



Message Two – Spiritual Influence

Announcements

- **Rhythms of Grace Groups** // Women, consider hosting a Women's Group based upon the book *Rhythms of Grace* by Women's Night guest speaker Kerri Weems.
- **COTK New Building Closing Date** // Monday, September 18 – Tuesday, September 19 // The Church of the King new building will be closed to small group meetings due to a special Pastor's Gathering. Offices will remain open during normal hours. **Childcare is still available on Monday. Go to the South Entrance area where you will be directed.**

Warm-up

What is your first reaction when a Category 4 hurricane looks like it is coming our way? Evacuate or get the generators ready?

Today we are going to talk about *Spiritual Influence* and what that means to you and the world around you.

Word and Application

Name a famous person (or people) who has influenced our world in a positive way.

Many of us, when we think of influence and leadership, we think of people who are known for what they have accomplished like William Wallace, Martin Luther King, Jr., or Winston Churchill. When we learn

how to see ourselves from the perspective of God's point of view, we realize that we all have the same latent greatness and influence deposited within us that God so desperately wants to release. God gives us a sphere or realm of influence no one else has. You are an influencer. YOU ARE A LEADER.

Lets explore four qualities to help us become better leaders, as we grow more mature in Christ Jesus.

Four Qualities of Genuine Spiritual Leadership

1. **Humility** is finding the delicate balance of not thinking too highly of yourself while at the same time not thinking too lowly of yourself.

Read 1 Thessalonians 2:6; Romans 12:3

What is the point Paul is trying to communicate to the believers in Thessalonica? Why do you think humility is important to gaining more spiritual influence? Would others describe you as a humble person?

2. **Gentleness** is empathetic and compassionate to the point that it leaves a lasting impression.

Read 1 Thessalonians 2:7 and Matthew 11:29

How does society view gentleness as a character trait? Give an example how the gentleness of our Father God has empowered you through the Holy Spirit to be gentle in a specific situation.

3. **Generosity** is giving of ourselves to others by going the extra mile.

Read 1 Thessalonians 2:8

In this passage, what is the motivation behind a generous heart? Explain the benefits of being generous to others.

4. **Sacrificial labor** is the desire to help anyone without expecting anything in return.

Read 1 Thessalonians 2:9

Do you think sacrifice is an admirable trait? Why or Why not? What is the benefit of helping those in need even if no one sees what you have done? Share a time when you did something sacrificially and the recipient was unaware of your deed.

Influence and leadership doesn't come from having a social position, title, or even money. True leadership comes from understanding and stewarding the influence that God gives each one of us in our own sphere of life. Pick one of the four qualities above to grow in this week. Make a commitment to expressing this quality in your relationships.

Prayer

Thank you, Father God for passing on your character to us through your Son Jesus so we can have influence both in our immediate circle and in the world. This week we ask you to help us align how we see ourselves with the truth of how you see us. Give us the character, the confidence and the authority to be leaders that impact the world.