

**How can I provide  
a positive  
influence?**

**Peer Pressure: “Social pressure by members of one's peer group to take a certain action, adopt certain values, or otherwise conform in order to be accepted.”**

# How can I provide a positive influence?

- Be careful in picking your friends:
  - Prov. 12:26; II Cor. 6:14; I Cor. 15:33
    - Do not choose friends that will have an uneven influence on you
    - Friend vs. acquaintance

# How can I provide a positive influence?

- Understand that a balance must be maintained:
  - 1 Cor. 5:9-13 – We are in the world; we will be around sinning people
  - James 4:4-5 – We must not become influenced by (friends with) the world

# **How can I provide a positive influence?**

- **How can I provide a positive influence while not being affected by negative influence?**
  - **Don't laugh at vulgar/profane jokes**
  - **Don't approve of sin by being silent**
  - **Mention church, the Bible, and God in your conversations...routinely**
  - **Make sure your friends know what you believe – be consistent in example**
  - **Don't let non-acceptance bother you**

# How can I provide a positive influence?

- Understand that consistency and integrity are crucial:
  - Titus 2:7-8
- Understand that some “friends” may not respond well to positive influences:
  - John 3:19-21; I Pet. 4:1-6

**Be wise!**

**Be aware!**

**How can I provide  
a positive  
influence?**

**Be consistent!**

**Be patient!**