

Sermon Notes: 5.23.21

MAKING AN IMPACT: Influencing by Example

BIG IDEA: Point people to Jesus by your exemplary behavior.

“You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people’s feet. You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven. Matthew 5:13-16 (ESV)

“Come out from them and be separate, says the Lord.” 2 Corinthians 6:17 (NIV)

Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ. 1 Corinthians 11:1

1. WITNESS WITH YOUR WORKS

He went about doing good.... Acts 10:38 (ESV)

2. WITNESS IN YOUR APPEARANCE

So then let us pursue what makes for peace and for mutual upbuilding. Do not, for the sake of food, destroy the work of God. Everything is indeed clean, but it is wrong for anyone to make another stumble by what he eats. It is good not to eat meat or drink wine or do anything that causes your brother to stumble. The faith that you have, keep between yourself and God. Romans 14:19-22

For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light.... Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what the disobedient do in secret. ...Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. Ephesians 5:8-16 (NIV)

3. WITNESS WITH YOUR WORDS

And the tongue is a flame of fire. It is full of wickedness that can ruin your whole life. It can turn the entire course of your life into a blazing flame of destruction, for it is set on fire by hell itself. And so blessing and cursing come pouring out of the same mouth. Surely, my brothers and sisters, this is not right! James 3:6, 10 (NLT)

“I tell you, on the day of judgement people will give account for every careless word they speak, for by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned.” Matthew 12:36-37 (ESV)

Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person. Colossians 4:6

Let there be no filthiness nor foolish talk nor crude joking, which are out of place, but instead let there be thanksgiving. Ephesians 5:4

Therefore encourage one another and build one another up.... 1 Thessalonians 5:11

4. WITNESS THROUGH YOUR WORK

- Work if you’re able.

If anyone is not willing to work, let him not eat. For we hear that some among you walk in idleness, not busy at work, but busybodies. Now such persons we command and encourage in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. 2 Thessalonians 3:10-12

- Don't engage in vocations or business practices that are morally wrong.
- Do your work well.

...Aspire to live quietly, and to mind your own affairs, and to work with your hands, as we instructed you, so that you may walk properly before outsiders and be dependent on no one. 1 Thessalonians 4:11-12

- Make God your boss.

Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ. Colossians 3:23-24

...They must show themselves to be entirely trustworthy and good. Then they will make the teaching about God our Savior attractive in every way. Titus 2:9-10 (NLT)

- Be good to your employees.

Hear the cries of the field workers whom you have cheated of their pay. The wages you held back cry out against you. The cries of the reapers have reached the ears of the Lord Almighty. James 5:4

Masters, treat your bondservant justly and fairly, knowing that you also have a Master in heaven. Colossians 4:1 (ESV)

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