

## *Study Guide*

Series: The Battle for Christianity in America

Message: *Becoming a Christian Influencer – The Encounter*

Messenger: Pastor Keith

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Scripture: Matthew 5.16 (NKJV)

**Objective:** to share how to live a life that follows Christ and influences others to want to follow Him.

### **Review:**

1. Our **Identity** in Christ – we see ourselves from the position of Christ. What is true of Him is now true of us, and from this identity, we form a biblical worldview.
2. **Becoming a Christian Influencer** - you care deeply about people coming to know Jesus and use your life and every platform you have as an opportunity to guide others toward following Him.

### **Three Keys to becoming an effective Christian Influencer:**

1. Your \_\_\_\_\_ – Refers to the way you *live it*. v.16a. ‘Let your light so shine before men...’ ‘Your life reflects Christ’s life.’ John 1.4

Jesus’s life becomes light to us. Through Him, we begin to see things spiritually and eternally, who God is, and who we are created to be.

### **In practice:**

- Daily time with God (centeredness)
  - Follow Christ in character and conduct
  - Countercultural lifestyle – light and darkness
2. Your \_\_\_\_\_ – Refers to how you *show it*. v.16b. ‘that they may see your good works...’ Good works reveal God, not merely human goodness or kindness. These works are fueled by the Spirit, not by us. As followers of Christ, we live **from** a supernatural nature, not a natural one.

### **In practice:**

- Loving one another like Christ – John 13.34-35
- Praying for your haters – Matthew 5.44
- Setting the captives free – Mark 16.17-18
- Suffering persecution to win souls – I Peter 3.13-17
- Laying hands on the sick – Mark 16.17-18
- Interceding for others – Ezekiel 22.30
- Giving generously – Acts 2.42-27

3. Your \_\_\_\_\_ – Refers to how you *share it*. v.16c. 'and glorify your Father in heaven.' I Peter 3.15

### **In practice: Q&A**

- a) **Why do I believe God exist?** I believe God exists by faith (Hebrews 11.6) Secondly, I believe God exists through the intelligent design of the universe, (Psalms 19.1), the detailed design of my body, (Genesis 2.7). His law written in our hearts (Romans 2.15), science (Genesis 1.3), and the incarnation of Jesus Christ (John 14.9).
- b) **Why did God create humanity?** To know Him, to walk with Him, and to co-partner with Him to reflect heaven on earth. (Genesis 1.26-28)

### **Order of God – Genesis 1-2:**

- Humanity – 1.1
  - Identity - 1.26
  - Sexuality – 1.27
  - Activity – 1.28
  - Authority – 2.15
  - Community – 2.24
- c) **Why does God allow evil?** God allows evil because of man's freewill to choose evil. But He patiently endures evil because He doesn't want anyone to perish but to hear the gospel and come to Him through repentance.
- d) **Why are you lost?** When you do not know where you come from, why you exist, and where you're going after death, your life has no meaning, so you live lost.
- e) **Why do I follow Christ?** The gospel. Jesus Christ came to save sinners. He died for my sin, was buried, and rose again on the third day to give eternal life. Do you know anyone better to follow?
- f) **How do you become a follower?** You must repent of your sin, place your faith in Christ, being born of His Spirit, and begin to follow Him.
- g) **What is the benefit for following Christ:**
- Person to live like
  - People to live with
  - Power to live on
  - Presence to live in
  - Principles to live by
  - Prosperity to live out
  - Promises to look forward to