

Sunday, July 28, 2019 - "Get Fit - Week 5 - Influence" - Doug Kempton

Key Passages: Matthew 5:13-16, Acts 2:42-47, Exodus 22:21

- Feel free to read the passage(s) out loud as a group
- Allow the group to share freely about what stood out to them from the passage or from Sunday's message

Main Ideas

- All 6 Essentials are critical to your growth and walk with God (they are all present in Acts 2:42-47)
- They are synergistic and they work together and grow one another
- Matthew 5:13-16 (INFLUENCE)
  - Sermon on the Mount
  - Jesus' teaching turned the current world view on its head...and it creates a radical shift in thinking for us
- Nothing seems to be radical at first glance...
  - You are: Salt of the earth and Light of the world
  - Salt = mostly used as a preservative, valuable commodity, people were paid in salt → we are preserving the world and pulling it towards morality
  - Light = helps to see something, bringing things into focus → we help people to see Jesus more clearly
- God calls Israel...Exodus 9
  - A kingdom of priests and a holy nation (priests carry the presence of God)
  - God put them in perfect place to reach the nations (trade/travel all went through this "land bridge" where God had placed his people) Exodus 22:21
- But the people of Israel became consumers of God
  - They forgot that God's blessing was given for them to bless others
  - So God took the promise land away from them (they were exiled to other places)
  - If we're not intentional and paying attention we can become consumers of God
- When we are salt and light it changes everything...home/workplace/community
- God has put us in the perfect place to have influence for him
- 3 Challenges
  - 1) Stay connected
    - Most people in church don't have non-christian friends
    - We have to be intentional about relationships with people who don't know God
    - Who are the people you need to move towards?
  - 2) Be an inviter
    - "come and see" was the invitation on the new testament
    - Overcomer movie, Sep. 8th picnic, Tauren Wells concert, Big Band Christmas
    - What can I invite someone to?
  - 3) Pray for an opportunity
    - Every morning before your feet hit the floor
    - "Lord, would you give me an opportunity to have one conversation with someone about you."
    - Email stories of how God answered this prayer to pastor Doug [dkempton@gracewired.com](mailto:dkempton@gracewired.com)
- God has called us to be salt and light and he has placed in a perfect place to influence people for Him

Questions (Feel free to use all of these, some of these, or none of these)

1. What does it mean to you personally to be salt and/or light?
2. Give an example of a time you knew God was using to be an influence for Him?
3. How is God asking you to take steps to stay connected to people who might not know him?
4. When was a time that you asked God for an opportunity to have influence and he gave you an opportunity? What happened? What did you learn or take away from it?
5. What is God inviting you into as a result of this passage or sermon?

**\*\*15 Minutes with God Reading Plan-**

Mon: Daniel 11 Tues: Daniel 12 Wed: Joel 1 Thurs: Joel 2 Fri: Joel 3

Songs from the weekend: [Again I Say Rejoice - *Israel Houghton*] - [King of My Heart - *Bethel Music*] - [Cornerstone - *Hill-song Worship*] - [What A Beautiful Name - *Hillsong Worship*] - [Break Every Chain - *Will Reagan*]