



KEY THOUGHTS

- Just as God habitually influences through the accumulation of small, faithful actions (last week), He also has a better way of gaining credibility.
- We attach credibility to fame, position, popularity, attractiveness, and specialized abilities. God's way is better.
- Timothy has "influence obstacles" – he came from a mixed race/faith background, AND he was a young man.
- 1 Timothy 4:12 – Paul challenged Timothy, if people disregarded him because he was so young. His challenge was NOT about things he should tell the people.
 - Saying ≠ Influence
- He told Timothy to live his life as an example.
- An example motivates. Both negatively or positively, examples drive us.
- An example demonstrates. Vibrant and dynamic faith must be shown. We won't truly know what it looks like until we've seen it.
- Paul listed 6 areas in which we should set a model:
 - Speech – what and how I communicate
 - Conduct – how I live my life
 - Love – how I treat difficult people
 - Spirit – how I govern myself
 - Faith – how I trust in Jesus
 - Purity – how I strive to live unstained
- If I want to be influential, I must live each area of my life in a way that causes people to take notice and want to imitate.
- 1 Timothy 4:215 – example was so important to Paul that he challenged Timothy to live in such a way that others would want to grow like Timothy was.
- Setting an example is all the platform we need.

SCRIPTURES

- 1 Timothy 4:7b-12
- James 3:8
- James 1:27
- 1 Timothy 4:15

PRACTICAL & REFLECTION

- Who are the people in your life who have set the most driving example for you in faith?
- Of the areas in which Paul challenged Timothy to set an example, which is most challenging to you?
- What plan will you put into place to work on the example you are setting?