

THE CRISIS PLAYBOOK

When something goes wrong, run three moves.

01 OWN IT

Start with reality, not your intent. Take the part that's actually yours before you explain what you meant.

02 FIX IT

Change the condition that let it happen, not just the thing everyone can see. Ask what made the decision feel normal on the way out the door.

03 PREVENT IT

Build the judgment and the lived values that make the next bad idea die quietly in a room instead of loudly in public.

THE ONE LINE

A value that never costs you anything is **really just a preference.**

The 30-Day Values Test

Twenty minutes with your leadership team. You're not rewriting your values. You're testing the ones you already have, against a real decision, to find out whether they actually operate or just sit on a wall.

- 1

Pick one decision

Choose one real decision your leadership team made in the last thirty days. Something with a genuine tradeoff, not an easy call.
- 2

Name the value that shaped it

Which of your stated values actually influenced the call? Be specific. If none of them did, write "none" - that's an answer too.
- 3

Count the cost

What did honoring that value cost you? Time, money, speed, convenience, a comfortable conversation, a number you wanted to hit.

READ THE RESULT

- If you can name the cost, you have an **operating value**. Protect it.
- If you can't point to how the value touched the decision, you have a **stated value**. The work is to make it lived.
- If honoring it never costs anything, look closer. A value that never costs you anything is really just a preference.

RUN IT AGAIN

Three decisions tells you more than one. Do the same test across a few recent calls.

The decision	Value that shaped it	What it cost	Operating or stated?