

SUNDAY SERVICE 7:10:2018

THE LAW OF INFLUENCE

Dan 5:13-14

Then Daniel was brought in before the king. The king answered and said to Daniel, "You are that Daniel, one of the exiles of Judah, whom the king my father brought from Judah. I have heard of you that the spirit of the gods is in you, and that light and understanding and excellent wisdom are found in you."

- Daniel was a refugee but his influence and impact was great.
 - There are times that he had no position but when he spoke people listened.
 - Influence is not always a function of title or position.
 - What are the factors that make someone influential.
- 1) **Relationships**
 - People listen to you because of who you know.
 - Daniel had a reputation of knowing God.
 - *Psalms 34:5*
Those who look to him are radiant, and their faces shall never be ashamed.
 - That is how you become salt and light.
 - 2) **Sacrifice**
 - People listen to you because of what you have suffered
 - Daniel gave up his right to eat kings food.
 - People like Mandela and Jomo Kenyatta.
 - The price you have paid to be where you are.
 - It is what you have contributed or what you have lost to be where you are.
 - Jesus was influential because of his sacrifice
 - *Philippians 2:5-8*
Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.
 - 3) **Character**
 - People listen to you because of your integrity.
 - Daniel remained trustworthy and blameless even when he had to rebuke the king.
 - Character is more than talk.
 - Anyone can say that he has integrity, but action is the real indicator of integrity.
 - Your character determines who you are and what you do.
 - If your actions and intentions work against each other, you have no character.
 - Character is a choice. Every time you make choices, you create your character.
 - Character brings lasting success with people because people will be committed to men of character.
 - Leaders can not rise above the limitations of their character.
 - Character will either fail or support a leader.
 - Character determines how you finish.
 - 4) **Relevance**
 - People listen to you because you identify with their needs
 - Daniel lived with the Babylonians and identified with their struggles and lifestyle.
 - You can not influence people who you don't identify with.

- Jesus is very influential today because he took our nature.
- He went through all that we got through today.

5) Insight

- People listen to you because of what you know.
- Daniel could interpret dreams and visions that confused others.
- People need information and news.
- People are looking for solutions.

6) Vulnerability

- People listen to you because you are genuinely transparent.
- Daniel' life was an open book.
- You have nothing to hide.
- Your public life matches your private life.
- A life of accountability commands respect.

7) Experience

- People listen to you because you have succeeded in the past.
- Daniels credibility came from years of living well.

8) Humility

- People listen to you when you incarnate meekness.
- Daniel served and submitted to authorities, unless they broke a higher law.
- Arrogance is repulsive while humility is attractive.

9) Competence

- People listen to you because of your abilities and expertise.
- Daniel did many things better than anyone else.
- When you know how to get things done people will listen to you.
- Musicians, athletes, artists, businees moguls mechanics etc

10) Courage

- People listen to you because you demonstrate convictions.
- Daniel was no one's puppet and showed he would die for his conviction.
- Able to stand alone for the right things even if you are the only one.