

A.M. OUTLINE  
10/22/2023

## INFLUENCE, AS IN LEAVEN

**INTRODUCTION** - (Luke 13:20-21) "And again He said, To what shall I liken the kingdom of God? **It is like leaven**, which a woman took and hid in three measures of meal till it was all leavened."

(1 Corinthians 5:6) "Do you not know that **a little leaven leavens the whole lump?**"

(Luke 12:1) "... **Beware** of the leaven of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy."

**W.E. Vine:** "Leaven, sour dough, in a high state of fermentation, was used in general in making bread. It required time to fulfill the process. When food was required at short notice, unleavened cakes were used."

**Merriam-Webster:** "A substance (as yeast) used to produce fermentation (as in dough); something that modifies or lightens; to raise (dough) with a leaven; to permeate with a modifying or vivifying element."

**Wendell Winkler:** "In this parable Jesus uses leaven as a symbol of the wholesome influence of His kingdom, the church."

**We, as leaven,** are to influence others in **Christian living** and in **preaching** the word of God.

### 1. **LEAVEN WILL INFLUENCE** - it's leaven!

You and I are to be a Christian influence in our world.  
(Romans 12:1-2) "And do not be conformed to this world"

### 2. **LEAVEN HAS TO BE MIXED WITH THE SUBSTANCE THAT'S TO BE LEAVENED**

(John 17:15) "I do not pray that You should take them out of the world" and Jesus prayed, (v20) "for those who will believe in Me through their word"  
(Matthew 28:18-20 and Mark 16:15-16) "Go into all the world"

### 3. **A "LITTLE" LEAVEN LEAVENS**

(1 Corinthians 12:21-22) "those members of the body which seem to be weaker are necessary." - all the body members are needed to work together.  
(1 Corinthians 3:6-8) "I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase."

### 4. **LEAVEN WORKS SLOWLY AND PERSISTENTLY:** (Galatians 6:9)

### 5. **LEAVEN DOES NOT CALL ATTENTION TO ITSELF:** (Matthew 5:16)

### 6. **LEAVEN (INFLUENCE) COMES WITH A WARNING:** don't do this!

(Luke 12:1) "Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy."  
(Matthew 23:1-39) The whole chapter is Jesus' rebuke of the Pharisees' hypocrisy.  
"Woe" is used 8 times: (v13, 14, 15, 16, 23, 25, 27, and v29)