



Sermon Outline

Key verse

I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth.

3 John 1:4

How to have a godly influence

1. Genuine care for others

Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves.

Philippians 2:3

2. Goal of making disciples

Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt.

Colossians 4:6

3. Guidance for spiritual walk

You, however, must teach what is appropriate to sound doctrine.² Teach the older men to be temperate, worthy of respect, self-controlled, and sound in faith, in love and in endurance.

³ Likewise, teach the older women to be reverent in the way they live, not to be slanderers or addicted to much wine, but to teach what is good.

Titus 2:1-3

Opening Thought

A parent's greatest joy is that their children walk in the truth and follow Jesus. In the same way, God's greatest joy is to see His children walking in truth. The Lord wants to use each one of us as a godly influence in the lives of others.

Who has God put in your life and in what ways are you having an impact?

Ice breakers

- Besides your parents, who has had the biggest spiritual influence on you?
- Have you watched *The Chosen*? What is your reaction?

Talk it over

- What is it like for you to open your home to others? (easy, nerve-racking, don't know – I never do it, etc.)
- Read 3 John verses 9-10. What does John accuse Diotrophes of?
- How does the church today tend to respond to someone that is inhospitable and has a tendency to gossip?
- What legacy do you think you will leave behind? What do you hope will be said about you at your funeral?

Closing

- What sacrifices might you need to make in order to reach the next generation (or your peers) with the gospel?
- What are the biggest obstacles that impede your walk with Christ?
- To whom do you need to show hospitality?
- How can we pray for you today?