

Sermon on the Mount

Influence Others

Points to Consider

1. Influence is Real
2. Influence is Observable
3. Influence is for God

Influence is Real

Matt 5:13 *You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled by men.*
NIV

Salt Preserves.

Rom 10:14-15 *How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? 15 And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"*

As salt we preserve the _____ through the preaching of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Mark 16:15-17 *And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. 16 He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned.*

Salt Purifies

Titus 2:11-14 *For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, 12 teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, 13 looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, 14 who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself His own special people, zealous for good works.*

We _____ others when they see that God purified us and made us his special people.

Salt Improves Food

Heb 11:35-40 *Others were tortured, not accepting deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection. 36 Still others had trial of mockings and scourgings, yes, and of chains and imprisonment. 37 They were stoned, they were sawn in two, were tempted, were slain with the sword. They wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins, being destitute, afflicted, tormented — 38 of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, in dens*

and caves of the earth. 39 And all these, having obtained a good testimony through faith, did not receive the promise, 40 God having provided something better for us, that they should not be made perfect apart from us.

God's people have always made the world a _____ place.

Don't Lose Your Saltiness

2 Sam 12:13-15 And Nathan said to David, "The Lord also has put away your sin; you shall not die. 14 However, because by this deed you have given great occasion to the enemies of the Lord to blaspheme, the child also who is born to you shall surely die." 15 Then Nathan departed to his house.

When David sinned, God _____ influence in the world.

If you lose your ability to influence others you are _____!

Influence is Observable

Matt 5:14-15 You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. 15 Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house.

In order to help the world be must be _____ by the world.
Christians are not isolationists!

Matt 10:16 Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves. Therefore be wise as serpents and harmless as doves.

There is _____ involved in going out into the world. That is no excuse!

Matt 28:19-20 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen.

One of the last commands Jesus gave His disciples was to _____ others by teaching them to obey the Lord.

Matt 9:12-13 When Jesus heard that, He said to them, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. 13 But go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy and not sacrifice.' For I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners, to repentance."

Jesus was a light to tax collectors and sinners.

1 Cor 5:9-11 I wrote to you in my epistle not to keep company with sexually immoral people. 10 Yet I certainly did not mean with the sexually immoral people of this world, or with the covetous, or extortioners, or idolaters, since then you would need to go out of the world. 11 But now I have written to you not to keep company with anyone named a brother, who is sexually immoral, or covetous, or an idolater, or a reviler, or a drunkard, or an extortioner — not even to eat with such a person.

We must be _____ to influence sexually immoral people, covetous people, extortioners, and idolaters.

Influence is for God

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

When our good works are seen by men, God should receive _____.

Matt 6:1-4 *Take heed that you do not do your charitable deeds before men, to be seen by them. Otherwise you have no reward from your Father in heaven. 2 Therefore, when you do a charitable deed, do not sound a trumpet before you as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory from men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward. 3 But when you do a charitable deed, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, 4 that your charitable deed may be in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will Himself reward you openly.*

It is not wrong for people to see your good works.

It is wrong to do good works to receive honor from _____.

What _____ you to do your good works determines if your reward is fleeting or eternal.

James 3:13-18 *Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show by good conduct that his works are done in the meekness of wisdom. 14 But if you have bitter envy and self-seeking in your hearts, do not boast and lie against the truth. 15 This wisdom does not descend from above, but is earthly, sensual, demonic. 16 For where envy and self-seeking exist, confusion and every evil thing are there. 17 But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy. 18 Now the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.*

The one who is wise is to _____ by his good conduct that his works are done in the meekness of wisdom.

There are times when our works should be done in secret.

Wisdom will help us distinguish between secret works and works done in the open for God's glory.

If you live your life so others don't see God's light shining through you, you are pointless.

Conclusion

We must live our lives in such a way that we have the power to influence (salt).

We must live our lives so others (people in the world) see our good works (light)

Everything is done for _____ glory.