

# FirstFruits Gathering At Harvest Christian Church

## Influencers

May 20, 2025

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Social media, consultants, experts, and teachers are all influencers. On social media the power of your influence is calculated by the number of followers that you have – how many people listen to what you say. There are social media influencers that have millions of followers. Media platforms like TikTok and Instagram can start nationwide movements overnight when a video goes viral. Information on social media is not verified for authenticity yet is often thought of as truth.

Teachers, professors, colleges, and schools have great influence on the character and belief structure of young people. There are laws in Michigan and other states that allow the schools to have greater authority in influencing the children than the parents have. Parents can be legally silenced and not allowed to influence their own children in certain situations, especially when it comes to sexual matters, boys competing in girls' sports, sexual dysphoria, and political influence, to name a few. Influencing is a controversial and highly competitive dynamic. Influencers are trying to establish a world view that favors their attitudes and political beliefs – and often adds money to their income. There are voices of influence that carry a dark agenda, a demonic assignment against truth and righteousness. There are voices at work that deceive, demoralize, twist, lie, intimidate, frustrate, and play mind games trying to convince us that God is not real. We fight the influence and lies of darkness by speaking the truth – the Word of God.

“Influence” is defined as the capacity to be a compelling voice that produces an effect on actions or behavior. Influence has creative power to shape and bring in new ways of thinking and new ways of doing. Influencers have the power to sway their followers' opinions and behaviors. Influence can be positive or negative – it can be good or bad.

The ultimate influencer is Holy Spirit who speaks to the hearts of men. Jesus Christ is the living Word and that Word was made flesh in the earth. As sons and daughters of God, He wants us to release His influence in the earth – bringing Heaven into the earth – by speaking His words. His Word is alive and active; it divides truth. The influence that comes through Holy Spirit can be trusted and is always truth. When God said, “Let there be light” that word produced what was spoken forth. That one word “light” had great influence and is still producing an effect yet today.

The crowds gathered around Jesus to hear and receive His influence. He influenced the world by healing the sick and setting the captives free. The words Jesus spoke were spirit and life. The power of life and death are in the tongue. Jesus' influence was life and that life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it. The Words of God have eternal influence. He is the same yesterday, today and forever.

### Isaiah 55.10-11 NASB

<sup>10</sup> For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven,  
And do not return there without watering the earth  
And making it bear and sprout,  
And furnishing seed to the sower and bread to the eater;

<sup>11</sup> So will **My word be which goes out My mouth;**

**It will not return to Me empty,**

**Without accomplishing what I desire,**

**And without succeeding in the purpose for which I sent it.**

- God's Word is a creative force and power of influence to accomplish and what God has purposed.

### Isaiah 51.15-16 NASB

<sup>15</sup> For I am the LORD your God, who stirs up the sea and its waves roar (the LORD of armies is His name).

<sup>16</sup> **And I have put My words in your mouth** and have covered you with the shadow of My hand, to establish the heavens, to found the earth, and to say to Zion, "You are My people."

- God is filling our mouth with His Word to be spoken – the influence of His Kingdom and life.

### Hebrews 4.12 NASB

<sup>12</sup> **For the word of God is living and active**, and sharper than any two-edged sword, even penetrating as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

- Active or effectual – it has influence. It is not a philosophy or opinion. **It is truth.**

### 1 Peter 1.23 NASB

<sup>23</sup> For you have been born again not of seed which is perishable but **imperishable**, that is, through the **living and enduring word of God.**

#### MSG version:

<sup>23</sup> Your new life is not like your old life. Your old birth came from mortal sperm; **your new birth comes from God's living Word. Just think: a life conceived by God himself!**

### Deuteronomy 8.3b NASB

**...man does not live by bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD.**

- What is God speaking and what influence do His words bring into your life, your family and community, your city?

### Deuteronomy 30.14 NASB

<sup>14</sup> But the **word is very near you, in your mouth and in your heart**, that you may obey it.

### Isaiah 59.21a NASB

<sup>21</sup> "As for Me, this is My covenant with them," says the LORD: "My Spirit which is upon you, and **My words which I have put in your mouth shall not depart from your mouth...**

- It will not depart from our mouth, meaning it is there all of the time – we don't lose it. God puts it there. He does it. It is His Word – He watches over it. This is eternal influence.

God has given Detroit and Michigan the power of influence. As Detroit goes so goes the Nation – that is tremendous influence. Many false religions and dark entities want to establish their presence in Detroit to capture the influence our City releases into the earth. Detroit is to be a city on a hill. As the Ekklesia we speak the Word of God; it is a declaration and influence that carries legal power in the atmosphere, the heavenlies and the earth.

#### PRAYER AND DECLARATION:

**Detroit, you carry a prophetic message, and you will do well to pay attention to it, as you are a light shining in a dark place.** There is a gifting of influence in this land and upon the peoples. In the Name of Jesus we declare, arise and shine Detroit, for the glory of the Lord rises upon you. His favor and grace are upon you, so take your place among the great cities of the world and walk out your God-given destiny to influence by the Spirit of God – speaking righteousness into the Nation.

**We set the Word of Lord at the gates of the City** and that Word has the power to continually bring life and deliverance in our communities and in our Nation. **These are extraordinary days, and we unlock and release the extraordinary Word of the Lord that has been stored deep within for this day! It is the Word of God's wisdom and the Word of Life!**