

# Leading Among Friends: How to Lead without the Position

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We have no choice in whether or not we influence, but we do have a choice in the kind of influence we have.

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# Why is it important to lead well?

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- We serve a great God
- Point people to Him

# Influence Defined

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- “the capacity to have an effect on the character, development, or behavior of someone or something”
- You all have this capacity!

# Influence in Leadership

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- Leadership *is* influence and isn't based on position or title
- Leadership does not always require an elevated professional position

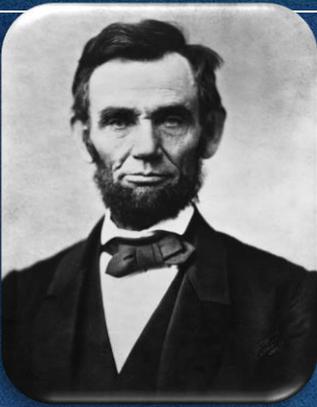
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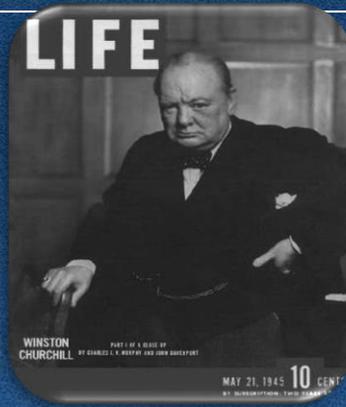
# Leadership Models

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- Who comes to mind when you think of *influence*?
- What makes them stand out?
- What well-known leaders come to mind?



Lincoln



Churchill



King



Mandela



Mother Teresa



Reagan

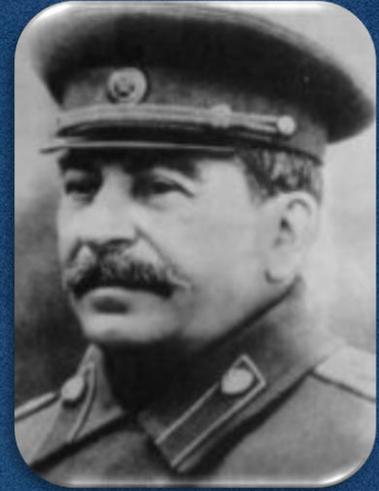
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Bin Laden



Hitler



Stalin

# Leadership as an Act of Humility

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- More than just not thinking too highly of yourself
- Recognizing the power of God in your life
- Matthew 20:26 – Servant leadership
  - “It is not this way among you”

# Value Others

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- Philippians 2:3—“Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves”
- Luke 6:31—“Treat others how you want to be treated.”

# 1 Corinthians 11:1

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- “And you should imitate me, just as I imitate Christ.” – Paul
- Strive to become a person who can say this whole-heartedly!

# Practical Ways to Lead Well

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- Intentional, meaningful conversations
- Create a personal vision and inspire others with it
  - Know what you're working towards
  - Create doable goals
- “You won't become tomorrow what you're not becoming today.”
- Video

# Practical Ways to Lead Well

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- “Earn an Audience” so that you can positively influence more people
  - Obey God; Do what’s right
  - Work hard; Do things others aren’t willing to do
  - Develop good character
  - Help others (servant leadership)
  - Be enthusiastic about where God has called you to influence
  - Always be thankful

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# Galatians 6:7-10

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- “Don’t be misled: No one makes a fool of God. **What a person plants, he will harvest**. The person who plants selfishness, ignoring the needs of others—ignoring God!—harvests a crop of weeds. All he’ll have to show for his life is weeds!  
But the one who plants in response to God, letting God’s Spirit do the growth work in him, harvests a crop of real life, eternal life.

# Galatians 6:7-10

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- So let's not allow ourselves to get fatigued doing good. At the right time we will harvest a good crop if we don't give up, or quit. Right now, therefore, every time we get the chance, let us work for the benefit of all, starting with the people closest to us in the community of faith."

# Practical Ways to Lead Well

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- Personal Commitment
- Accountability

# Biblical Leaders

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- Ruth, Moses, Joseph, David, disciples
- Some had the title, some didn't
- *Ordinary* people with an *extraordinary* God working through them

# Biblical Leaders

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- Nehemiah
  - From palace work to construction work
  - Both jobs equally important
  - Left position of security and wealth to accomplish a seemingly impossible task for God
  - Be a person who talks to and walks with God

