

Who's Influencing You? Discussion Questions Week One

1. In the message, Pastor Aaron shared about who influenced him as a teenager. Who influenced you when you were younger? Who influences you now?
2. The Biblical authors talk about how influence is a part of faith. In 2 Timothy 1:5, the Apostle Paul shares with Timothy, "I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, dwells in you as well." Think about your faith journey. Who has and is influencing you to follow Jesus? Who have or are you influencing in their faith?
3. Today people gain followers through the influence of social media. Most who work to gain followers in this way do so for their benefit. The more followers a person has on social media the more influence and fame they achieve. Jesus followers, His disciples, knew Jesus was not influencing them for His gain. Holy Week reminds us Jesus sacrificed everything so that His followers have the gift of life, freedom, and salvation in Him. Why do we need to remind ourselves over and over of Jesus' heart stated succinctly in Mark 10:45, "For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."
4. In the message, Pastor Aaron wants us to consider, "How are we using our influence as a follower of Jesus?" Take time to deeply contemplate the answer to this question. What do you sense the Holy Spirit revealing to you? What step do you need to take to better use your influence to help people follow Jesus?
5. After the Resurrection, Jesus says in Matthew 28:18b-20, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." How are you following Jesus and helping others to follow Jesus?
6. Pastor Aaron challenged us to do five acts of kindness this week. He offered these suggestions:
 - a. Buy coffee for the person behind you in line at the coffee shop.
 - b. Send a kind text for no reason to a person you care about but have neglected.
 - c. Do something nice for your parent, sibling, or spouse that will bring them joy like washing dishes, laundry, windows etc.
 - d. Write a thank you note for your mail carrier.

e. Write a review on social media for your favorite restaurant.
What will you do this week to go out of your way to share the love of Jesus?