

Discovering Your Place of Influence

October 9, 2016

CORE:

God has given you the ability to be the solution!

Why are we called to influence our culture?

We have been commissioned

Matthew 28:16-20 New International Version (NIV)

16 Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. **17** When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. **18** Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. **19** Therefore **go and make disciples of all nations**, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, **20** and **teaching them** to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Hope is needed

Matthew 5:13-16 New International Version (NIV)

Salt and Light

13 "You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot.

14 "You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. **15** Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. **16** In the same way, **let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.**

How can we influence our culture?

Start with where you spend most of your time

Colossians 3:23-24 New International Version (NIV)

23 Whatever you do, **work at it with all your heart**, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, **24** since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.

- Be excellent at whatever you do
- No occupation is insignificant
- Be an intentional learner
- Be the gospel: Don't just preach it, live it!

Run to the problem and be the solution (Joseph became the solution)

Genesis 41:14-57 New International Version (NIV)

14 So Pharaoh sent for Joseph, and he was quickly brought from the dungeon. When he had shaved and changed his clothes, he came before Pharaoh.

15 Pharaoh said to Joseph, "I had a dream, and no one can interpret it. But I have heard it said of you that when you hear a dream you can interpret it."

16 "I cannot do it," Joseph replied to Pharaoh, "but God will give Pharaoh the answer he desires."

33 "And now let Pharaoh look for a discerning and wise man and put him in charge of the land of Egypt. **34** Let Pharaoh appoint commissioners over the land to take a fifth of the harvest of Egypt during the seven years of abundance. **35** They should collect all the food of these good years that are coming and store up the grain under the authority of Pharaoh, to be kept in the cities for food. **36** This food should be held in reserve for the country, to be used during the seven years of famine that will come upon Egypt, so that the country may not be ruined by the famine."

37 The plan seemed good to Pharaoh and to all his officials. **38** So Pharaoh asked them, "**Can we find anyone like this man, one in whom is the spirit of God[a]?**"

39 Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, "**Since God has made all this known to you, there is no one so discerning and wise as you. 40 You shall be in charge of my palace, and all my people are to submit to your orders. Only with respect to the throne will I be greater than you.**"

- God is looking for people that will be available
- Joseph's season of preparation granted him favor with those in authority
- Look for opportunity "Success is where preparation and opportunity meet" - Bobby Unser
- Joseph became the answer to the problem

This weeks challenge

- Be Available
- Be the Solution
- Be the gospel, don't just preach it live it!