



#Goals

Part 3 – Influence Study Guide

Those with the capacity to affect the character, development, or behavior of someone have influence. Jesus has influence, Moses had influence, Paul had influence, and so do you. Whether as a parent, a friend, a coworker or teammate, what we do with our influence determines whether it will cause positive or negative change. When we help others reach their #goals and hold no ulterior motive—that's influence. When we hold common #goals and help someone see an easier path, or take or a lighter burden—that's influence.

“Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him, and he will act.”
- Psalm 37:5 (ESV)

1. Think of someone who has influenced you. What adjectives come to mind when you remember them?

“But the meek shall inherit the land and delight themselves in abundant peace.” - Psalm 37:11 (ESV)

2. **Read Numbers 12:3, Psalm 37:11 and Matthew 5:5.** Do you consider someone described as meek or gentle as a person with influence? Would you describe yourself as meek or gentle—why or why not?

3. What examples in the Bible do we see of Jesus influencing people He interacted with regularly (like the disciples in Matthew 18:1-5), and those he met only on a single occasion (like the woman at the well in John 4:7-27)? What did He do, and not do?

“Now I, Paul, appeal to you with the gentleness and kindness of Christ – though I realize you think I am timid in person and bold only when I write from far away.” – 2 Corinthians 10:1 (NLT)

4. **Read 2 Corinthians 10:1-4.** Paul is being accused of duplicity, of being two-faced, and of acting one way in person and another from far away. Why is being consistent and acting with integrity so important for Paul, for us, and for those we influence?

“For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, led astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures, passing our days in malice and envy, hated by others and hating one another.” - Titus 3:3 (ESV)

5. How can we influence our kids, employees, friends or acquaintances the way Jesus did—gently—without pointing out our own authority? How can we be more receptive to wise influence?