

# BIOGRAPHICAL DEVOTIONAL

Book Used: *Dream Big* by Earl Roe

TITLE: Influence Is a By-Product of Intimacy

"This availability to the Lord for new instructions or strengthening of other thoughts gave her a spiritual authority for which her teaching became known" (p. 125).

## SCRIPTURE

"Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, accurately handling the word of truth." (2Tim 2:15)

## OBSERVATION

Henrietta was a diligent student of the Word from birth to death. Even at an early age she loved to listen to the book of Romans read by her mother. She saw the Word of God as fresh manna, that there was something new to learn about the Lord each day. In a sense, she needed to be humble in order to receive daily instructions from the Lord rather than thinking she knew everything the Bible had to say. This humility towards God gave her authority over God's people. Effective leaders value spiritual authority as a primary power base.

If I could talk to Henrietta Mears, this is what I would imagine she would say to me:

"Gary, never compromise your time with the Lord. Go to sleep early so you can wake up early so you can spend the best part of your day with Him. As you pray, listen to the Holy Spirit. As you read the Bible, sense what the Holy Spirit is saying to you. It is from this quiet time with Him, your life will speak loudly."

## APPLICATION

Influence is a by-product of intimacy. The goal isn't influence, the goal is intimacy. I need to diligently pursue God. The more time I spend with Him, the more I get to know Him. I cannot stand up and teach God's Word if I haven't spent time with Him and Him.

## PRAYER

"Father, I never want to take for granted the leadership influence you have given to me to steward. Cause me to steward this authority well. My desire is to pursue you not only on a daily basis, but on a moment-by-moment basis."