

SPHERES OF INFLUENCE

DISCUSSION GUIDE
FEBRUARY 28th, 2016

“Encircled” | Luke 10:1-9

GETTING STARTED: What scents bring back particularly strong memories for you? What items illicit the memory of a loved one based simply on their smell?

EXPLORE THE PASSAGE:

1. How can the church come together to influence culture in a way that is pleasing to God? When have you seen the church (South Side, another church you've attended, the Church at large) collaborate their influence for good?
2. Read Luke 10:1-9. Describe the emotions you would have felt if you were among the seventy-two.
3. Read Luke 10:1. What is significant or strategic about Jesus sending the crowd out “two-by-two?” How different would the scene play out if Jesus sent them out “one-by-one?”
4. When have you experienced someone that was receptive to your influence within our culture? What factors make you less likely to be open to sharing? More likely to share?
5. Are you more likely to be an influencer or to pray for an influencer? How does Luke 10:1-2 challenge you to do both?
6. What is the difference between a “relational” and a “transactional” connection with another person or group? How do relational connections help encourage those that are serving as influencers in the mission field? How do relational connections offer greater impact with our missions partners?

7. Read Luke 10:3-7. Identify the urgency in Jesus' charge to the seventy-two. How did he suggest potential persecution or difficulty? What dangers exist for you as you influence your culture? How does this compare to Christ-followers elsewhere in the world?

8. With whom can you partner as you encircle our culture and increase your impact? How can this group work in tandem to accomplish what Jesus described in Luke 10:9?

APPLY THE TRUTH:

Last week we explored the question, “Who do I already know in this sphere?” in the context of who you might influence. Update your answers to include those that might serve as influencers along side you. Remember, Jesus sent them out “two-by-two” not simply “one-by-one.” Your greatest influence might come in tandem with another Christ-follower.

PRAY:

Pray for Jonathan as he begins serving at South Side's new Worship Pastor. Pray for his wife (Jen) and two children (Elise and Nolan) as they get acclimated in a new area, new home and new schools.

NOTES:

Mapping My Spheres

Spheres	When and where do I already intersect with this sphere?	Who do I already know in this sphere?	How will I influence the people and culture of this sphere?
<i>Arts/Media</i>			
<i>Business</i>			
<i>Education</i>			
<i>Government/ Politics</i>			
<i>Science/Medicine/ Technology</i>			
<i>Family</i>			
<i>Religion</i>			

Don't worry – it doesn't have to be perfect! This worksheet will be available each week during our "Spheres of Influence" sermon series. You can use the same one each week or start fresh as you expand your understanding of your spheres of influence.