

7 WAYS TO MAKE AN *Impact for Christ*

As Christians, we especially want our lives to matter. With our life and love focused on the One who forever changed and impacted us, we want to make a difference for Christ and His Kingdom. Equally, we want the spotlight pointing in the right direction for whatever impact our lives bring. Like John the Baptist, we want to point to Jesus and say in one form or another, “This isn’t about me, this is about Him! Whatever impact my life has had, I want it to point to Jesus!”

1. LOVE... GOD

“LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND.”

–Matthew 22:37

One of the easiest ways to start making an impact is to make God your everything. Give Him full reign of your thoughts, motives, desires, hands, feet, voice, plans, wallet, relationships, recreation, conversations, work days, and schedule. By keeping God at the center of your love and daily life, you’ll keep “The Main Thing, the main thing.” With God as the source of all you say, think, and do—the world around you (and far beyond) will be impacted for God’s Kingdom.



2. LOVE... OTHERS

“AND THE SECOND IS LIKE IT: ‘LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.’”

–Matthew 22:39

Those who genuinely love God are compelled to genuinely love others. God’s love fills us to overflowing in a way that we see people as God sees them and love people as God loves them. A life of Kingdom impact calls us to see, stop, and spend time with people as the Holy Spirit leads us. This means seeing, stopping, and spending time with people you don’t know, people who may not look like you, act like you, believe or value what you do. While loving others in such a way might seem a bit scary or intimidating, it need not be. Stay up close to God and ask Him to show you the next move.



3. SHINE

“IN THE SAME WAY, LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE BEFORE OTHERS, THAT THEY MAY SEE YOUR GOOD DEEDS AND GLORIFY YOUR FATHER IN HEAVEN.”

–Matthew 5:16

Live a radiant life! “Letting your light shine” comes from having a light to shine! The light, love, and life within you can only come from one place—your up-close, intimate, and ongoing relationship with God. As you abide in Jesus, and He abides in you (John 15:5), you will impact lives (or “bear much fruit” as John, the writer, says). So, let your intimacy with God be your greatest gift to the world, and “shine like the stars!” The warmth and light that radiates from your life will put God on display and draw others to Him.



4. PRAY

“THEREFORE CONFESS YOUR SINS TO EACH OTHER AND PRAY FOR EACH OTHER SO THAT YOU MAY BE HEALED. THE PRAYER OF A RIGHTEOUS PERSON IS POWERFUL AND EFFECTIVE.”

–James 5:16

Those who have been used by God in the most impactful ways throughout history have been people of ongoing, fervent prayer. They never saw prayer as part of the work, something to be added in or tagged on. Your prayers don’t need to be elaborate, only sincere. Fill your days with an ongoing conversation with God, and watch what happens as God leads, empowers, encourages, delights, grows, inspires, and employs you!



5. LABOR

“DO EVERYTHING IN LOVE.” **–I Corinthians 16:14**

Kingdom Laborers get things done! Kingdom impact requires a willing heart, and also, some moving feet. Acts 10:38 tells us that Jesus “went around doing good and healing...” (emphasis added on doing). The words we will long to hear that day when we see Jesus face to face are not “well contemplated” or “well understood” or “well intended,” but “well done!” Getting things done is the goal. How you get things done is up to you and Jesus!

Be assured, Jesus is an equal opportunity employer, and He will use all the ways He’s uniquely made and gifted you for His Kingdom’s sake.



6. MULTIPLY

“THEREFORE, GO MAKE DISCIPLES...” **–Matthew 28:19**

The Apostle Paul instructs us in 2 Timothy 2:2 to “... entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others.” Baton-pass everything you can, all the “spiritual wealth” you’ve received. Ask Jesus to point you to someone you can encourage, pray for, spur on, and train up as a multiplying Kingdom Laborer. Imagine what kind of impact you’ll have as one disciple becomes two, two become four, four become eight, and the number of multiplying disciples just keeps on doubling. Your impact will not only add to God’s Kingdom, but it will also multiply it!



7. ENCOURAGE

“THEREFORE ENCOURAGE ONE ANOTHER AND BUILD EACH OTHER UP, JUST AS IN FACT YOU ARE DOING.”

–I Thessalonians 5:11

High-impact people give high-impact encouragement. Consider where you are in your own spiritual journey. There’s a good chance you’ve made it as far as you have because someone saw what God was up to in your life and encouraged and believed in you. They knew how love is spelled, T-I-M-E, and loved you by cheering you on, praying with and for you, letting you know what God sees in you, and high-fiving you every step of the way as you mature as a Kingdom Laborer. So, express encouragement and high belief in others, and watch them, and God’s Kingdom, grow!

