

The Responsibility of Influence

Today's Reading: 2 Timothy 2:2; Hebrews 13:7 | Audio: Day 4

“And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.”

— 2 Timothy 2:2 (KJV)

“Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith follow.”

— Hebrews 13:7 (KJV)

DEVOTIONAL

Influence is never neutral. Every life connected to yours is being shaped in some way by what they observe in you. That is a real responsibility—and a holy opportunity.

Paul understood this. He did not simply preach sermons and move on; he poured into people. Timothy was one of them, and Paul called him his son in the faith—relationship, time, instruction, example. Paul was not only transferring information. He was modeling a life. That is what discipleship requires.

The body of Christ needs people who take seriously the call to raise up sons and daughters in the faith. We need mothers and fathers in the gospel, elders who will not withdraw from the next generation, and younger believers humble enough to learn—people willing to say, “Follow me as I follow Christ.”

That makes some of us nervous: “I’m not qualified to pour into someone—I still have areas where I’m growing.” But you do not have to be perfect to be useful. You have to be honest, faithful, and willing. Someone needs what God has already taught you: how He brought you through grief, how you learned to pray, what repentance looks like, what it means to love Jesus in ordinary, daily ways.

Influence is not always a platform. Sometimes it is a conversation after service, checking on a young person, listening over coffee, praying with a newer believer, or simply being consistent enough that someone knows they can trust you. God did not bring you through what He brought you through just for you. He gave you wisdom, experience, and testimony so somebody else could be strengthened.

INFLUENCE COMES WITH ACCOUNTABILITY — WHERE AM I LEADING THEM?

Toward prayer or complaining? • Toward honor or criticism? • Toward faithfulness or compromise? • Toward Jesus or toward myself?

DAY 4 • JOURNAL & RESPONSE

REFLECT

1. *Who has God placed in your life that you are called to pour into?*

2. *Are you taking that responsibility seriously—and if not, what has held you back?*

RESPOND: TODAY'S PRACTICAL STEP

Reach out this week to one person: a younger believer, a child in your church, someone newer in the faith, or someone who needs encouragement. Make a genuine investment:

- ☐ Give them your time.
- ☐ Pray with them, not just for them.
- ☐ Share the Word that carried you.
- ☐ Offer the encouragement no one else is giving them.

The person I will invest in, and my first step:

DAY 4 • PRAYER

PRAY

Lord, thank You for the people who have poured into me. Help me not to keep what You have given me to myself. Show me who I am called to encourage, teach, strengthen, and walk with. Make me faithful with my influence. Remove fear and selfishness from my heart. Let my life point others to You. Use my testimony, my time, and my words for Your glory. In Jesus' name, amen.

My own prayer:

REMEMBER THIS

Influence is a gift, but it is also a responsibility.

Going Deeper: 1 Corinthians 11:1 • 1 Thessalonians 2:8 • Titus 2:3–5

This devotional is a tool for reflection, not a substitute for pastoral care or professional counseling. If what surfaces feels too heavy to carry alone, please reach out to a pastor or a trusted, qualified counselor at New Life Tabernacle Carrollwood.