



*Written by  
Cora Alley*

## “The Influence of One”

**Scripture:** Isaiah 6:8

*“Then I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, ‘Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?’  
Then I said, ‘Here am I, Send me!’ “*

**Dramatic Category:** Skermon (*The pastor plays a narrative role.*)

**Topic:** The impact of one life lived for Christ

**Performance Time:** 4 minutes (*excluding sermon commentary between scenes*)

**Number of Players:** 18 players (*8 men, 10 women*)

**Objective:**

To show the boundless impact of one life wholly surrendered to Christ’s highest call.

**Synopsis:**

This “Skermon” tells the stories of three modern giants of the Christian faith: Henrietta Mears, Bill Bright, and Josh McDowell. Each one, through obedience to the “call of God,” profoundly influenced the next one.

Scene 1: Henrietta Mears encourages a group of young men and women to “be definite” in their plans for reaching the lost as she preaches to her college class in 1947 at The First Presbyterian Church of Hollywood.

Sermon, Part 1: During the freeze of the players, the pastor comments on the life of Henrietta Mears and the astounding influence she had on Christian leaders.

Scene 2: Bill Bright, one of the college students listening to Henrietta Mears, breaks the freeze and walks into another playing space. The scene begins as he encourages the group with a new idea he has for an organization called “Campus Crusade For Christ.” He will introduce the gospel with a new tract he has written called “The Four Spiritual Laws.” He hands one tract to each member of the group.

Sermon, Part 2: During this freeze the pastor comments on the worldwide impact of Campus Crusade for Christ, the timeless message of “The Four Spiritual Laws.”

Scene 3: Each member of the group from Scene 2 enters a new group of college-aged men and women. The groups of players come to life as the leaders, who entered the group, share their copy of “The Four Spiritual Laws.”

Sermon, Part 3: During the freeze, the pastor comments on the amazing minds that encountered Campus Crusade for Christ over the years, particularly Josh McDowell.

The players leave the stage and the sermon continues on the importance of discovering your unique ministry and being obedient to the leading of God to influence others through it.

**Cast:**

*(Scene 1)*

Henrietta Mears, one woman, 3 men.

*(Scene 2)*

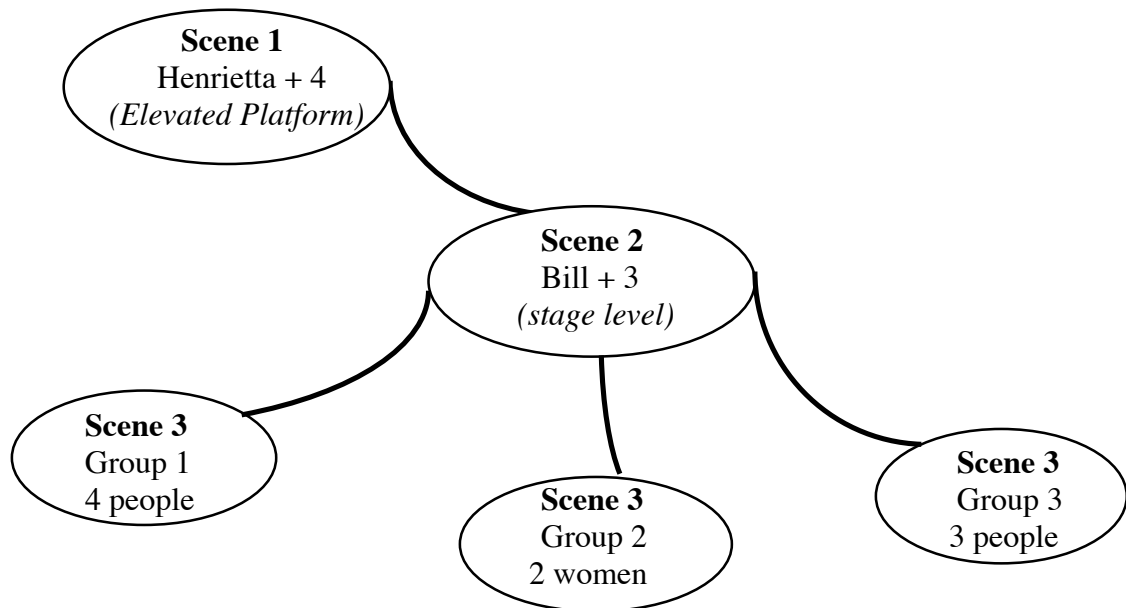
Bill Bright, one man, two women,

*(Scene 3)*

The four from Scene 2 plus

Group 1: 2 men, 2 women    Group 2: 2 women    Group 3: 1 man, 2 women

**Stage Configuration:**



## Sound Requirements:

- 1 wireless for Henrietta
- 1 wireless for Bill Bright
- 1 PZM (area mic) for Scene 2

## Lighting Requirements:

- Isolate light pools to highlight scenes 1 and 2
- Use stair lighting for Scene 3

## Costume Note:

- Dress scene I in 1945 period costumes, especially the slanted narrow hat with the flower on it for Henrietta Mears.
- Scene 2 takes place in the 1970's; Scene 3 is contemporary.

