

Influencers

Influencer is a term that is fairly new to me. The *influencers* online seek to have thousands of clicks and followers. They must keep people interested by their posts. Sometimes a “catchy” phrase or title will spark our curiosity. Sometimes we share a common interest with the *influencer*. Sometimes we are just killing time as we navigate through all that the different influencers have to offer. We may have some favorites. We may check out some new ones. We love to know things. We love to learn things. We want to know what’s going on.

Who is(are) your influencer(s)? Who do you trust to tell you the truth? Who do you trust to guide/influence your thoughts? What is their character like? (fruit?) Do you admire them? If you do, why? Is it because they are famous, skilled, rich, good looking, successful, independent or even rebellious? Why do they appeal to you?

Some influencers present their “truth” in such a way that it is easily swallowed by people, by us. Their posts may be clever, their “truth” may be persuasive, but is it really truth? One thing we can be sure of is that they do have influence. We are being influenced. What influences us will likely be coming out of our own mouths. For this reason, we should want **holy** influencers—holy apostles (people sent out by the Spirit of God)—holy prophets (who unpack the Word and may tell and warn about the future)—holy teachers—holy friends. Check out your influencers, their characters, and even who they are influenced by.

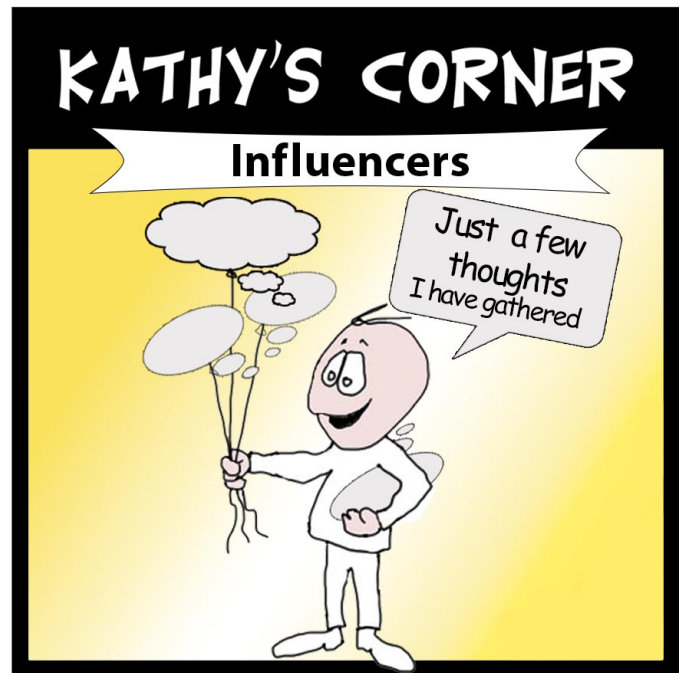
The Superior Influencer is the Spirit of Our Lord.

Out of the stump of David’s family will grow a shoot—yes, a new Branch bearing fruit from the old root. And the Spirit of the Lord will rest on him—the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. (Isaiah 11:1-2 NLT)

“Who can know the Lord’s thoughts? Who knows enough to teach him?” But we understand these things, for we have the mind of Christ. (1 Corinthians 2:5-16 NLT)

It says “we have the mind of Christ”. Do we? Is the Spirit our influencer? This puts our knowledge in the realm of the knowledge that David considered too high for himself. **“Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; It is high, I cannot attain it.”** (Psalm 139:6 NKJV) Even so, David valued God’s thoughts: **“How precious also are Your thoughts to me, O God! How great is the sum of them!”** (Psalm 139:7 NKJV)

Are you able to contrast the influencers of our day with the spiritual Influencer?



Are you also an influencer presenting learned and solid truth to those with questions or a sincere desire to learn—to know God and His mind?

An online influencer must post fresh content consistently to keep people coming back. Is our spiritual relationship fresh—consistently, being nourished, growing, producing? Is it as intimate as we say it is? What is He speaking to us, showing us, sharing with us, or doing with us that isn't too intimate or too personal to share with others? Are we living His word? Are we sharing His love? Are we letting our light shine?

I think knowing that we have the mind of Christ is essential. Its potential can only be developed through faith. Can you imagine having His discernment to know the will of his Father, the needs of people, the sincerity (or lack thereof) of people coming to Him, and having the right words on every occasion, every thought under total control? It seems in every way too high! But, we have the mind of Christ—the mind that could express a perfect and simple prayer for His disciples that included the value of our Father's name, His kingdom and His will; provision for our needs for body, soul and spirit; forgiveness—given and received; guidance, protection and deliverance from evil in all of its forms and persons, and the evil we have allowed within. What is our mind toward our Father's will, His name and kingdom; our mind toward our dependence on Him, our attitude toward others, toward evil and our enemy? Do we realize His provision, protection and freedom? Do we allow His Spirit to lead us?

We talk a lot about the power of the spoken word. Every word begins with a thought, so check those thoughts and where they are coming from. **The mind of Christ is a springboard for right attitudes and actions.**

Sometimes it might seem easier to gage our spiritual lives by a lower standard than the one Jesus lived out for us to see. Lowering the standard is giving in to temptation. Sin, by definition, is *missing the mark*. Settling for less than what He has planned for each one of us would never be satisfying. He knows our thoughts and our hearts better than we do. He knows us better than we know ourselves; therefore, we need to trust Him!

We have the mind of Christ. We often say that He is worthy. That expression of praise is pretty inclusive; but **the mind of Christ goes beyond knowing that He is worthy to knowing that**

He is worth it all!