

Matthew 5:13-17 (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. **14** "You are the light of the world—like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden. **15** 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. **16** In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father.

Exodus 3:1-14 (NLT) - One day Moses was tending the flock of his father-in-law, Jethro, the priest of Midian. He led the flock far into the wilderness and came to Sinai, the mountain of God. **2** There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a blazing fire from the middle of a bush. Moses stared in amazement. Though the bush was engulfed in flames, it didn't burn up. **3** "This is amazing," Moses said to himself. "Why isn't that bush burning up? I must go see it."

4 When the Lord saw Moses coming to take a closer look, God called to him from the middle of the bush, "Moses! Moses!"

"Here I am!" Moses replied.

5 "Do not come any closer," the Lord warned. "Take off your sandals, for you are standing on holy ground.

6 I am the God of your father—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." When Moses heard this, he covered his face because he was afraid to look at God.

7 Then the Lord told him, "I have certainly seen the oppression of my people in Egypt. I have heard their cries of distress because of their harsh slave drivers. Yes, I am aware of their suffering. **8** So I have come down to rescue them from the power of the Egyptians and lead them out of Egypt into their own fertile and spacious land. It is a land flowing with milk and honey—the land where the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites, and Jebusites now live. **9** Look! The cry of the people of Israel has reached me, and I have seen how harshly the Egyptians abuse them. **10** Now go, for I am sending you to Pharaoh. You must lead my people Israel out of Egypt."

11 But Moses protested to God, "Who am I to appear before Pharaoh? Who am I to lead the people of Israel out of Egypt?"

12 God answered, "I will be with you. And this is your sign that I am the one who has sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you will worship God at this very mountain."

13 But Moses protested, "If I go to the people of Israel and tell them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' they will ask me, 'What is his name?' Then what should I tell them?"

14 God replied to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM. Say this to the people of Israel: I am has sent me to you."

It's not how I will change the world, but how God will change it through me.

Study Guide

This last week we started our new series we are calling Influencer, where we are taking a look at what it means to be an influence on the world around us in the way that God has called us to. We spoke about how it's not how I will change the world, but how God will change it through me. As you take a look at the people around you, can you think of any good examples of people that have allowed God to work through them to change the world?

Take a moment to read 2 Kings 5:1-19. As you read that story, are there any examples of God working through people to influence the world or change things around them?

God heals a Naaman through Elisha, and that is certainly a great example of what we are talking about, but another great example is the servant girl. She was a captive, a servant, and still stepped out to tell them that God could heal Naaman. That took a lot of bravery, but without her starting that conversation the healing may never have come. A short sentence from a captive servant is a great example to us of how God can work through us. That girl exerted great influence over whole kingdoms that day.

What are some examples you can think of that might be small ways to partner with God in sharing His influence? What are some small things you could do?

It doesn't always have to be grand. It is more about being willing in all things rather than waiting for the big moments on their own. Take some time to pray that God would give us eyes to see all the opportunities that come our way.