

## Influencer Part 4: Meaning In Life

*“Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore **go and make disciples** of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”” Matthew 28:16-20 NIV*

Evangelism is **sharing with others** what God has done for me.

**63% of Americans identify as Christian. 78% in 2007.**

**47% of Americans are members of a house of worship. 70% in 2000.**

**57% think at least monthly about how they can find more meaning and purpose.**

*““Everything is meaningless,” says the Teacher, “completely meaningless!” ...Everything is wearisome beyond description. No matter how much we see, we are never satisfied. No matter how much we hear, we are not content... I soon discovered that God has dealt a tragic existence to the human race. I observed everything going on under the sun, and really, it is all meaningless—like chasing the wind.” Ecclesiastes 1:2, 8, 13-14 NLT*

*“I said to myself, “Come on, let’s try pleasure. Let’s look for the ‘good things’ in life.” But I found that this, too, was meaningless... I also tried to find meaning by building huge homes for myself and by planting beautiful vineyards... Anything I wanted, I would take. I denied myself no pleasure... But as I looked at everything I had worked so hard to accomplish, it was all so meaningless—like chasing the wind.” Ecclesiastes 2:1, 4, 9-11 NLT*

*“Yet God has made everything beautiful for its own time. **He has planted eternity in the human heart**, but even so, people cannot see the whole scope of God’s work from beginning to end.” Ecclesiastes 3:11 NLT*

Life is meaningless **without God**.

We discover true meaning in life when we **stop chasing the wind** and instead **focus on God**.

Our meaning: we are helping those who are far from God **find a life-giving relationship** with Jesus Christ.

*“You will be My **witnesses** in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” Acts 1:8 NIV*

## 1. See the need.

*"Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness. **When he saw the crowds**, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd." Matthew 9:35-36 NIV*

*"How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"" Romans 10:14-15 NIV*

The Engel Scale

*"My work was to **plant the seed** in your hearts, and Apollos' work was to **water** it, but it was God, not we, who made the garden **grow** in your hearts." 1 Corinthians 3:6 LB*

## 2. Seek God.

*"Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. **Ask the Lord of the harvest**, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field." Matthew 9:37-38 NIV*

## 3. Show you care.

*"As Jesus was passing through Jericho, a man named Zacchaeus, one of the most influential Jews in the Roman tax-collecting business (and, of course, a very rich man), tried to get a look at Jesus, but he was too short to see over the crowds. So he ran ahead and climbed into a sycamore tree beside the road, to watch from there. When Jesus came by, he looked up at Zacchaeus and called him by name! "Zacchaeus!" he said. "Quick! Come down! For I am going to be a guest in your home today!" Zacchaeus hurriedly climbed down and took Jesus to his house in great excitement and joy. But the crowds were displeased. "He has gone to be the guest of a notorious sinner," they grumbled. Meanwhile, Zacchaeus stood before the Lord and said, "Sir, from now on I will give half my wealth to the poor, and if I find I have overcharged anyone on his taxes, I will penalize myself by giving him back four times as much!" Jesus told him, "This shows that salvation has come to this home today. This man was one of the lost sons of Abraham, and I, the Messiah, have come to search for and to save such souls as his." Luke 19:1-10 TLB*

## 4. Share your faith.

*"Jesus said to His followers, "Go **everywhere** in the world, and tell the Good News to **everyone**." Mark 16:15 NCV*

*"The **most important thing** is that I **complete my mission**, the work that the Lord Jesus gave me - to tell people the Good News about God's grace." Acts 20:24 NCV*