



≈ *Week 4: The Gift of Influence* ≈

Date: December 20th, 2020

- † The Law of Linearity, reprised
Deuteronomy 29:9, Romans 7:6, Hebrews 7:18-19

- † The chief tactic of the enemy is to tempt us to turn back to the OLD WAY. To find our life and identity in our own strength and wisdom rather than God. To try and control life on our own, rather than trusting God.
Galatians 4:3-9

- † Reality! In Christ we are called to give up the bondage and pressure of control, and enter into the purpose and significance of INFLUENCE.

- † Pressing deeper: Christ calls His disciples to be people of influence. But we are NEVER promised control.
1 Peter 3:15-16, Matthew 28:19-20, Matthew 5:44, Ephesians 5:21ff

- † Control requires no FAITH. Christ centered influence is only possible by faith.
- † Control is vulnerable to TEMPTATION. Influence is far more likely to remain OBEDIENT
- † When things get difficult, control will eventually GIVE UP. Influence PERSEVERES
- † Control is not EFFECTIVE! Spirit led influence, expressed with love, gentleness, and encouragement, is not only much more effective, it is ATTRACTIVE.
- † *When a desired outcome happens*
- Control tends toward...
 - Spirit led influence responds with...
- † *When a desired outcome doesn't happen*
- Control collapses into...
 - Influence collapses into the arms of GOD.
- † It is the nature of Control to GLORIFY self or BLAME God. It is the nature of *Spirit led influence* to HUMBLE ourselves, and give Glory to GOD. *Romans 15:5-6. John 3:16-17*