

God Time Day 1: Called to be an Influencer



In today's culture, the idea of an "influencer" has significantly changed. An influencer used to be someone who could help give direction to a person's life, such as a parent, teacher, or coach. Today, an influencer is someone whom corporations pay to affect purchase decisions because of their authority or relationship with their audience. In other words, it is a person who can leverage their popularity to manipulate people into buying stuff.

The truth is that everyone has influence. Be it a good influence or a bad influence, be it in big ways or small, all relationships influence (change) others in some way.



Write down the names of people who've influenced your life. Was their influence positive or negative?

God Time Day 2: What Does Jesus Say?



Yesterday, we began to look at what it means to influence others. Everyone has influence. As Christians, we are called to be people of influence.



Read Matthew 5:14-16.

¹⁴ "You are the light of the world. A city situated on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ No one lights a lamp and puts it under a basket, but rather on a lampstand, and it gives light for all who are in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

Today's use of "influencer" is defined by the number of followers or likes. But it is important to take our calling as God's influencers seriously, even if it is for only one person, because our influence can have eternal consequences.



Think about people in your life and the type of influence you can have on them. Pray for God to show you how to be a positive, eternal influence in their lives.

God Time Day 3: Influence Isn't Always Instant or Obvious



We have spent time the past couple of days looking at the difference between the culture's definition of an influencer and God's definition of an influencer. Today's influencers are defined by the number of followers or likes they have and their potential to generate revenue for their sponsors. In other words, it is a big popularity contest. The unfortunate truth is that many influencers must manipulate reality to maintain that popularity. How often have you heard stories about people making poor decisions for the immediate attention it would give them?

Having Godly influence is not about popularity, it rarely has immediate gratification, and the results can be difficult to see or measure. But God calls us to be steadfast in our responsibility as influencers, even when it becomes difficult, or we don't see instant or obvious results.



Read Galatians 6:9-10.

⁹ Let us not get tired of doing good, for we will reap at the proper time if we don't give up. ¹⁰ Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us work for the good of all, especially for those who belong to the household of faith.



Write down the names of three people in your life that you know don't have a personal relationship with God.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____



Now, write down three ways you can be a positive influence in their lives.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

If one of these people were to ask you about your relationship with God, are you prepared to answer?

Need help? Attend **Mission2Share**. See page 24.

God Time Day 4: God Can Use You!



One of the biggest struggles we have with the idea of being an influencer is the belief that we are unworthy. The truth is that we are unworthy, but that is the very nature of the gospel, and that is why we have a story to share.

Do you recall the story about the Samaritan woman last week on Day 4 from John chapter 4? (Page 20.) Jesus meets the Samaritan woman at the well and begins to strike up a conversation with her. During that conversation, Jesus shares the gospel with her and tells her what it means to be saved, and that He is the Savior.

After that, she immediately enrolled in seminary. Four years later, she returned to her village after completing her master's degree, and many lives were touched by her impressive biblical education.



That is not how the story goes!

Let's read it again. Reread John 4:28-29 on page 20.



Now, read John 4:39-41.

³⁹ Now many Samaritans from that town believed in him because of what the woman said when she testified, "He told me everything I ever did." ⁴⁰ So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days. ⁴¹ Many more believed because of what he said.

After the Samaritan woman encountered Jesus, her life was immediately transformed. She had not had time to make amends, to put her life in order, or to "clean up her act." But that didn't stop her from telling everyone about the person who had changed her life. Though her journey was just beginning, she wasn't going to wait to "have it all together" before sharing the good news with others.



List your most common excuses for not sharing your story and pray for God to embolden you to move past them.

God Time Day 5: INFLUENCE (Demonstrate and Declare)



We often allow ourselves to think that helping people is so much bigger and more complicated than it truly is. This type of thinking can prevent us from doing anything. But being an influencer for God does not require vast resources or complicated programs.



Read Matthew 25:37-40.

³⁷ Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? ³⁸ When did we see you a stranger and take you in, or without clothes and clothe you? ³⁹ When did we see you sick, or in prison, and visit you?'

⁴⁰ And the King will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'

Here are some practical suggestions to help you get started:

- Send someone a text message with a word of encouragement and scripture.
- When talking with someone, ask them how you could pray for them. Pray for them right then and there, and then throughout the week. Whenever you pray for them that week, send them a quick message to let them know.
- Ask someone about their life and take the time to listen to their story. Try not to give advice or to try to fix issues, but just listen.
- People will often make a meal or dessert for others going through a life event, such as after a loss. Do this for someone you know for no reason, and then ask them to tell you about what is happening in their life.



List similar idea(s) below based upon your gifts and talents:
