

January 14, 2024 - Influence: 3 Ways to Protect from Negative Influence

Feel free to pick and choose some of the questions below to engage with as a group.

Before you leave, be sure to spend some time going over the **Top 3** things your group members need to know.

Connect:

Talk about a time that you were negatively influenced by someone else?
What about a time that you were a negative influence on someone else?

Engage:

Read Acts 20:28-32

Robert shared 3 ways to protect your faith from negative influence:

- 1. Be on Guard**
- 2. Shepherd Others in the Faith**
- 3. Entrust Them to Him**

Robert pointed us to the nature of the global Church that meets in hard places. Often, they treasure the local Church more than we do.

When is a time you have been guilty of not valuing the Church like you should?
What did God use to remind you of the importance of the Church?

We need to be on guard with our personal time with God and our point of vulnerability.
How are you doing at guarding these two? Where do you need improvement? Where do you need help?

“You can’t guard the flock if you aren’t guarding yourself.”

Who are some people in your life that you should be keeping watch over?

What do you need to start doing, adjust, or get rid of to better keep watch over those people?

Read Genesis 2:15 & 3:1

Robert outlined 3 ways that people can distort God’s truth. People distort shame, love, and faith.
Looking around the world, which of these three distorted views of God do you see the most?
Which of these ways we twist the truth about God are you the most guilty of falling into?

Apply:

Robert challenged us to think about the global Church. Have you considered going on a Mission Trip in 2024?

We have trips this summer going to Mexico with Matamoros Children’s Home, Polo Dominican Republic with HMM, and Lesotho (Southern Africa) with Reclaimed Project.

You can find learn more about these trips at fondrenchurch.com.

Our last point was “Entrust Them to Him”.

Take some time to share with the group a person that you’ve had a difficult time trusting God to change. Share your experience and take some time to pray for the people mentioned in your group. Commit to praying for these people consistently over the next several weeks of your group.

Top 3:

Membership Class | Wednesday, February 21 at 6pm

Membership is a way for our church leadership and church members to make promises to one another as we seek God's best for Fondren Church together. The first step in becoming a member is to attend a membership class. In the class, you'll learn more about the history of our church, our leadership structures, and the ways we promise to care for you as a church member. You can sign up and get more information at fondrenchurch.com/events.

Serve Day | Saturday, February 24

Serve Day is a day when people from Fondren Church serve alongside ministries all over the Jackson-Metro. We have ways for people of all ages and abilities to make a difference together. Check out the sign-up form at fondrenchurch.com/events to view the options to serve our community together and choose what best suits you or your group.

Marriage Workshop "How to Childproof Your Marriage" | Wednesday, February 28

In "How to Child Proof Your Marriage", Laura McAlpin and Raymond Kennedy, a Fondren Church Elder and professional counselor, will lead us through a night to strengthen marriages in every stage of parenting. Couples will receive encouragement, practical tips, and helpful resources to grow the strength of their marriage even in the midst of a demanding season. You can find more information when registration opens later this week on fondrenchurch.com/events.