

How To Be Influencers

John 9:24-41, Hebrews 3:1-6

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1. The word pictures of salt and light from the sermon on the mount (Matt. 5:13-16) should remind us that the mandate of the church is to influence the world toward God's kingdom. Today, according to some research, the church has less influence in society than any time previously. Why might that be? What can the church do to reverse that trend?
2. At the Mount of Transfiguration, Moses and Elijah appear to physically demonstrate how Jesus is the long-awaited Messiah anticipated by both the Law and the Prophets (Matt. 17:1-8). Peter suggested building tents (v. 4). What was wrong with that idea?
3. Within the church, we can fall into the trap of over-emphasizing secondary aspects of our gatherings and sowing division at the expense of God's call for us to be a beacon of hope, visible to the world through our unity. As we think about influence, how might we maintain unity in the church body? Sunday's sermon mentioned that influencers have a destination in mind that they are pointing followers to. What's our destination as a church? How does this small group support and further that goal?
4. We made lists of the people we influence and those that influence us. Hopefully, the members of this group to both in our lives. Feel free to highlight some specific ways in which they do. We also heard about opportunities to serve in and through the church. Is there an opportunity for this group to serve together in some capacity?

Praying Together:

One of the blessings of being in a small group is being prayed for. Is there anything that came up from this week's sermon or discussion that you would like prayer for?

Is there anything else that you would like to express prayer for?

Big Question: Who is _____ you?
(Proverbs 27:17; 2 Tim. 2:3; Isaiah 35:3-4)

**Because God loves people, He wants to _____
a _____ with Himself as the head.**
(Eph. 2:19; 1 Peter 2:4-5; Psalms 23)

If we say Jesus is our Lord, we must be willing to _____
(John 13:12-17; Phil. 2:11; Rom. 14:8-9; Matt 23:8-10)

Definition of an Influencer:

**If we aren't careful, we will let the _____
_____ influence us.**
(Jn 9:24-41; Heb. 3-1:6; Matt. 17:1-8; 1 Pet. 2:5-7; Col. 1:18)

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This Week's Discussion Guide

Welcome to our third week of our spring small group season at GPC.

It is our prayer at GPC for our Sundays and small groups to provide the encouragement we all need to support each other as we desire to grow closer to God and build friendships as part of our vision at GPC to raise up committed Christ followers in a healthy church community.

Getting Started:

Each week, we typically start out with a few lighter questions to get us warmed up :).

We've talking about influencers this week. Who is a person in your life who can get you to do things you normally wouldn't?

We read Psalms 23 together this Sunday, which describes the peace and security God offers us as "green pastures" and "still waters", among other things. How would you describe your ideal "happy place" where you sense God's peace? Is there a place you have visited that comes close to that for you?

Reviewing & Reflecting on Sunday's Passage:

Re-read the account of the man born blind in John 9:24-41. Then, re-read Hebrews 3:1-6

Was there a particular thought or verse that stood out to you, encouraged you, challenged you, or raised a question for you?

Digging Deeper:
