

FROM AFFLUENCE TO INFLUENCE

October 2, 2016

As an effective influencer, you will know who you are, where you are positioned to minister and how to release others into places where you are not called to go.

Moving from Affluence to Influence

- *Affluence* – an abundant flow or supply; wealth
- *Influence* – the power to change or affect someone or something in an important way without forcing it to happen
- Our affluence is our victories, breakthroughs, testimonies, gifts, knowledge of the Word, history in Jesus, forgiveness, love, peace...
- We are called to use our affluence to influence the world around us.
- As influencers, we have an abundant flow coming out of us that brings change!

Acts 6:1-7

BE PART OF THE SOLUTION

Verse 1 – As the Church grows, more people are coming in and more needs arise.

- The early Church was concerned about the ministry of the Word and practical ministry.
- Grecian Jews – Jews born outside of Palestine, who spoke Greek and were more like the Greeks than the Hebrews in their attitudes and outlook.
- Hebraic Jews – spoke Aramaic and/or Hebrew and preserved Jewish culture and customs.
- Grecian Jews saw a need and complained to the Hebraic Jews to fix it.
- They are looking for someone else to meet the need.
- People of influence are always a part of the solution, not the problem.

DISCOVER YOUR AREA OF INFLUENCE

Verse 2 – The apostles knew their calling in that season

- There was a season the apostles did what was needed—they mainly served.
- There are seasons when the Lord will lead us to minister where we may not feel called—these places produce fruit in us.
- The apostles had been faithful to serve and now they are releasing others to do what they are NOT called to so they can focus on what they ARE called to.
- Jesus had equality with God and served in many ways like washing feet.
- Jesus served his stepfather for 30 years before stepping into His calling!

Where are YOU Called to Influence?

- Ask the Father.
- Ask people you trust.
- What makes you come alive?
- What are you best at?
- What do you love to do most?
- What deeply moves you or even makes you cry?

When you know the Father's heart for you, you can say "no" to other things.

- Jesus only did what He saw the Father doing.
- David tried to wear Saul's armor—tried to be a soldier when he was called to be a shepherd (1 Samuel 17:32-40).
- When we live outside of our purpose, we neglect the area we were created to influence.
- "When you are the most you, you are the most powerful." (Lance Wallnau)

RELEASE OTHERS SO YOU CAN BE RELEASED

Verses 3-7 – The apostles valued ministry to widows even though it wasn't their calling.

- Someone needs to minister the Word and someone needs to take care of those who can't take care of themselves—both are valuable and necessary.
- They knew what **they** were called to and found people to care for the widows.
- They laid hands on seven men to release them to care for the widows.
- Don't devalue someone who is passionate about something you are not called to, rather pray for them and release them.
- Instead, be full of the Spirit and wisdom.
- When you devalue a person's gift you devalue the person and ultimately God who created them.
- Stephen didn't just wait on tables—he went and did great wonders and miracles.
- He made the most of where he was planted.

Philippians 4:13 (AMP) – **"I have strength for all things in Christ Who empowers me [I am ready for anything and equal to anything through Him Who infuses inner strength into me; I am self-sufficient in Christ's sufficiency]."**

- Our union with Christ gives us the power to influence.