

## The Power of Influence (1)

### INTRODUCTION

- A. Influence defined:
  - 1. "To have an effect on something; power to sway" (*Encarta Dictionary*).
  - 2. "The act or power of producing an effect without apparent exertion or force or direct exercise of command" (*Merriam-Webster*).
- B. Everyone has influence!

### DISCUSSION

- I. THE GOOD INFLUENCE OF GODLY DEEDS AND EXAMPLES
  - A. Young people on believers, 1 TI 4:12
  - B. Young men on opponents, TS 2:6-8
  - C. A godly spouse on partner, 1 PE 3:1-2, 7
  - D. A Christian on unbelievers, 1 PE 2:11-12
- II. THE POWER OF EVIL INFLUENCES (PR 22:24-25; 1 KI 11:1-4)
  - A. Corrupting influence of evil and error, 1 CO 5:6-8:
    - 1. Leaven: Causes fermentation (formation of carbon dioxide gas) that expands dough
    - 2. Through the persuasion of false teachers, GA 5:7-9; MT 16:11-12 (2 TI 2:14, 16-18)
    - 3. Through the deception of lust, PR 6:25-29; HE 3:13
  - B. Corrupting influence of an unfaithful Christian, 1 CO 5:6-7; 8:10-13; 2 PE 2:20-23
    - 1. Our sin can influence other Christians to join us in sin, GA 2:11-13
    - 2. Our sin can influence unbelievers to reject God, RO 2:24, 1 TI 6:1; TS 2:5
  - C. Corrupting influence of the ungodly, Mark 15:11
    - 1. The influence of evil associations results in:
      - a. Misery, Numbers 33:55
      - b. Parental shame, Proverbs 28:7
      - c. Moral defilement, 1 Corinthians 15:33-34
      - d. Denial of Christ, John 18:18, 25
      - e. Apostasy, 1 Kings 11:2, 4-6
      - f. Divine wrath, 2 Chronicles 19:2; Proverbs 13:20

### CONCLUSION

- A. What we do will influence those who see us "DO IT."
- B. Will you obey the Gospel of Christ so others can see Christ in YOU?