

- Upcoming Events...**
1 Corinthians Class: Every Tuesday at 12:00 p.m.
Business Meeting: Today at 4:30 p.m.
Ladies Bible Class: November 19 at 4:00 p.m.
Barnabas Group Meeting: November 28

Influence

“Blessed is the influence of one true, loving human soul on another.” - George Eliot -

*“Parents are the ultimate role models for children. Every word, movement and action has an effect. No other person or outside force has a greater influence on a child than the parent.”
 - Bob Keeshan -*

“Example is not the main thing in influencing others. It is the only thing.” - Albert Schweitzer -

November Birthdays

- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| 6 Ashley Tanner | 10 Daniel Brown |
| 21 Garroll White | 27 Lupita Guzman |

November Anniversaries

- 2 Shannon & Susan Hudson

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The Power of Influence

By Robert Notgrass

One of the most striking ways the Bible teaches us concerning the power of influence is with the illustration of leaven. The statement, *“A little leaven leavens the whole lump”* is stated twice in Scripture (1Cor. 5:6, Gal. 5:9). In fact, the word “leaven” is used 11 times in the New Testament and in each place, it is used with reference to the pervading power of influence. Now, leaven is a substance that causes fermentation, like yeast, and when only a small amount is added to a large lump of dough it ferments the whole lump. Thus, while it is small in quantity that permeates the whole substance it comes in contact, so it is with influence, meaning, that it only takes a little to have a great effect.

Now, influence can be either for good or bad. The kind of influence we have on others is based on what we allow to influence ourselves and if we are not careful, some influences may be slowly corrupt and change us. One can see the influencing power of leaven by the way it changes the dough’s shape and temperature. Thus, if we allow the leaven of this world to influence us, our lives will slowly be changed from what God would have them to be, into lives filled with worldliness and sin. For, it only takes one companion with wicked thoughts and lifestyle to gradually lead us into the same kind of sin. Likewise, evil influences are all around us and if we are not careful, we could infect our minds with filth and desires that God does not want us to have. Therefore, we must focus on the good and have good influence on others less we do wrong and be held accountable for our wrongful influence on others.

Now, whether we think so or not, there is someone who is watching us. Consciously or not, someone is being influenced by

Regular Meeting Times

Sunday.....9:45 a.m.
 Sunday.....10:45 a.m.
 Sunday.....6:00 p.m.
 Wednesday.....7:00 p.m.

Preacher:
 Mike McKnight

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 81-377 Ave 46
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(Address Service Requested)

our words and actions. Thus, what we do and say might seem insignificant, but in reality, our influence has a far reaching effect. We have influence in our community, in the work place, and especially in our homes. Children are mainly molded by the kind of influence they receive from their parents and children who are influenced by parents who are worldly minded and insensitive toward sin will grow up to have the same mind set. Therefore, we must never allow our influence to become a stumbling block to others. For as Jesus declared, *“whoso shall cause one of these little ones that believe on me to stumble, it is profitable for him that a great millstone should be hanged about his neck, and that he should be sunk in the depth of the sea. Woe unto the world because of occasions of stumbling! for it must needs be that the occasions come; but woe to that man through whom the occasion cometh!”* (Matt. 18:6-7 ASV). Now, what are we allowing to influence our life? What kind of influence am I having on those around me?

The Words Written on the Dash: Your Legacy

By Terry Treadwell, MD, FACS

When you look at the tombstone standing at the head of a grave, you see the name of the person buried there and the date of his birth and the date of his death. These two numbers are usually separated by a dash. The numbers at the beginning and end of the line are inconsequential, but what could be written on that dash separating them is our legacy, the story of our lives. Have you ever stopped to wonder what will be written on your dash? Consider that you will have no control over what is written or by whom. Family, friends, colleagues, or even enemies may write it. Our everyday attitudes and actions will shape what will be written on our dash. That is a sobering thought!

Several years ago, I was looking through the obituaries in our local newspaper. Two obituaries caught my eye since I knew both men. One, a very prominent businessman in town, had an obituary several columns long. Because of his influence, he even served in a cabinet post in the United States government. He was very generous with his money and donated large sums to the arts. He was generous in helping me with some community projects in the

past. A large number of people attended his funeral. Everyone would say that he was truly a great man.

The other obituary was for a former patient in our wound center. He lived in a small community and was a delightful country gentleman who had a heart for helping people. A number of years before, he had realized that many people in and around his hometown were suffering due to a lack of emergency medical care. There was no ambulance service in the area, so if a person was injured or became acutely ill, he had to be transported to the nearest medical facility by car. He felt his friends and neighbors deserved better than that. He took it upon himself to get everyone in the area interested in starting a local emergency medical system. Since he was not a wealthy man, he pursued local government and private sources until money was available to start the program, buy the equipment, and train the personnel. He even became one of the first certified paramedics in the area. Through the years, the emergency medical service served many sick and injured and saved countless lives. After he had to retire from farming and working as an emergency medical technician (EMT) because of worsening diabetes mellitus, he was still the unassuming country gentleman who continued to urge support for the emergency medical program. His obituary was only about four inches long, mentioning only the basics of his life and survivors. The obituary did not mention his dedication and contributions to the people in the area. His funeral was attended by family and a few friends.

What would you imagine would be written on each of these gentlemen’s dashes? One has his name on buildings and a park; the other has his name written on the hearts of many grateful people who benefited from his desire to help those in need. Mr. Dan Castro, author and executive trainer, correctly says, “The impact we have on the lives of others is our only true legacy. This is the only thing that truly lasts when we are gone.” What is the impact we are having on the lives of others, and how will those who come after remember our legacy? What will someone write on our dash?