LoftyBiz Direction Check Sheet

Companion download for LoftyBiz 156 — Goals From the Future You: A Simple Personal Direction Check

Write who you want to become, in your own words, focused on character and the people you serve. Use it to filter your goals, keeping the ones that fit and dropping the ones that pull against it. Turn it into one question and ask it at every choice, then log the evidence. For hard, emotional decisions, write to your older self, tell the whole story, and decide the next morning.

1. Write the tribute you hope to earn

Imagine your life is over, many years from now, and someone who knew you well stands up to speak. What would you hope they say? Write it down, between five hundred and a thousand words. Not about money or awards. About how you treated people, what you stood for, and who you helped.

Prompt	Your notes
What I hope people say about me one day	
The three words that matter most	
My one question, written on a card where I work	
Today's choice that fits it	

2. Filter your goals

Ask of each goal: does this help the person in that speech, or does it pull against her or him? Keep the ones that fit. Drop, delay or rewrite the ones that pull against it.

Goal	Fits / pulls against / maybe later	What I will do

3. The evening log and the hard-call journal

Each evening, one line: a choice you made that fit the person you want to become. For hard, emotional decisions, write to your older self, tell the whole story including the embarrassing parts, and decide the next morning. If you catch yourself leaving out facts to get a nicer answer, start the entry again.

Worked examples (not promises)

Gwendolyn runs a bakery in Duluth with six staff. In her example, the bakery brings in about forty thousand dollars a month, and she works close to seventy hours a week. She wrote a tribute of five hundred to a thousand words about how she hoped people would remember her: patient with her team, present for her two kids, a place where young people learned a trade, and bread the neighborhood could count on. Not one line mentioned a second shop. She used that tribute as a filter: the cookbook stayed, the wholesale deal went, and the second shop moved to maybe later. She wrote one question on a card by the till: What would the baker in that speech do right now? Each evening she logged one choice that fit. When her hours dropped to about fifty a week, she kept the card. These are examples, not promises.

Hiroshi runs a small design studio in Boise with four designers. His biggest client pays about twelve thousand dollars a month, close to half his income. After a call that left a junior designer close to tears, he wrote a private journal addressed to himself at eighty-five, including the embarrassing parts, and wrote back as that older self. The answer was: protect your people first, then give the client a fair chance with clear rules; if they will not accept them, leave calmly, with a plan to replace the income. He set three rules in writing: no calls after seven, briefs locked two days before a deadline, and one point of contact. In his example the client stayed at a slightly lower monthly fee for a smaller scope, and he started winning two smaller clients. His rule: write first, decide the next morning. These are examples, not promises.

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Example figures, not targets or a forecast. General education, not financial, legal or tax advice. Results vary. These are examples, not promises. Fees, hours and counts in the video are rough examples, not targets or forecasts.