

Influence is: when others follow you.

Matthew 5:13-16 | Colossians 3:17, 3:21-24, 4:5-6

- Actions
- Words
- Choices
- Attitudes

Proximity matters: Close relationships are a visible expression of God's invisible grace.

Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 | Matthew 25:23

- Intentional
- Faithful
- Good

Influence is a blessing:

Colossians 4:5-6 | Mark 10:13-16 | Ephesians 13-7 | Job 43-6

- Meaningful touch
- Spoken value
- A vision of a favorable future

Our Life Groups use this insert as a discussion guide throughout the week. We encourage you to take that next step in your journey with Jesus and His church by joining one today! [www.seekreallife.com](http://www.seekreallife.com)

### Connecting

Looking back over your notes from Sunday, was there something that stood out that you would like to share?

In your life, who has had the most influence on your walk with the Lord? Perhaps take some time this week to send them a note of thanks... especially if it's mom!

Is there someone in your life that God is helping you notice and encourage in their walk? Why is this so important?

### Digging Deeper

At the end of Colossians 3, Paul gets very personal about our relationships and how God desires to transform them into something new too! The Bible Project explains Paul's comparison of the 1<sup>st</sup> century roman household and 1<sup>st</sup> century Christian household. Check it out here: [bit.ly/bp\\_colossians](http://bit.ly/bp_colossians)

Read Colossians 3:18-21.

What part of this passage would be a welcomed change? Why?

What part of this passage do you have difficulty with? Why?

How does the way we treat each other in our closest relationships affect how people see Jesus?

How does the way we treat each other as a family affect our children and how they see and understand who God is or their value?

Read Colossians 3:22-4:1.

Today we no longer have slaves as an everyday part of life but we can apply a lot of what Paul says here to the employer/employee relationship.

What principles do you find in this passage that would help you as an employee? As an employer?

What could happen to our work relationships if we take time to serve rather than just collect a check? Do you ever struggle here?

Why is it important to know that it is the Lord who gives us our inheritance? How can this help alleviate worry?

Why is Colossians 4:1 important for those in charge of people? How can Philippians 2:3-4 also provide wisdom when leading others in a way that draws people to Jesus?

Read Colossians 4:5-6.

What is the connection between how you live around people who don't follow Jesus and "opportunity"?

Are your eyes open and looking on this journey for opportunities that the Lord may present you to speak life into others?

Why does what we say and even how we talk to each other matter?

Notes:

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***“Walk wisely among those who are not believers,  
and make the most of every opportunity.”***

**- Colossians 4:5**