

ARE YOU AN INFLUENCER?

"If anyone wants to be first he must make himself last of all and servant of all."

WHO DO YOU THINK HAS INFLUENCE ON YOUR LIFE? (EITHER IN YOUR FAMILY, COMMUNITY OR A CELEBRITY? WHAT KIND OF PERSON DO THEY INFLUENCE YOU TO BECOME?



WHAT CHARACTERISTICS DO YOU THINK A GREAT LEADER SHOULD HAVE?

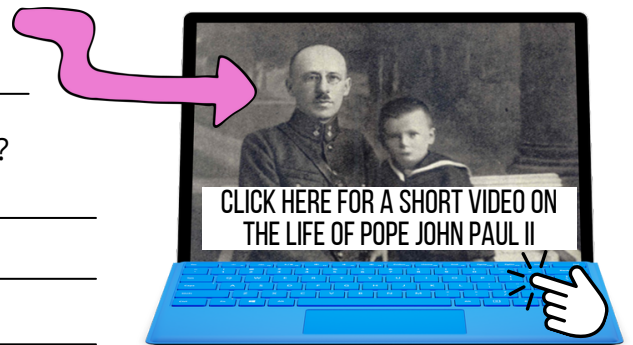
WATCH FR MIKE SCHMITZ' VIDEO: "INFLUENCING THE WORLD" AND REFLECT ON THE QUESTIONS THAT FOLLOW:



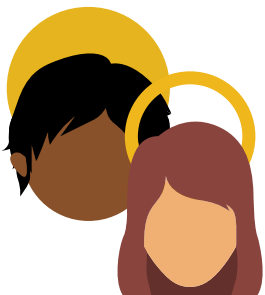
Fr Mike explains that all of us have influence over someone and because of that we should ask ourselves two questions:

1. How are you _____ them?
2. Where are you _____ them?

What kind of man was John Paul II's father?



Describe how he influenced his son to be a Man of God?



If we want those we have influence over to become great saints (and the best version of themselves), what do we need to ask ourselves and reflect on first?

HOW DOES A QUESTION LIKE THAT MAKE YOU FEEL? IS IT AN UNCOMFORTABLE QUESTION? IF YES, WHY DO YOU THINK THAT COULD BE?



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MATTHEW 23:1-12

Who is the Prototype for Christians - the model for how to live? (with a capital P!)

“What did St Paul advise the Corinthians to do in his letter to them? **Check 1 Corinthians 11:1**”



If we don't think we're living in a way that will help others to become saints if they model their lives on us, what should we do about it, according to Fr Mike?

Remember, today for the people you influence, you're the p_____!



Now Read Matthew 23:1-12



Do you want to change the world? Do you want to make a difference? You can be a leader, an influencer, you can effect change, starting with the people in your life. In this Gospel Passage, Jesus speaks out strongly about the Pharisees who clearly were not practicing what they preach. He sets out for us the standard of leadership: to be humble. That's not always what we think of when it comes to leadership skills is it? We hear more about confidence, charisma, dynamic speaking skills, vision.... but Jesus Himself showed us through the way He lived and died that humble service is what is more effective. Being humble isn't denying your gifts and talents - it's recognising where they come from and using them to give glory to God. Look at the saints - that's just what they did, and now their names are written in heaven forever, as inspiration for us. Jesus is very clear with His listeners, our actions must be coherent with our words. Is that a challenge for you too? Jesus calls us to humility, service and love. He didn't say it would be easy, but all things are possible through His grace. Maybe humility is something we all need to work on.



MISSION!

THIS WEEK, REFLECT ON THE INFLUENCE YOU HAVE ON OTHERS IN THEIR LIVES. IS THERE ONE ASPECT OF YOUR LIFE YOU CAN CHOOSE TO FOCUS ON, TO ELEVATE, SO THAT IF SOMEONE WAS TO MODEL THEIR LIFE ON YOURS, IT WOULD HELP THEM BECOME THE BEST VERSION OF THEMSELVES, TO BECOME A GREAT SAINT? EACH EVENING REFLECT BACK ON HOW THE DAY WENT AND ASK THE LORD TO HELP YOU IN THE DAYS AHEAD.



PRAYER TIME!

THE LITANY OF HUMILITY:

Try praying the Litany of Humility, attributed to Cardinal Merry Del Val. It's definitely not easy or comfortable, but it can really help us to see where our priorities and desires lie, and how to live out service and humility in all aspects of our lives! (You can also use the two song versions below to help you!)



CREATE A PLAYLIST TO LISTEN TO AS YOU REFLECT ON INFLUENCE THIS WEEK



- The Litany of Humility (Thomas Muglia)
- The Litany of Humility (Danielle Rose)
- When it's all been said and done (Robin Mark)
- Set the World on Fire (Britt Nicole)
- I Shall Not Want (Audrey Assad)
- Humble (Audrey Assad)
- This is our God (Tomlin)
- You have shown us (Baloche)



Check out the *Paving the Way Home* Talk by Fr Patrick Cahill: "You are an Influencer"



Prideful? Here's How to Stop and Be Humble



Litany of Humility

THE LITANY OF HUMILITY IS ATTRIBUTED TO CARDINAL MERRY DEL VAL WHO WAS THE SECRETARY OF STATE TO POPE SAINT PIUS X (1903-1914)

O Jesus, meek and humble of heart,
From the desire of being esteemed,
From the desire of being loved,
From the desire of being extolled,
From the desire of being honoured,
From the desire of being praised,
From the desire of being preferred to others,
From the desire of being consulted,
From the desire of being approved,
From the fear of being humiliated,
From the fear of being despised,
From the fear of suffering rebukes,
From the fear of being calumniated,
From the fear of being forgotten,
From the fear of being ridiculed,
From the fear of being wronged,
From the fear of being suspected,

hear me.

deliver me O Jesus.

deliver me O Jesus.

deliver me O Jesus.

deliver me O Jesus.

deliver me O Jesus.

deliver me O Jesus.

deliver me O Jesus.

deliver me O Jesus.

deliver me O Jesus.

deliver me O Jesus.

deliver me O Jesus.

deliver me O Jesus.

deliver me O Jesus.

deliver me O Jesus.

deliver me O Jesus.

deliver me O Jesus.

That others may be loved more than I,

Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.

That others may be esteemed more than I,

Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.

That, in the opinion of the world,
others may increase and I may decrease,

Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.

That others may be chosen and I set aside,

Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.

That others may be praised and I go unnoticed,

Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.

That others may be preferred to me in everything,

Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.

That others may become holier than I,

provided that I may become as holy as I should,

Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.





Our Deepest Fear

Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate.
Or deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure.
It is our light, not our darkness that most frightens us.

We ask ourselves,
who am I to be brilliant, gorgeous, talented and fabulous?
Actually, who are you not to be?
You are a child of God.

Your playing small doesn't serve the world.
There is nothing enlightened about shrinking
so that other people won't feel insecure around you.
We were born to make manifest the glory of God that is within us.
It is not just in some of us: It's in everyone.
And when we let our own light shine,
we unconsciously give other people
permission to do the same.
As we are liberated from our own fear,
our presence automatically liberates others.

- Marianne Williamson -

