

Reading: 2 Chronicles 22:10-12; 24:1,2,15-19

Topic: The Power of Influence

INTRODUCTION: Everyone in _____ at some point will exert influence on someone else or on something else, whether it be for _____ or _____.

I. JEHOIADA – A GOOD INFLUENCE:

A. Godly Man:

1. Jehoiada was a God-fearing righteous man who was the _____ in a time when there was an ungodly royalty in _____ in Jerusalem, and wickedness prevailed in the land. 2 Chr. 22:2-4
2. When a wicked Queen tried to destroy all the royal seed, God saw to it that one young _____, Joash was spared from the slaughter and ended up living with this _____ man.

B. Righteous Influence:

1. The influence of one _____ man was to affect the entire nation, because the young boy, Joash became the king and changed the course of the land by doing what was _____ in the eyes of the Lord, and led the people out of idolatry and sin and turned them back to God. 2 Chr. 24:2
2. The nation was blessed and served the Lord under King Joash, but when Jehoiada _____, the godly influence was gone from Joash's life, and he evidently did not have a strong _____ for God. 24:15,16
3. Joash came under the influence of ungodly men who had wrong _____ and aspirations, and they turned his _____ away from following after righteousness and the nation backslid. 2 Chr. 24:17,18
4. When the son of Jehoiada came to prophesy to the King concerning the _____ that had returned to the land, Joash ordered him to be _____, and sadly forgot the godly influence. 2 Chr. 24:20-22

II. THE INFLUENCE OF LEADERS:

A. Family Leaders:

1. In our confused world that we _____ in today, more than ever before, we need families with a strong and godly spiritual _____ to guide the home in paths of righteousness.
2. What people _____ speaks louder than what they _____, so it is vital that parents not only talk the talk but that they also walk the walk and be the _____ influence in their children's lives. Pr. 22:6
3. Sometimes there is only one saved parent in the household, but the influence of one _____ parent is powerful enough to outweigh the ungodly influence of the _____ parent. 2 Tim. 1:5
4. Along with the godly influence of a _____ mom or dad, getting involved in a good church and also getting the influence of other spiritual friends and _____ will do wonders.

B. Spiritual Leaders:

1. Individuals involved in Sunday School _____, Youth _____ and leaders in other ministries have a great opportunity to be such positive spiritual influence on the children and _____ people that they are responsible to _____ and lead.
2. Even kids from unsaved families have become _____ Christians and workers in the Kingdom of God because of the good influence of _____ leaders. I Tim. 4:12
3. Never underestimate the influence that you are having on _____ around you.

III. YOUR INFLUENCE – GOOD OR BAD?

A. Everyone Affects Someone:

1. Jesus intended for His followers to become people of _____ and positive influence in this world as He compared us to _____ and _____, both things that influence. Mt. 5:13,14
2. Salt has a _____ influence as it enhances flavor and preserves things, and light has a _____ influence as it chases away the _____. John 1:5
3. If a good influence is ruined by poor behavior, it not only becomes of no _____, but it also causes a chain reaction that negatively affects others and causes them to _____ also.

B. Positive or Negative:

1. Everyone has the power to _____ the road that they will walk upon, but remember this, the choice that you will make will be an influence on _____ people that are around you. Josh. 24:14,15
2. It takes years to build a _____ reputation and to become a _____ influence, but only a few moments of carelessness can destroy that, and it will _____ all the people in the circle of that influence, causing some of them to lose out with God.
3. Never forget, your behavior, your words, and your lifestyle will end up being either a _____ or a negative influence in your world.

C. Keeping A Good Influence:

1. The best way to become a _____ influence and to stay a _____ influence is to keep your daily walk with God consistently through prayer and reading the _____ of God.
2. When you take time every day to pray and wait in the Presence of God, His _____ will affect your life, which in turn will cause you to be a _____ influence on the other people that you meet.
3. Last, but not least, keep yourself under the influence of other _____ people who are going to be a positive influence in your _____, and not under the influence of negative people. I Cor. 15:33

CONCLUSION: Your influence may _____ a lot farther that you think, so be very mindful of how you live your life – it may be the difference between _____ and _____ for someone else or for many others.