

Irresistible **INFLUENCE**

THE MESSAGE OF TRANSFORMATION

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GROUP ICE BREAKER

Name a favorite teacher from school or college and what makes them memorable to you.

REVIEW LAST WEEK'S NEXT STEPS

What, if any, next step did you commit to last week, how did it go?

- I will pray for the success of the Be The Light initiative.
- I will ask God what he wants to do through me for the future of our church.
- I will prayerfully make a financial commitment to fund this vision.

MESSAGE SUMMARY

The goal of teaching is changed lives, not to be filled with knowledge. Jesus came primarily as a teacher, to teach about God and life in his kingdom. Eight times in Titus 2, Paul talks about the importance of teaching. He begins with the importance of sound doctrine so that people don't embrace wrong beliefs and behaviors. You build a life on what you believe.

Doctrine forms your mind, your ideas about the way things are, what you really think. And if you trust that things really are as Jesus taught them to be, you will live the kind of life that he invites you to live. When we don't experience biblically true teaching on a regular basis, we drift into wrong behaviors such as:

- Older men and women thinking they have nothing to contribute anymore. Please know that you are honored and needed in our church, and we are the beneficiaries of your faithfulness, endurance, perseverance, and devotion.
- Feelings of resentment and a lack of submission.
- Acting out on ungratified appetites.
- Wrong attitudes in your work.

You must take responsibility for having your mind, soul, beliefs, and behaviors formed by learning from biblical teaching. Maybe you've been lax on this, and if you're honest, you've been drifting into foolish thoughts and wrong behaviors. If that's the case, make your own personal covenant with God to place your mind under the teaching of his Word on a regular basis.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How would you define sound doctrine?
2. If you trust that things really are as Jesus taught them to be, you will live the kind of life that he invites you to live. How have you experienced this to be true?
3. If you struggle with the belief you have nothing left to contribute to family, work or society because of your age, share with the group why you feel this and allow them to pray with you.
4. Who has mentored you? What was that experience like? Or, have you mentored anyone else? What was that experience like?
5. How are you doing at loving those most close to you in your home?
6. How can work be done in a way that reflects the teachings of God and makes it attractive to others?
7. What is something you can do this week to take responsibility for your mind and soul to be formed by learning from biblical teaching?

NEXT STEPS FOR THIS WEEK (COMMIT TO GROW)

Use these as a guide to take your next step and commit to what you learned this week:

- I will take responsibility for having my mind formed by biblical teaching.
- I will privately study and reflect on God's Word regularly.
- I will guard myself against the doctrine of our world.
- I will commit to regularly placing myself under the teaching of God's word.
- I will learn from older men and women who bring so much wisdom to our church.

SCRIPTURE REFERENCES

- Titus 2: 1-15
- Ephesians 2:14
- Nehemiah 8:8
- Nehemiah 9:3
- Acts 2:42
- Acts 20:7-12

PRAYER REQUESTS

Take time to share how you can be praying for each other over the next week:

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