



# Influence

**ACTS 2:42-47** 

_	MAKE DISCIPLES BY HELPING ONE ANOTHER APPLY GOD'S WORD.  And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.  And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles.  And all who believed were together and had all things in common. And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having favor with all the people.  And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved. Acts 2:42-47
I.	Let your influence be rooted in
II.	Let your influence be marked by authentic
III.	Let your influence teach God's faithfulness through your own



Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal His truth and wisdom as you go through this lesson.

- 1. If our goal in studying the Scriptures with someone is not for them to "be like me" but instead to "be like Jesus," how does that affect the dynamic in our interactions with one another?
- 2. Theologian Jerome of Stridon wrote: "Ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ." How have you been trying to be a disciple of Jesus without focusing on God's Word? How can that change?
- 3. What creative ideas for integrating God's Word into everyday life did you take away from the sermon? What other methods you've used yourself can you share with your group?
- 4. What's the value of sharing not only our successes with others, but also mistakes or failures?
- 5. Study the passages below, noting what important messages each conveys about God's Word.

Deuteronomy 11:18-23 Joshua 1:8 Psalm1:1-3; 119:11, 15-16, 105 Proverbs 2:1-6 Matthew 4:4 Mark 4:14 Romans 15:4 2 Timothy 2:15; 3:16-17; 4:2 Hebrews 4:12

6. Using the Acts 2:42-47 sermon passage, walk through the section below as a practice exercise.

#### STUDYING THE WORD OF GOD

#### Priority #1: Context

The cardinal rule of biblical interpretation is the meaning of the text is established by what the original author intended. The writer, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit (2 Pet 1:21), established the meaning of the passage the day he wrote it. Our role as students of the Bible is to uncover what the original author intended to communicate to his original audience. Scripture is a tapestry woven together with a continuous, logical flow of thoughts, words, paragraphs, chapters and sections. Every verse of the Bible is connected to the verses around it, the book in which it appears, the Testament in which it is set, and the message of the entire Bible.

## OBSERVATION: What does the text say?

Who is the author? Who are the recipients? Who are the main characters involved? What actions are happening? What is the author intending to communicate? What are key words in the text? What is the context of this verse? What important comparisons or contrasts do you see? When, where, how and why do the events take place?

Why was this text written? EXPLANATION: What does the text mean?

What do the key terms mean?

How do the verses or phrases relate to each other? How does this passage fit into the larger story of the book it's in? How does this passage relate to the story of the Bible as a whole?

How does this passage point to or speak of Jesus Christ? What are the differences between the biblical audience and me?

APPLICATION: How does the text apply to me?

Is there an application already in the text? Is there a command or exhortation for how we should live? What does this biblical principle mean today?

What would the application of this verse look like in my life? What difference does this make in my life?

How can this biblical principle help me in my walk with God?

Remember, while any passage of Scripture can be applied to our lives in many ways, every passage has only one meaning intended by God when He gave it through the human writer. Memorize this simple rule: One interpretation, many applications.

-Robby Gallaty, Growing Up: How to Be a Disciple Who Makes Disciples

### **QUESTIONS FOR YOU** OR SOMEONE ELSE

What Scripture encouraged you recently in your walk with Jesus?

Share an experience where you used discernment according to God's Word, and of a time when you did not. How did the two situations differ?

Share a time when someone else's obedience to God personally encouraged you.

List how God has used different change agents in your life for spiritual growth.

Define *godliness* in your own words. What is the purpose of our pursuit of godliness?

What are you learning about the Holy Spirit and His work?

**E**ncouragement from God **S**cripture passage you've read **P**raying for you—how can I? Next time we meet

#### A WONDERFUL OFFER-

Being a Christian isn't based on membership in a local church or keeping a set of rules. It involves a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and an understanding of who He is and what He has done to provide man with a way to experience God's love for us. Here's how to know Jesus Christ as your personal Savior:

- 1. Realize that you are sinful and separated from God. (Romans 3:23; Isaiah 53:6)
- 2. Recognize that the penalty for your sin is death—eternal separation from God and all that is good. (Romans 6:23; Hebrews 9:27)
- 3. Understand that Jesus Christ took the penalty for your sin by dying in your place and that He rose again. (Romans 5:8: 2 Corinthians 5:21)
- 4. Receive the free gift of salvation by trusting in Christ alone as your Savior. (Romans 4:4-5; Ephesians 2:8-9) "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life." (John 3:16 NASB) You can use this prayer to express your decision to God:
- "Dear God, I know that I am a sinner. I believe that Jesus Christ died on the cross for me and rose from the dead. I trust in Him alone as the only way to get right with You. Thank You for the forgiveness of sins and the eternal life I now have. Amen."

## **COMING UP AT CHRIST CHAPEL**

Here's a glimpse at what you need to know for this week at Christ Chapel. If you'd like to find out even more, visit www.ccbcfamily.org/events.



LOOKING FOR THE CONNECT CARD? Scan the QR code here to fill our a Connect Card. Our team will reach out this week to answer your questions and tell

you more about Christ Chapel.

www.ccbcfamily.org/baptism.

**CHRIST CHAPEL OFFICES WILL BE** CLOSED tomorrow, Feb. 17 in observance of Presidents' Day.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BEING **BAPTIZED?** Baptism is a powerful picture of being raised to new life in Christ. It's a step we take after becoming disciples of Jesus, symbolizing the burial of our old life and the new life we have through His resurrection. If you're interested in learning more about being a part visit

**VOLUNTEER AT KIDSCAMP** During KidsCamp, we aim to create an unforgettable experience for the kids, where they can grow spiritually, build lasting friendships and learn about God's love in an engaging and exciting environment. But none of this can happen without you! We're excited to announce that registration for KidsCamp Volunteer Sign-Up is live today — visit www.ccbcfamily.org/kidscamp to get started!

**MANPOWER** is a group that serves the widows and single moms of Christ Chapel one Saturday every month and they're looking for more men to join their crew! Experience and special skills aren't needed-just a willingness to get your hands dirty and help with outdoor projects and home maintenance tasks. Email us at ManPower@christchapelbc.org to learn more and sign up today.

**HOPE MINISTRY** Hope Ministry provides a supportive community for women who have experienced the loss of a spouse. It offers a safe space for healing, encouragement and spiritual growth through fellowship, prayer and shared experiences. Our ministry is dedicated to helping widows navigate the challenges of grief while fostering lasting connections and providing practical, emotional and spiritual support. Learn more details at www.ccbcfamily.org/widows.

BE, MAKE + REACH RESOURCES Parents, the BE, MAKE + REACH resources are now available in the Christ Chapel App under the Connect tab! These resources are specifically designed to help you and your family grow in your discipleship journey. Whether you're looking for new ways to BE a disciple, MAKE disciples at home or REACH others in your community, there's something for everyone - adults, kids, students and families alike.



IF YOU'D LIKE TO GIVE AN
OFFERING TODAY, YOU CAN
DO SO STRAIGHT FROM YOUR **PHONE** The process is quick and easy—scan the QR Code to start.