

# About the Study Guide

The theme of Fresh Start Church for 2021 is Influence. As our access socially grows in addition to our regular daily interactions our sphere of connect continues to grow. Because of this, it is so important to understand the impact of our personal influence and what that can look like from a Kingdom Perspective.

Each month we will focus on a particular are of influence in our personal lives to assess where we are and where our opportunities to improve are greatest.

#### **NOTE FROM PASTOR**

At the end of the year it is my prayer that each of you understands your own personal sphere of influence, who you have been called to reach and that you have clarity in understanding that your influence extends beyond the four walls of the physical church. You have been called to be a light (an influence) to the world! Use your sphere and take ministry into the marketplace, onto your social media pages, into your home and into your communities as you serve.

Shamar Lewis



## How To Use This Study Guide

There will be four things to do with each section of your studies: reading of scripture, life application review, self assessment and prayer.

Each section will guide you step by step. If you would like more time after each section to process the content, you are encouraged to journal your thoughts, incorporate quiet time and add additional prayer time.



## FRESH START CHURCH: INFLUENCER STUDY GUIDE

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**JAN** 

SERMON SERIES REVIEW The influencer sermon series presented by Pastor Shamar lewis has been focused on providing a clear understanding of the word influence and what our biblical assignment is related to the influence that God has given us, also known as our sphere of influence.



## **JAN- Sermon Series**



#### **INFLUENCE**

An Assigned scope and sphere to have an effect on something or someone.

#### 2 Corinthians 10:13 (NIV)

We, however, will not boast beyond proper limits(KJV measure), but will confine our boasting to the sphere of service God himself has assigned to us, a sphere that also includes you.

#### **QUOTES:**

- Just because you look like you are winning in your OWN eyes doesn't mean you are winning in God's eyes.
- Your influence will never be greater than what God has already assigned to you.
- Your influence isn't to just make your name great, but to make God's name great.
- No excuse will be good enough for why you didn't properly utilize your scope of influence.

#### **OUESTIONS:**

- Has your understanding of influence changed since the sermon series began?
- Have you ever considered yourself to be someone who possessed influence?
- Have you taken responsibility in knowing that you have been given a sphere of influence?
- Did it ever occur to you that your story is a tool to be used to influence people within your sphere?
- Are there any reasons why you wouldn't want to be seen as an influencer?

#### **TAKE-AWAY:**

We have all been given influence, it is up to us whether we chose to use it or not.

**PRAYER:** Lord, thank you for giving me influence. I will be sure not to let remain inactive and I will be sure that as I successfully use my influence that your name will be glorified.



## **FEB**

INFLUENTIAL FRIENDSHIPS

At Fresh Start Church we believe that God designed us, the church, to do life together. That means that friendships are an essential element to our ability to thrive. In this section we will discuss friendship and if the friendships that we have are influential in a Godly way.



## **FEB-Influential Friends**



#### **INFLUENCE**

An Assigned scope and sphere to have an effect on something or someone.

#### Job 42:10 (NIV)

10 After Job had prayed for his friends, the Lord restored his fortunes and gave him twice as much as he had before.

#### **STUDY SCENARIO:**

Job has been in a position where he is being tested and has lost everything; his kids, his wealth, his home and his wife. In the middle of this season the only people he had to communicate with were his friends. As Job spoke with them, his friends they weren't encouraging and in fact wanted him to question and curse God.

#### **QUESTIONS:**

- Do you think Job had a healthy group of friends?
- Have you been in a situation where you were struggling and needed encouragement? Did you have friends who were able to encourage you in the Lord?
- Have you ever been the friend who needed to be the encourager?
- Do you and your current friends have Godly Influence on each other?

#### **TAKE-AWAY:**

As believers it is our responsibility to influence our friends in a Godly way.

**PRAYER:** Lord, thank you for the friends that you have blessed me with. I will not take their friendship for granted and I will be sure to influence them in a positive way, even when I am going through or having a difficult time. Use me to show them your grace and mercy and give me the words to speak into their lives.





## **MAR**

INFLUENTIAL PARENTING

"Show your children God's love by loving them and others as Christ loves you. Be quick to forgive, don't hold a grudge, look for what's best, and speak gently into areas of their lives that need growth."

— Genny Monchamp.

#### FRESH START CHURCH: INFLUENCE STUDY GUIDE

## **MAR- Influential Parenting**



#### **INFLUENCE**

An Assigned scope and sphere to have an effect on something or someone.

#### Proverbs 22: 6 (NLT)

Direct your children onto the right path, and when they are older, they will not leave it.

#### 2 Timothy 1: 5

5 I remember your genuine faith, for you share the faith that first filled your grandmother Lois and your mother, Eunice. And I know that same faith continues strong in you.b

#### **STUDY SCENARIO:**

Eunice does not have a Bible narrative of her own, but we do know that Timothy was a young leader whom Paul trusted and believed in so much. Paul also commended his mother and grandmother in 2 Timothy 1:5 saying, "I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, dwells in you as well."

Eunice had a contagious faith that was transferred to her son. As parents, we must pray for the same contagious faith that will also fall upon our children as they grow in trusting God more.

#### **QUESTIONS:**

- Do you believe that you have a faith is strong enough to be passed on to the next generation?
- Would your kids say that your behavior at home honors God? Are you the same person at home that you are on Sunday?
- Do you teach your children to Know God and seek him in the same way that you do?
- How do you influence your children in a Kingdom way?

#### **TAKE-AWAY:**

As kingdom parents, it is our responsibility to introduce our children to christ and live in a way that influences them to be Kingdom minded.

**PRAYER:** Lord, thank you for trusting us with your heavenly children here on earth. We will not take this responsibility lightly, and strive to grow them up to be great men and women of the Kingdom.

## **Next Steps**



We are so excited that you have committed to using this devotional with us each month, and we pray that it guides you as you expand your influence!

If you have met with us each month and realize that you are ready to take a step toward formally giving your life to Christ or to join the Fresh Start Family please send us an email by clicking <u>here</u>.

We also invite you to join our Growth Track classes offered every first through fourth Sunday. In these classes we take you on a journey that we believe every Christian is meant to go on: to Know God, Find Freedom and Connect, Discover Purpose and Make A Difference.

Another great way to connect and use your influence is to join a Life Group. They are offered in three seasons: Spring, Summer and Fall. Life Groups focus on common interests and topics so that you can connect with people who enjoy or are interested in similar things.

Find more information about all of these things online at www.freshstart707.org

