: My capacity to influence requires maintaining relationships.

Focus: Gen. 1:27; John 13:34–35.

Context: My workplace.

Timeframe: Next 3 months.

1. Value:
Description:
Focus (Scripture):
Context:
Time Frame:
2. Value:
Description:
Focus (Scripture):
Context:
Time Frame:
3. Value:
Description:
Focus (Scripture):
Context:
Time Frame:
4. Value:
Description:
Focus (Scripture):
Context:
Time Frame:
5. Value:
Description:
Focus (Scripture):

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Context:

Time Frame:

Worldview (Perceptual Attitudes)

Making sense of the world around us depends on our perceptual attitudes about how life works. This set of attitudes is our worldview—the lens through which we view the world and try to make sense of our observations. Every worldview comprises fundamental beliefs and values. Every worldview answers questions about ultimate reality, personhood, the basic human dilemma, the solution to the dilemma, and one's human destiny from that perspective.

Establishing a biblical worldview is paramount to understanding and comprehending the world around us from God's perspective. We must see the world as God sees it. We must understand its complexity from a foundation of truth—a biblical point of view—if we are to navigate its vagaries effectively and finish well. In your words, briefly describe your biblical worldview as it relates to each of the areas listed below. Remember, you are expressing an intention to view the world and evaluate it through this lens so you are not carried away by other philosophies and ideologies. Our beliefs, values, and perceptual attitudes, if they are biblical, provide an excellent backdrop for the exercise of godly wisdom.

Example: A Biblical Worldview

1. The nature of ***ultimate reality***: God exists and is active in our lives.
2. The nature of ***human personhood***: Humans bear the image of God.
3. The basic ***human dilemma***: The image of God is marred by sin.
4. The ***solution*** to the human dilemma: The person and work of Christ.
5. Our ***human destiny***: Eternal life or eternal damnation.

- The nature of ultimate reality:

Questions to consider: What is your belief about divine intelligence? Is the world we live in all there is to reality? Is there a higher intelligence out there? Does God exist? If so, how is He related to humans?

- The nature of human personhood:

Questions to consider: What is your understanding about humanity? What makes us human? What makes us distinct from other living things? Are humans animals of a higher order or the divine image of God?

- The basic human dilemma:

Questions to consider: What is the fundamental problem of mankind? What is the single most significant issue that prevents us from reaching our full potential? What holds us back from reaching perfection? What prevents us from rising above our situation or circumstances?

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- The solution to the human dilemma:

Questions to consider: What is the solution to the basic human dilemma? How can the problem of mankind be resolved? What force or forces can be brought to bear to solve our dilemma? What is the answer to our dilemma?

- Our human destiny:

Questions to consider: Where will you go when you die? Is there existence after death? Is there more than one destination after death? If there is a place of bliss, how do we attain it?

Primary/Secondary Motives

God searches the motives of our hearts. Motives compel us to move from thought to action, stimulated by a situation, circumstance, or event. Motives imply an emotion or desire that operates on our will. God expects us to act based on godly motives.

The foremost godly motive is unconditional love—a love that is others-oriented, a love that is action not emotion, a love that seeks the best of the one loved, a love that desires another's well-being and welfare even if he or she is unlikable. The following passage describes what love is, what love is not, and what love is, regardless:

“Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away” (1 Cor. 13:4–8).

Examples of Primary Motives:

Unconditional love, Christ-likeness, godliness, holiness, Kingdom purposes, sacrifice.

Examples of Secondary Motives:

Commitment, discovery, equality, excellence, fairness, faithfulness, goodness, growth, improvement, justice, kindness, knowledge, meaning, mission, obedience, obligation, perfection, personal development, proficiency, purpose, responsibility, service, significance, spirituality, worship.

Select one or two *primary* motives and one or two *secondary* motives that you intend to act on to the exclusion of any other motive. Inform your choices by making sure they reflect biblical motivations.

Primary:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

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Secondary:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Implementation Strategy

Once you have recorded your beliefs, values, worldview, and motives, explain what you intend to do with the plan over the next *six months*.

- How do you intend to *engage* the plan to make it an observable reality in your life?
- Who will hold you *accountable* for its implementation?
- What *steps* do you intend to take to implement it?
- Consider *prioritizing* what you intend to do, focusing on what is most needed at this stage of your life.

What *elements* of the plan do you intend to implement over the next six months (e.g., operational belief, core value, worldview, motive)?

In what *context* (relational—wife, children, friends, relatives, coworkers, church members, organization members, ministry members, etc.; or dimensional—spiritual, intellectual, emotional, physical, etc.) will you implement your strategy?

What *dimension* of your life will serve as the center of your engagement (personal management, intellectual advancement, emotional development, relational dynamics, spiritual growth and/or discipline)?

What *behavioral results* are you hoping to realize in six months? What *behaviors* might someone see in your life as a result of your plan?

Once the entire compass plan is complete, have someone you trust review it for clarity, completeness, and congruence. In other words, does the plan make sense? Does it include all components (beliefs, values, attitudes, motives)? Does it represent your personal journey to date and what you hope to see in the future? Does it hang together, or is it a gathering of loose, unassociated elements? Is it harmonious?

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Name: _____ Date: _____

Central Operational Beliefs

1. _____ Scripture
2. _____ Scripture
3. _____ Scripture
4. _____ Scripture
5. _____ Scripture

Core Values

1. **Value:**
Description:
Focus (Scripture):
Context:
Time Frame:
2. **Value:**
Description:
Focus (Scripture):
Context:
Time Frame:
3. **Value:**
Description:
Focus (Scripture):
Context:
Time Frame:
4. **Value:**
Description:
Focus (Scripture):
Context:
Time Frame:
5. **Value:**
Description:
Focus (Scripture):
Context:
Time Frame:

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Worldview (Perceptual Attitudes)

- The nature of ultimate reality:
- The nature of human personhood:
- The basic human dilemma:
- The solution to the human dilemma:
- Our human destiny:

Primary/Secondary Motives

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

Once you have recorded your selections for beliefs, values, attitudes, and motives explain what you intend to do with the plan over the next **six months**.

- How do you intend to **engage** the plan to make it an observed reality in your life?
- Who will hold you **accountable** for its implementation?
- What **steps** do you intend to take?
- You might want to **prioritize** what you intend to do focusing on what is most needed at this stage of your life.

What **elements** of the battle plan do you intend to implement over the next 6 months (i.e., operational belief, core value, worldview, motive)?

What **context** (relationship—wife, children, friends, work setting, church, organization, ministry, relatives, etc.) will you implement your strategy?

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What **dimension** of your life will serve as the center of your engagement (personal management, intellectual advancement, emotional development, relational dynamics, spiritual growth and/or discipline)?

What **behavioral results** are you hoping to realize in 6 months? What **behaviors** might someone see in your life as a result of your plan?

Once the entire battle plan is complete, have someone you trust review it for the purpose of clarity, completeness, and **congruence**.

- In other words, does the plan make sense?
- Does the plan include all components (beliefs, values, attitudes, motives)?
- Does the plan represent your personal journey to date and what you hope to see in the future?
- Does it hang together, or is it a gathering of loose unassociated elements?
- Is there a harmony to it?