



Open with prayer.

### Let's Connect

Every week we want to begin by asking two questions. It's helpful if everyone answers these questions.

1. What gave you life this week?
2. What drained you this week?

### INTRODUCTION

We all make decisions based on the influence(s) we are experiencing or that we have experienced. These influences come in many shapes and sizes, like the job we have or want, the family unit we are part of or our friendship groups and/or romantic relationships that we are part of. All of these are powerful influences in our lives and can have a subtle or very direct way of influencing how we think and live. Jesus teaches us that there is a way to expose the negative influences in our lives and help us be end goal minded.

### READ

"I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do." Romans 7:15 (NIV)

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Describe one of the best decisions you've made in the recent past.
2. Describe one of the worst, "*What was I thinking?!*" decisions you've made in the recent past. How would your life look if you had decided differently?
3. Why do most people make decisions that are based on feelings or experiences rather than healthy outcomes or end goals? How has making decisions in either of these categories affected you personally?
4. Read Romans 7:7-25. Paul makes an honest assessment of the human condition. How have you experienced doing what you know you should not do?
5. How could being honest with ourselves be both liberating *and* terrifying?
6. What can you do to remind yourself to examine what is influencing you?

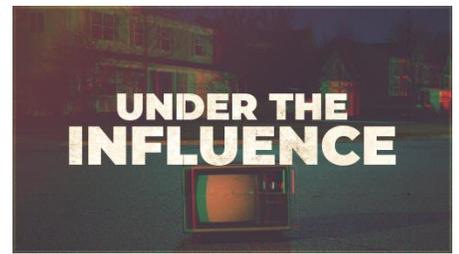




## Under The Influence

Paul Morgun

September 13, 2020



### THINK ABOUT IT

Having an honest conversation with yourself could be one of the most helpful things you do as you figure out *Why You Do What You Do*.

### WHAT WILL YOU DO?

Before you make your next big decision, have that honest conversation with yourself and ask, "*What am I really doing this for?*"

### CHANGING YOUR MIND

"Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death. For what the law was powerless to do because it was weakened by the flesh, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in the flesh, in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the flesh but according to the Spirit." – Romans 8:1-4 NIV

