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Influence = "The act or power of producing an effect without apparent exertion of force or direct exercise of command."



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"Every man is a hero and an oracle to somebody, and to that person, whatever he says has an enhanced value."

—Ralph Waldo Emerson



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"If I try to use human influence strategies and tactics of how to get other people to do what I want, to work better, to be more motivated, to like me and each other—while my character is fundamentally flawed, marked by duplicity and insincerity—then, in the long run, I cannot be successful. My duplicity will breed distrust, and everything I do—even using so-called good human relations techniques—will be perceived as manipulative. It simply makes no difference how good the rhetoric is or even how good the intentions are; if there is little or no trust, there is no foundation for permanent success."—Stephen Covey



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Observations has more to do with association than position.

can be positive or negative. is gained, not given. is individual, but not equal.

Influence is the common ingredient in success and a missing element in failure.

During the third year of King Jehoiakim's reign in Judah, King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon came to Jerusalem and besieged it... ³Then the king ordered Ashpenaz, his chief of staff, to bring to the palace some of the young men of Judah's royal family and other noble families, who had been brought to Babylon as captives. ⁴"Select only strong, healthy, and good-looking young men," he said.

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"Make sure they are well versed in every branch of learning, are gifted with knowledge and good judgment, and are suited to serve in the royal palace. Train these young men in the language and literature of Babylon." ⁵The king assigned them a daily ration of food and wine from his own kitchens. They were to be trained for three years, and then they would enter the royal service.

—Daniel 1:1,3-5 NLT

⁸But Daniel was determined not to defile himself by eating the food and wine given to them by the king. He asked the chief of staff for permission not to eat these unacceptable foods. ⁹Now God had given the chief of staff both respect and affection for Daniel.—Daniel 1:8-9 NLT

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"No man ever became great by imitation." —Samuel Johnson

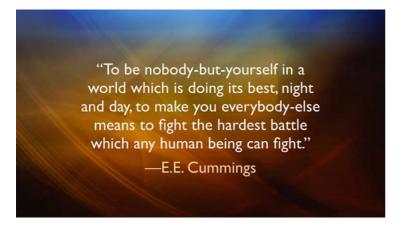
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"Daniel was a man who refused to let his circumstances influence his destiny, but rather he determined to influence others in his circumstances and change the destiny of his people."

"Don't let the world around you squeeze you into its own mold, but let God re-mold your minds from within, so that you may prove in practice that the plan of God for you is good, meets all His demands and moves towards the goal of true maturity."

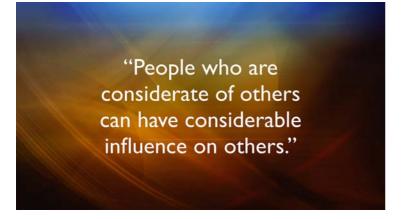
—Romans 12:2 Phillips

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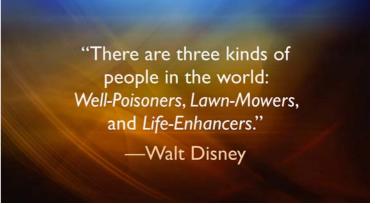
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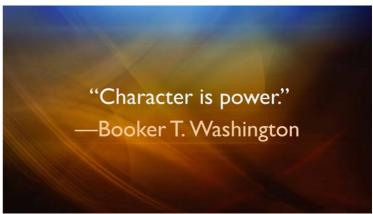
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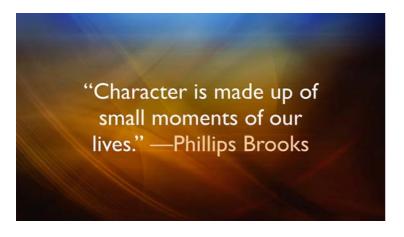


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⁴Then the other administrators and high officers began searching for some fault in the way Daniel was handling government affairs, but they couldn't find anything to criticize or condemn. He was faithful, always responsible, and completely trustworthy. ⁵So they concluded, "Our only chance of finding grounds for accusing Daniel will be in connection with the rules of his religion." —Daniel 6:4-5 NLT

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But when Daniel learned that the law had been signed, he went home and knelt down as usual in his upstairs room, with its windows open toward Jerusalem. He prayed three times a day, just as he had always done, giving thanks to his God. —Daniel 6:10 NLT

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My life shall touch a dozen lives
before this day is done,
Leave countless marks of good or ill,
e're sets the evening sun.
This, the wish I always wish,
the prayer I always pray:
"Lord, may my life help others' lives
it touches by the way."

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Discover Significance
Demonstrate Excellence
Deliver Service
Develop Influence
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