

WELCOME

Please mute your devices to avoid a disruption during worship.

Influencing Others

Ricky Jenkins
(Abridged)

Remember the old commercial, “When E.F. Hutton speaks, people listen?” That is influence at its highest. Henry George observed, “Let no man imagine that he has no influence.” Every person influences others every day. Even introverts may influence thousands of people over a lifetime. The question is not whether we influence others, but how.

Force is the lowest form of influence. Though animalistic in nature, people still use force to make others comply. Nations use it, and individuals do as well. Force pushes people against their will and usually appears when someone values immediate results more than relationships.

Intimidation is little better. Here, people comply because they fear conflict or consequences. Those who intimidate are often impatient, insecure, or have themselves been intimidated. While intimidation produces quick results, it also breeds resentment. Healthy people rarely remain in such an environment for long.

Manipulation is only a slight improvement. People technically have a choice, but the outcome is still unfair. Over time they resent the conditions under which they work, often seeing themselves as victims. Rather than giving their best, they justify doing the minimum or quietly taking what they believe they deserve.

Exchange is morally neutral. Unlike the previous methods, there is no hidden agenda. It is simply, “I’ll scratch your back, and you scratch mine.” Millions work faithfully each day because they receive a paycheck. Exchange is fair and mutually beneficial, but it ultimately remains self-serving. Everyone gains something, yet everyone is also keeping score.

Persuasion moves influence onto higher ground. Unlike manipulation

or intimidation, persuasion helps people recognize genuine benefits. It often requires patience, but those who are persuaded are not forced to act—they want to act. Persuasion literally means “through sweetness.” It appeals to the whole person: mind, will, emotions, and heart. Solomon wrote, “Trust in the Lord with all your heart” (Proverbs 3:5). Lasting influence reaches the heart before it reaches the hands.

Motivation is an even greater influence. People often possess an inward desire for significance but need encouragement to act. Motivation awakens what already exists within. A husband’s words, “I love you,” may communicate nothing new, yet they can deeply encourage his wife because they meet an inward need. The word motivate, shares its root with movement. We are moved when someone speaks to our deepest interests, concerns, hopes, or fears. Yet there is an influence greater still.

Spirituality is the highest form of influence within the church. It is cultivated through time spent with God in His word and prayer. Spiritual influence does not depend on eloquence, appearance, or intellect. David was not impressive by worldly standards, nor was Peter known for polished speech. Yet both powerfully influenced others because they walked with God.

People recognize genuine spirituality. They sense they are in the presence of someone whose life has been shaped by God. Such influence can even be humbling to the one who possesses it, for spiritual people understand the danger of abusing influence. God entrusts spiritual influence to those being conformed to the image of Christ. That transformation changes a person from a boss into a humble servant.

We will all influence others. The question is how. Which of these forms of influence best describes you? Which comes most naturally? Which do you want to cultivate? Ask yourself, “Why do I want to influence people?” “How do I influence them?” “How can I increase my influence?” Whatever influence we possess should help others “see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven” (Matthew 5:16). Ultimately, our influence should lead people to Christ—not through force, intimidation, or manipulation, but through persuasion, motivation, and above all, a life transformed by God.

Announcements:

Prayer List

- Ed Coats: From the Eastridge congregation has been very ill which has prevented him from attending worship.
- Sandra's Aunt: Experiencing gastrointestinal and kidney issues. She was also diagnosed with cancer. Sandra is a friend of Belle and Devan.
- Rob Canon: Suffers from long-term health issues.
- Brian Escobar: Continues to be treated for lung cancer.
- Mike Grimes: Working to regain his strength after being in the hospital.
- Doris Fields: Is feeling better and would enjoy having visitors again. She asks that you call ahead first and limit the days to Saturday and Sunday. Go to her kitchen door and ring the bell. Be patient while she makes her way to the door.

Traveling/Away

- Nico Azaroff: Deployed with his unit. Due to return toward the end of the year.

Upcoming Events

- Song Service: Wednesday, 8/26 @ 7pm
- Men's Breakfast: Saturday, 8/29 @ 8:30am, Golden Corral

You Should Know

- Our website has been updated!

Morning Worship Assignments

Opening Prayer- Brian Hammond
Scripture Reading- Julian Munoz
Sermon- Joe Wright
Closing Prayer- Lucio Estrada
Song Leader- Devan Wright

Evening Worship Assignments

Song Leader- David Johnson Sr.
Closing Prayer- Bradley Wright

Key Scripture:

"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven." -Matthew 5:16



ABOUT US

We seek to follow the teachings of the Bible, which is the only source to find doctrine. 2 Timothy 3:16-17; All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Sharing the Good News, which is, Jesus Christ is the Son of God and has presented himself as the perfect sacrifice by willingly going to the cross to take away our sins.

WEEKLY EVENTS

SUNDAY

Bible Study 9:30 AM
Worship 10:30 AM
Bible Study 4:00 PM

WEDNESDAY

Bible Study 7:00 PM

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