

make a difference

Big Idea

Pastor Curt – Part 3

We all desire to make a difference in our own world. The secret to changing the world we live in is using our influence to make a difference for the Kingdom. In this series we are learning that we are all part of a sphere of influence that, if we leverage properly, can literally change our world. Equipped with this understanding of God-given influence, we will all begin to make a difference that's beyond what we have ever dreamed!

We looked at four key ways we can be a witness for Jesus: 1) **Become aware** that God's plan is to use us to be a Jesus witness, 2) **Commit to prayer** for the people God has given you influence with, 3) **Show you care** for the people around you, and 4) **Be ready to share** with an invitation to church, the story of Jesus' impact on your life, or simply share time together. Pastor Curt said, "When the local church is mobilized, this is how we influence people, this is how we make a difference; by gathering together and worshipping together, learning and putting into practice: THIS IS THE HOPE OF THE WORLD."

Discussion Questions

- Evangelism is God's expectation of us. He doesn't have a back-up plan. Are we His ambassadors daily? Why not?
- Moving people one step closer to the Lord is a win in evangelism. Identify a person close to you and discuss how you can move them "one step" using the Engel Scale.
- Is there one person in your circle of influence that does not know Jesus? Discuss how you can easily and effectively pray for this person. Commit to pray regularly for their salvation.
- People need to know we care before they will listen to the gospel. How did Jesus demonstrate this attribute for us? How can we show this same type of compassion to the people around us?
- Read 1 Peter 3:15. How can we stay ready to give an answer to everyone for the hope that is inside of us?
- If God answered all of your prayers, would it change the world or just change you? How can we intentionally move our prayers from nearsighted to farsighted?

Prayer Focus

Father, thank You for entrusting us with Your people. Help us to see all people like You do so we can serve them and love them unconditionally. Today we pray for divine encounters, compassionate hearts, and the awareness to always speak in grace and truth. Open our eyes, God, so we can change our world. In Your name, Amen.

Next Steps

Determine this week that you will live your life out loud for the Kingdom. People desperately want to know that Jesus will make a difference in their lives; live your life to show them that He does. Ask God to show you how to encourage and evangelize the people in your life. Be prepared to see the Holy Spirit begin to move!

Leader Tip

Be sure to pray for your Group members each day by name. Encourage those in your group who have the potential to lead a Group to step out and start a Group with another friend or another couple. Check with your Campus to get the dates of New Group Leader Training and encourage them to attend and Make a Difference!