



September 20, 2026

Learning #1: If you are a Jesus Follower, God has called you to be an influencer.

Matthew 5:13-16 (NLT) You are the salt of the earth. But what good is salt if it has lost its flavor? Can you make it salty again? It will be thrown out and trampled underfoot as worthless. You are the light of the world—like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp and then puts it under a basket. Instead, a lamp is placed on a stand, where it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father.

Mark 16:15 (NLT) And then he told them, “Go into all the world and preach the Good News to everyone.

Learning #2: We can pre-decide to be an influencer by praying for those that don’t know Jesus.

Acts 16:14 (ESV) As she listened to us, the Lord opened her heart, and she accepted what Paul was saying.

2 Timothy 2:25-26 (NLT) Gently instruct those who oppose the truth. Perhaps God will change those people’s hearts, and they will learn the truth. Then they will come to their senses and escape from the devil’s trap. For they have been held captive by him to do whatever he wants.

Learning #3: We can pre-decide to pray for opportunities to tell people about Jesus.

Colossians 4:2-6 (NLT) Devote yourselves to prayer with an alert mind and a thankful heart. Pray for us, too, that God will give us many opportunities

to speak about his mysterious plan concerning Christ. That is why I am here in chains. Pray that I will proclaim this message as clearly as I should. Live wisely among those who are not believers and make the most of every opportunity. Let your conversation be gracious and attractive so that you will have the right response for everyone.

Ephesians 6:19-20 (NLT) And pray for me, too. Ask God to give me the right words so I can boldly explain God's mysterious plan that the Good News is for Jews and Gentiles alike. I am in chains now, still preaching this message as God's ambassador. So pray that I will keep on speaking boldly for him, as I should.

Learning #4: We can pre-decide to have an outward focused faith rather than an inward focused faith.

Mark 2:16-17 (NLT) But when the teachers of religious law who were Pharisees saw him eating with tax collectors and other sinners, they asked his disciples, "Why does he eat with such scum?"

When Jesus heard this, he told them, "Healthy people don't need a doctor—sick people do. I have come to call not those who think they are righteous, but those who know they are sinners."

Philemon 4-6 (NLT) I always thank my God when I pray for you, Philemon, because I keep hearing about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all of God's people. And I am praying that you will put into action the generosity that comes from your faith as you understand and experience all the good things we have in Christ.

John 8:12 (NLT) Jesus spoke to the people once more and said, "I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won't have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life."