

**Influencer**  
**Influence – Part 1**  
**July 31-August 1, 2021**  
**Dr. Jeffrey Allen Love**

**Series Key Verse:** *“Do to others whatever you would like them to do to you. This is the essence of all that is taught in the law and the prophets.”* Matthew 7:12 (p.738)

- **Use My Influence To Show God’s Love To Others.**

*“Men, you should have listened to me in the first place and not left Crete. You would have avoided all this damage and loss. But take courage! None of you will lose your lives, even though the ship will go down... ‘Don’t be afraid, Paul, for you will surely stand trial before Caesar! What’s more, God in his goodness has granted safety to everyone sailing with you.’ So take courage! For I believe God. It will be just as he said. But we will be shipwrecked on an island.”* Acts 27:21-26 (p.855)

*“Love your neighbor as yourself. Love does no wrong to others, so love fulfills the requirements of God’s law.”* Romans 13:9–10 (p.867)

*“Don’t be misled—you cannot mock the justice of God. You will always harvest what you plant.”* Galatians 6:7 (p.894)

- 1. Ask: what can I do to others that I would like them to do to me?**

*“Please eat something now for your own good. For not a hair of your heads will perish.”* Acts 27:34 (p.855)

*“Learn to do good. Seek justice. Help the oppressed. Defend the cause of orphans. Fight for the rights of widows.”* Isaiah 1:17 (p.517)

- 2. Continue to do to others what I would like them to do to me.**

*“As it happened, Publius’s father was ill with fever and dysentery. Paul went in and prayed for him, and laying his hands on him, he healed him.”* Acts 28:8 (p.855)

*“There will be no mercy for those who have not shown mercy to others. But if you have been merciful, God will be merciful when he judges you.”* James 2:13 (p.931)

*"Do to others as you would like them to do to you...You must be compassionate, just as your Father is compassionate." Luke 6:31–36 (p.786)*

### **My Next Step This Week:**

\_\_\_\_\_ I will intentionally do at least one act each day this week to use my influence to show God's love to others.

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**ONE VOICE**

Discussion/Groups Guide from the Weekend Talk  
From the Weekend Talk of July 31-August 1, 2021  
*Influence - Part 1: Influencer*

*Use this guide to discuss the Weekend Talk with your family or friends.*

When Life Groups are in session, they use questions like these to go deeper into what we talked about on the weekend.

- ***Our Fall Groups Semester begins the week of August 22.***
- ***Find out more about Groups (in person and online) at [alivechurch.com/groups](http://alivechurch.com/groups).***

### **Conversation Starters**

- Have you ever been part of a team of people (work, church, school, home, travel) where the seemingly least likely person assumed a leadership position and made the effort a success?
- Did you know? Phoenix is in the Bible! (Acts 27:12 (p.855)) The Bible is full of surprises.
- Have you ever ended up in a different location from your intended destination? Perhaps a flight or a train journey re-routed. Did you feel anxious or concerned? Or was it an adventure? How long were you there and how long did it take you to get to your correct destination?
- Did you know? The ships of Paul's day could only do short journeys and could not stray too far from land due to the lack of navigational instruments—no GPS or even a compass was available in the first century! They could not travel across the Mediterranean Sea, they had to Island hop!

### **Quick Review**

Looking back at your Talk Notes, was there anything you heard in the service that stood out, challenged, or maybe even confused you?

### **Discussion Starters from the Weekend Talk**

Refer to the Talk Notes and related Bible verses from this Weekend's Talk Notes.

The key spiritual principle that Pastor Jeff Love emphasized this week is:

- **Use My Influence To Show God's Love To Others.**

- Read Matthew 7:12 (p.738)
  - Did you ever learn the "Golden Rule" in school, even the concept was not attributed to Jesus?
  - Why does this "rule" resonate so much with Christians and those who are not Followers of Jesus?
- Read Acts 27:21-26 (p.855)
  - Share an experience where you were part of a team, and your voice was not being listened to. How did it make you feel?
    - Did you want the group to succeed or secretly fail?
  - What was Paul's attitude in this difficult situation?
    - Jeff posed the question, "what would your attitude have been if you were Paul?"
    - So, what would your attitude have been if you were Paul?
- Read Romans 13:9-10 (p.867)
- Read Galatians 6:7 (p.894)

Jeff challenged us to embrace a couple of steps we can take to live out this out:

1. **Ask: what can I do to others that I would like them to do to me?**

- Read Acts 27:34 (p.855)
  - It is good to remind ourselves that Jesus cared about the physical needs of his audience (e.g. feeding of the 5000 John 6:1-14 (p.814)) before attending to their spiritual needs. Quite a lot of stories in Acts took place in homes and the early church was founded on fellowship. Opening your home to others for hospitality can be rewarding.
  - Hospitality was a key element in the Biblical times (see Romans 12:13 p.866)
    - Have you considered having a Life Group BBQ and getting the members to invite 1 family or couple or friend along - just give thanks for the food and let God take it from there - that's what Paul did in a manner of speaking (Acts 27:37 (p 855)).
- Read Isaiah 1:17 (p.517)
- See also Mark 12:31 (p.773).
  - The second commandment is equally important: "love your neighbor as yourself." No other commandment is greater than these.
  - How do you define "neighbor" in the context of this verse? People next door? In your "neighborhood"? In your city? In a neighboring country?

2. **Continue to do to others what I would like them to do to me.**

- Read Acts 28:8 (p.855)
- Read James 2:13 (p.931)
- Read Luke 6:31-36 (p.786)
  - Another helpful passage is Matthew 25:34-46 (p756).

- While the passage is looking towards the final judgment, it is also a warning to our attitude to others less fortunate than ourselves, including those on the margins of society—the unwashed, in some cases literally. Jesus did not turn his back on anybody- Jesus was not sent to condemn the world John 3:17 (p.811) but to save it, so therefore we need to show compassion. We need to love whoever God sends us or puts in our way.
- The phrase *There but by the grace of God go I*, is so real. Our lives can be changed in a moment, but for God’s glory, not ours. Enjoy and be content with what God has given you now and use what He has given you to further His Kingdom.

## Next Step

### ***My Next Step This Week:***

\_\_\_\_ I will intentionally do at least one act each day this week to use my influence to show God’s love to others.

*“Do to others as you would like them to do to you...”* Luke 6:31(p.786)

Use the link on the app or go to your Connection Card at [www.alivechurch.com/card](http://www.alivechurch.com/card) to indicate you are taking this Next Step so that we can pray for you.

## What’s Ahead

- ***This weekend continue our Series Influence.***
  - *What would our world look like if followers of Jesus took ownership of what we believe and reflect it in our lives? The series will challenge all of us as followers of Jesus to seek to purposefully influence those around us. We can make an impact on the people around us, at work, school, the coffee shop, everywhere we go, and with everyone we meet!*
- ***Have you signed up for our Alive Church Newsletter?***
  - Sign up here: [www.alivechurch.com/newsletter](http://www.alivechurch.com/newsletter)

\* The Life Transformation Bible is the New Living Translation of the Bible, including many useful tools to help you better understand God’s Word, including our own Alive Church Life Transformation Discipleship Plan. They are available FREE. Let us know if you’d like to have one. We also have a Kids Edition of the Bible, as well.