

## **YOU are an Influencer WELS Women's Ministry Webinar**

Chat Transcript

February 19, 2026

### **What do you think of when you hear the term 'influencer'?**

- Social media
  - presence with lots of followers
  - Instagram
- Someone on-line trying to sell you something
- Someone who has an impact on others
  - sharing ideas to impact others
  - people that impact others, positively and negatively
- Role model
  - Role model for people close to us
- Someone others listen to
- Anyone can be an influencer, in life every single day
  - all of us
  - everyone who interacts with anyone
- Someone who makes an impression on another
- Peer pressure - positive or negative
- Kristen Smith, Step LaDue, Christian sisters
- Someone who makes a difference in someone's life
- The disciples were the first influencers. We do this by living each day in the way we show Jesus.
- Immediately I think of some lady selling something on social media, but when I stop and think about it, I think of someone who has in influence on our lives (positively and negatively)
- Someone respected, a good representative, but I hear it can be bad

### **What Biblical examples are there of someone influencing others in a positive way?**

- Ruth
  - Ruth taking care of her mother-in-law and how she followed and did with.
  - Ruth influenced her daughter in laws
  - Since this is a women's ministry, I choose Ruth. Ruth choose to stay with Naomi, when she could have stayed with her family, and worship GOD.
  - Ruth and her loyalty to "go where you go"
  - Ruth!!! Influencing women still to this day!!
  -
- Joseph from the OT!!!
  - Joshua who was steadfast with devotion to God and urged people to chose to serve the lord
- Job

- Esther
- Mary Magdelene
- Naomi
  - Naomi as a quiet strong believer
- The Proverbs 31 woman!
- Dorcas
- Peter: You are the Christ, the son of the living God
- Lydia
- Gideon
- Abraham
  - Abraham... trusting God for so long
- Noah and his wife - they taught their children to love and fear God.
- Tabitha
- Jesus
  - Jesus. He was AND is the ultimate model and there were so many times where he showed positive influence.
- The Samaritan woman at the well
- Paul
- Mary
- Zechariah
- Rahab influencing her family
- Daniel lived his faith and didn't compromise
- The faith of the centurion has influenced/impacted me recently.
- Hannah
  - Samuel's' mother- giving him to the Lord's work in the temple
- Job and Jonah
- Isaiah, he boldly spoke things that others might not have wanted to hear, but also reminds us of comfort

***Themes of Biblical Examples:***

- Loyalty (Ruth & Naomi)
- Forgiveness (Joseph)
- Faithfulness in suffering (Job)
- Courage (Esther, Daniel)
- Evangelism (Woman at the well, Paul)
- Leadership through service
- Living faith publicly
- Ultimate influence: Jesus as model

**Who or what is influencing you the most in this season of life? List specific ways you see that influence shaping your attitudes, work, or church.**

*Spiritual*

- Bible, scripture

- Pastors
- My pastor through messages of God's word
- Family, Church Family and most importantly being in scripture
- God's Word and close friends who remind me to go back to His Word
- Dedicated teachers and pastors
- I'm influenced by God
- Ultimately, my faith in God.
- My study of God's word
- I love the Bible project and Time of Grace materials.
- Life and Death - that really made me pause and think - GOD help me be better at sharing my faith

#### *Church Community*

- Christian friends
- A dear Christian friend
- Church community
- My adult Bible class
- Getting to know women in our church community
- The sisters in our ladies Bible group
- the faith filled men and women at our church
- Christian friends.
- Bible study group members
- Many of my church friends
- Bible study group
- Older, faithful Christians
- Church family and family
- The women of WELS! I met so many wonderful women at the WELS Lutheran Leadership conference
- The ladies in our women's Bible study class have been a huge impact on my life and the way I think!
- My fellow Christian women at church.
- WELS Women's Ministry - through the webinars, Bible studies, devotions, and newsletters I am equipped to reach out to women in my own church.
- God has surrounded me with so many Christian sisters inside and outside my church family.
- Being engaged with my Ladies' Bible study group and our small group study group. My church overall.

#### *Family*

- My family
- Mom
- My husband
  - My husband - he is a true spiritual leader in our household and I am so blessed with his love and guidance!
  - My dear husband has been growing with me in God's word and together. WE have grown more in the last while as we grow closer to the Lord.

- My dad
- Husband, family, friends
- my parents
- My adult daughters teach me every day
- My siblings
- Family bible study ladies
- My daughter-in-laws
- Sisters, by blood and in faith
- sister and church friends
- My parents, but especially my mother, as I look up to her. My grandfather and dad, because I want to be as hardworking as them. My grandparents' pastor's wife, who is such a great young mom and such a wonderful picture of what I want my life to look like someday.
- the foster mom I help
- My daughter is influencing me to learn more about how to share my faith, how to answer hard questions, and how to invite others to my church.
- My mother, mother in law, grandmothers who have gone on to eternity

#### *Work/General*

- Women that I volunteer with
- Positive mentors
- past experience
- Friends
- my mentor (at work)
- coworkers
- My Girl Tribe
- An old high school friend who I've recently reconnected with
- My co-worker. Through our work friendship, we learned that we were both believers and we now encourage each other with scripture when struggling in our work-life, personal-life, etc. So thankful God put her in my life!
- Podcasters - The Little Things by Amber Albee Swenson
- my past (how I was raised, past marriage),
- Time of Grace podcasts
- My career team... finding myself getting up to do daily devotions and get on zooms doing Bible studies
- Doing a good job at work and being a good example-that makes me different than others that just complain

