The Power of a Woman in the Life of Another: Influencing Those Around Me

Week 2 | 03.02.11
“The wise woman builds her house, but with her own hands the foolish one tears hers down.”

Proverbs 14:1
“Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.”

Proverbs 3:5,6
INFLUENCE is the power of a person to be a compelling force on the actions, behavior, or opinions of others.
"Influence is a person’s wisdom or force of character that makes a lasting impact on the behavior and/or choices of another individual."

– Carol Kent, “Being a Woman of Influence: Making a Lasting Impact on Others”
Biblical influence boils down to doing what God tells or leads you to do.
“The words I say to you I do not speak on my own authority. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work.”

JOHN 14:10b
We are not called to transform others for Jesus. We are called to be transformed by Jesus and let who He is in us influence others.
“Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty (emancipation from bondage, freedom).

And all of us, as with unveiled face, [because we] continued to behold [in the Word of God] as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are constantly being transfigured into His very own image in ever increasing splendor and from one degree of glory to another; [for this comes] from the Lord [Who is] the Spirit.”

2 Corinthians 3:17-18 (Amplified Bible)
All too often when we seek to influence another, we are really trying to control them.
“I think we get mixed up in what we're responsible for. We're not responsible for how our child turns out. Instead, God invites us to influence our child. Of course that means we need to be as godly and yielded to him as possible. But we're responsible for how we influence our child, not for how he turns out, and that's freeing.” – Elise Morgan
"We are not called to rear godly children. We are called to be godly parents."
I think we get mixed up in what we're responsible for. We're not responsible for how ANYONE turns out (or their choices or how they live their lives). Instead, God invites us to influence ANYONE He puts in our path. Of course that means we need to be as godly and yielded to him as possible. But we're responsible for how we influence OTHERS, not for how they turn out (or respond to our influence), and that's freeing.
We influence those around us by:

- What we **SAY**
- What we **DO**
- Who we **ARE**
- What we **SAY** is least important.
- What we **DO**, how we treat others is of great importance!!
- Who we **ARE** is of utmost importance!!!
We all have “the power to change the atmosphere with our presence, the unconscious influence that makes Christ and spiritual things real to others.”

– Oswald Chambers
Matthew 11:30
Jesus was humble and gentle of heart.

Matthew 20:28
Jesus did not come to be served but to serve and give up his life.
Luke 19:10

Jesus came to seek and save the lost.

John 3:17; 12:47

Jesus didn’t come to judge or condemn but to save and deliver.

Philippians 2:5-8
How did Jesus influence those around Him?

- He initiated relationship.
- He capitalized on the power of questions.
- He spoke potential.
- He offered hope.
- He knew His identity.
John 4:3-30
How did Jesus influence those around Him?

He INITIATED relationship.
How did Jesus influence those around Him?

He capitalized on the power of **QUESTIONS**, asking and answering.

- Asking questions helps others face the truth and keeps them from becoming defensive.
- Questions offer a teachable moment.
How did Jesus influence those around Him?

He SPOKE POTENTIAL.
How did Jesus influence those around Him?

He offered HOPE.
How did Jesus influence those around Him?

He knew **HIS IDENTITY**.
As a Christ follower, our true identity is who we are in Christ.
PROVERBS 3:2-7

- Unconditional Love = mercy
- Tenacious Faithfulness = truth