# Don't Underestimate Your Potential

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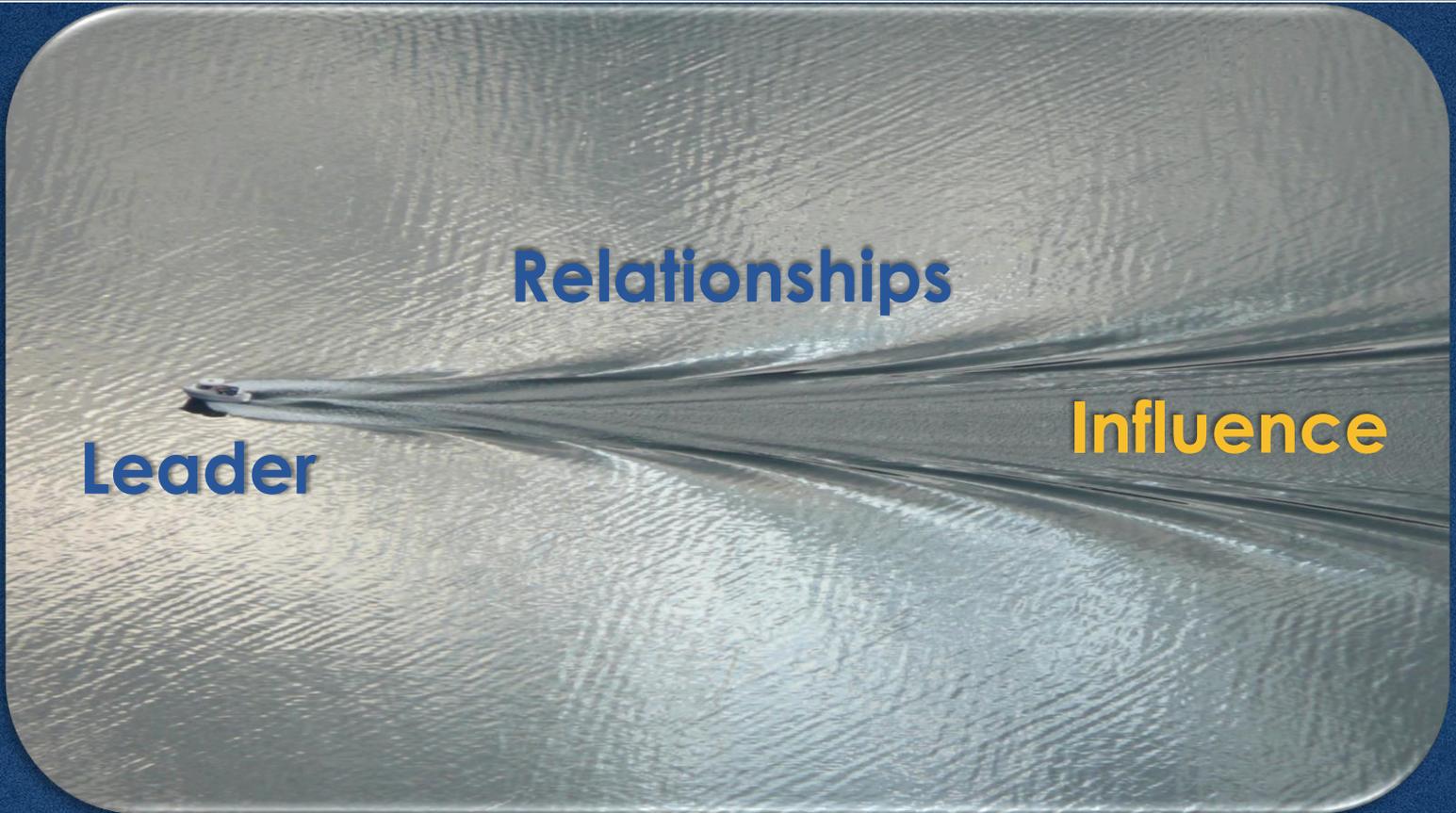
- 1 Timothy 4:12

“Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young. Be an example to all believers in what you say, in the way you live, in your love, your faith, and your purity.”

# Don't Underestimate Your Potential

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- Carry out your responsibilities well because
  - You're serving the King
  - You will likely gain respect, which allows the opportunity for greater influence



**Relationships**

**Leader**

**Influence**

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# A Chick-fil-A Principle

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- “We impact others by the life they see in our routine as we live. ...The lesson is that you don't have to make the headlines to make a difference. You can make a difference by impacting others around you by the life you live day by day.”

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# Don't Underestimate Your Potential

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- Action Step:
  - Think of someone who needs a good influence in his or her life, then be intentional about being a good leader to him or her

# Influence in Leadership // Summary

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- **WHY:**
  - **We serve a great God! Leading well points people to him.**
  - Matthew 5:16—“Let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father.”

# Influence in Leadership // Summary

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- **WHAT:**

- Leadership isn't based upon a position or title, but on the influence we have with others in our day-to-day routines.

# Influence in Leadership // Summary

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- HOW:
  - Prayer & Relationship with God
  - Intentional and meaningful conversations
  - Inspiring others with your vision
  - Personal character development

# Influence in Leadership // Summary

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- Psalm 127:1—“Unless the Lord builds a house, the work of the builders is wasted.”
- We can accomplish nothing without God

No matter what position you're in,  
know that God can use you to  
influence others.

**Be the right kind of leader.**

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