

**“You Are Powerful People of Significant Influence”**  
**October 30, 2016**

**Matthew 5:13-16**

**CORE- Jesus, the Light of the World, has made us “lights in the world!”**

**3 Key Words describe our NEW IDENTITY as INFLUENCERS:**

- **CHURCH- *called forth to be powerful people of significant influence.***  
[Polar opposite of insignificant, ignored, or silent—we’ve moved from “taking up space” to “taking our place”]
- **KINGDOM OF GOD- *the internal impact of living under the Lordship of Jesus → having significant impact on the culture around us***
- **APOSTLED (sent) (John 20:21)- *a fleet of ships sent to bring cultural transformation***

**INFLUENCERS keep their “minds set” (Colossians 3:2) on these things:**

**1. Our Father has DEEP TRUST & CONFIDENCE in us.**

- **Just as He was “pleased to have all of His fullness dwell in (Jesus, His Son)” (Colossians 1:13→ “We are His body—the fullness of Him who fills everything in every way” (Ephesians 1:23)!**
- **Just as He spoke over Jesus: “This is My beloved son...Hear Him!”→ He has *entrusted us* to “Preach the Gospel” (Mark 16)—our stories of His impact on our lives**
- **Just as Jesus said: “If you’ve seen Me, you’ve seen My Father” (John 14:9)→ *We are “God’s ambassadors”* (2 Corinthians 5:20)**

**2. Our Father always has MORE REVELATION for us.**

- **Jeremiah 33:3- “ASK ME..”**
  - **“Remarkable things”- *things that leave a “mark” on your life; deep impression; a transformational moment***
  - **“Secrets that you do not know”- *unfamiliar; surprises; moving beyond the predictable***
- **Solomon: “I was asleep but my heart was awake” (Song of Songs 5:2)**
  - **He loves to visit us in the night; some of our most profound encounters happen while we are asleep**
  - **Less distracted**
  - **Yielded, vulnerable, humble moments** (NOTE: We could become proud if we had the same level of encounters while we were awake)

### 3. We will live FOCUSED LIVES.

- **“Self-control” means we have said “Yes!” to “one thing” so completely—we have nothing left to give to the distractions.**
  - **“ONE THING have I desired; that will I seek after” (Psalm 27:4)**
  - **“Fixing our eyes on Jesus...” (Hebrews 12:1)**
- **Focusing on “one thing” makes all other options unattractive**
  - **Keeps us from feeling we always need to fight to keep our priorities straight**
  - **It doesn’t mean there is no longer a “fight”—it simply means that now we are fighting FOR something—not AGAINST something**
- **Jesus: “If our eye is *single* (Lit.- *to be on one voyage*)—our whole body will be full of light” (Matt. 6:22)—Lit.- *permeated with divine health***

### 4. Our lives WILL MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

- **First commissioning of Adam/Eve to influence the world: “Be fruitful and multiply (*i.e., live a productive life*), and fill the earth, and *subdue it* (implies conflict; resisting opposition). (Genesis 1:28 NASB)**
  - **We were born into a war**
  - **Created by God to be servants of solution & purpose**
- **We are PIONEERS (not experts or professionals)—never been this way before**
  - **Isaiah 42:16-“*I will lead the blind by ways they have not known, along unfamiliar paths I will guide them; I will turn the darkness into light before them and make the rough places smooth. These are the things I will do; I will not forsake them.*”**
  - **NOTE: Seasons of life change; people come and go—but who we are and who we are becoming is making a POWERFUL CONTRIBUTION in the lives of others—and this will never be lost!**
  - **Let God bring different people into your life who will help to strengthen and stabilize you**

**SONG: Rick Pino- “You’re a Pioneer”**