## Music Suggestion:

- Sing "Take My Life And Let It Be," as an intro, then play instrumental between scenes, and as a segue between the pastor's comments.

## Script:

**MUSIC CUE: Vocals: "Take My Life and Let It Be"**

**SCREEN: 1947 Hollywood Presbyterian Church**

**LIGHT CUE: UP ON SCENE 1**

### Scene 1:

*(Henrietta Mears encourages a group of young men and women to "be definite" in their plans for reaching the lost as she preaches to her college class in 1947 at The First Presbyterian Church of Hollywood. Three men and one woman are seated taking notes as a very animated, enthusiastic Henrietta speaks to them:)*

**Henrietta:** (The following speech is taken from:  
"Qualifications For Leadership," *Dream Big: The Henrietta Mears Story*.  
Regal Books, Ventura, CA. 1990. pg. 365.)

"Be definite. Many people are afraid to decide something because they may be wrong. Don't let this fear slow you down. It is better to decide and to be wrong, than to make no decision at all.

Have a burning desire. 'He shall give thee the desire of thine heart' (Ps. 37:4). Set your desire on God. A leader must be consumed with a desire to achieve his purpose, and purpose and decision must be motivated by spiritual ambition. There is energy in such desire. What do you really long for as a Christian Leader?

Have unwavering courage. ‘Be strong and of good courage’ (Josh. 1:6). No follower wishes to be dominated by a leader who lacks self-confidence and courage. This Christ-centered courage must conquer fears of failure.

Have definite plans. Plans must be sound. Think, do not guess. Wrote out your plans. Cut your program into workable units so others can carry out your plans.

**Freeze Scene I: *Henrietta and the players freeze. The pastor comments:***

**Pastor:**

1. *on the life of Henrietta Mears and the astounding influence she had on Christian leaders such as Billy Graham and Bill Bright.*
2. *“Forest Home Conference Center” came as a result of her desire to help people focus their spirits on God.*
3. *“Gospel Light Publishing” was born out of her passion to publish good, solid Bible teaching materials.*
4. *Her book, What the Bible Is All About is still a popular Bible study tool.*

**LIGHTS OUT ON SCENE 1**

**MUSIC CUE: Instrumental Segue of “Take My Life And Let It Be”**

**SCREEN: 1951 Campus Crusade For Christ**

**LIGHT CUE:LIGHTS UP ON SCENE 2**

**Scene 2:**

*( Bill Bright, one of the college students listening to Henrietta Mears, breaks the freeze and walks into another playing space. The scene begins as he encourages the group with a new idea.)*

**Bill:** God has given me a “burning desire,” and a “definite plan.”  
It’s called Campus Crusade For Christ.  
God wants us to change the world, one college-student at a time!

He wants to tomorrow’s leaders, today.....  
They are in colleges and universities all over the world, and we’re going to reach them. *(He gathers this people around him.)*  
Listen, I’ve developed a plan.....  
We will teach everyone how to use this simple tool:  
It is called “The Four Spiritual Laws.”  
Law one: “God loves you and has a wonderful plan for your life.”

**Freeze II: Bill and the players freeze. The pastor comments.**

**Pastor:**

1. *on the world-wide impact of Campus Crusade for Christ*
2. *the timeless message of “The Four Spiritual Laws”*
3. *the purchase of “Arrowhead Springs” as a Christian Conference Center*
4. *the establishment of “Here’s Life” Publishing Co.*

**LIGHTS OUT ON SCENE 2**

**MUSIC CUE: Instrumental Segue of “Take My Life And Let It Be”**

**SCREEN: 1965 College Campus**

**LIGHT CUE:LIGHTS UP ON SCENE 3 (Stairs)**

**Scene 3:**

*(Each member of the group from Scene 2 enters a new group of college-aged men and women. The groups of players come to life as the leaders, who entered the group, share their copy of “The Four Spiritual Laws.”)*

**MUSIC CUE: Vocals of the first verse of “Take My Life and Let it Be”  
Serves as the background for the sharing of the “Laws.”**

**Freeze III: All three groups freeze at a given music cue. The pastor comments:**

**Pastor:**

1. *on the amazing minds that encountered Campus Crusade for Christ over the years.*
2. *He approaches one man who is frozen and listening to the leader share “The Laws,” and says,*

**Pastor:** *This young man’s name is Josh McDowell, who became a traveling representative for Campus Crusade for Christ and wrote two best-sellers called, Evidence That Demands A Verdict and More Evidence That Demands a Verdict. By 1972 this man had traveled to more than 500 universities in 52 countries and spoken to more than 3 1/2 million students and faculty.”*

**MUSIC CUE: Instrumental of “Take My Life and Let It Be”**

*(The players leave the stage.)*

**LIGHT CUE: LIGHTS OUT ON STAIRS. SERMON LIGHT UP**

*(The sermon continues on the importance of discovering your unique ministry and being obedient to the leading of God to influence others through it.)*