

# 7 Godly Habits of Highly Effective Young People

*Santosh David Poonen*

*Fulfilling God's Purpose – Session I  
(River of Life Bible School 2007)*

# A Mouthful of a Title!

## 7 Godly Habits of Effective Young People

Definitions:

- godly : pertaining to Divine Nature – our supreme calling
- habits : “patterns of behavior acquired by frequent repetition”
- effective : producing the desired effect
- young people : energy and vigor; have so much potential!

# God's Address – YOU!

## Areas of Influence:

**1: Authority**

**2: Spirit**

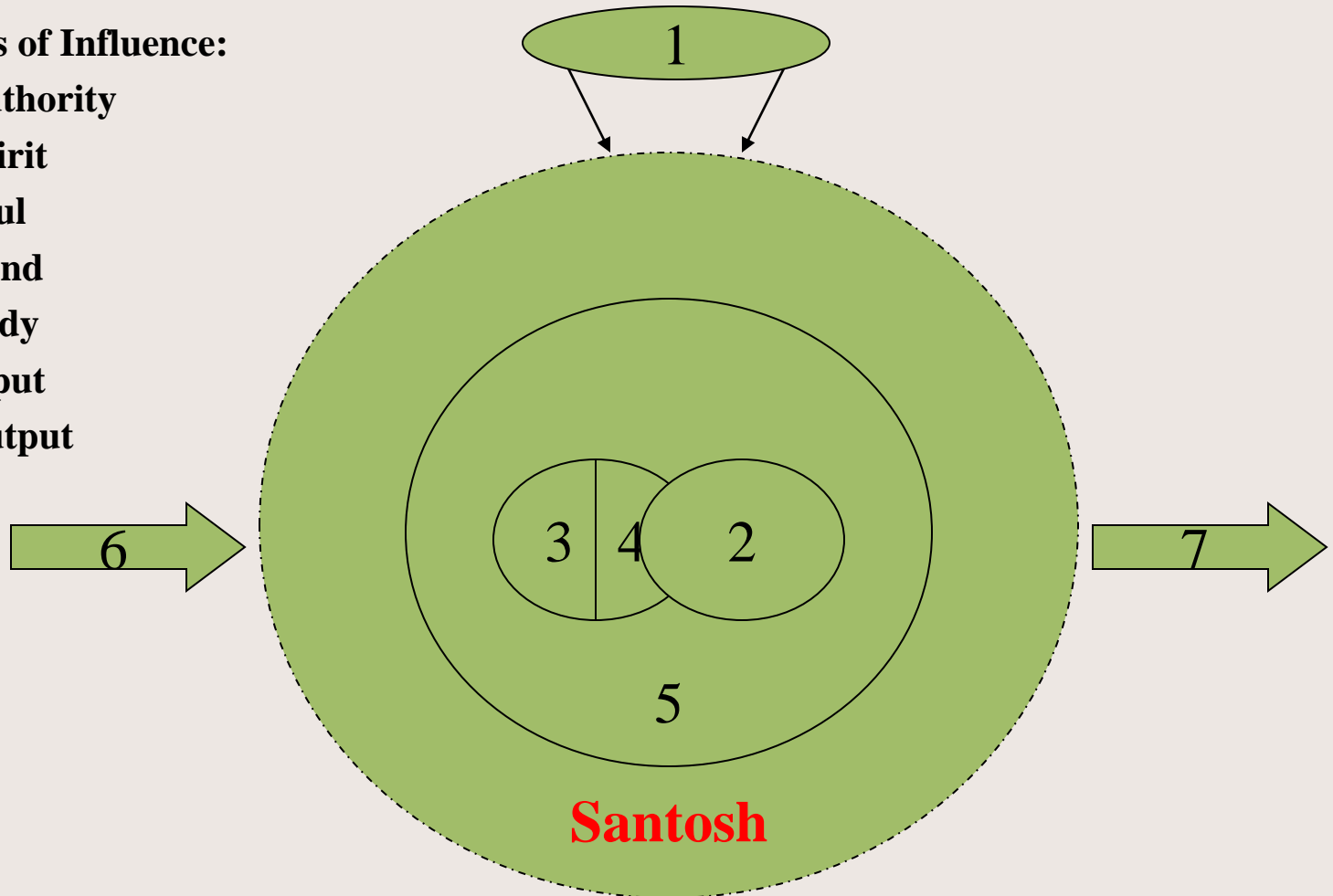
**3: Soul**

**4: Mind**

**5: Body**

**6: Input**

**7: Output**



# 7 Areas of Influence

---

1. Authority
2. Spirit
3. Soul
4. Mind
5. Body
6. Input
7. Output

- Matthew 22:37: your love for God must issue from your **heart**, **soul**, and **mind**
- I Thessalonians 5:23-24 – may your **spirit**, **soul**, and **body** be preserved **complete** and **blameless** until Jesus' return

# Habit #1

They **are teachable** (Proverbs 3:1-2, 4:20-22)

- James 1:19: slow to **speak**, *quick* to **listen**
- I Peter 2:13: learn to **submit to authority**
- Hebrews 5:8-9: Jesus Himself showed that a **godly leader must first learn submission**
- God is testing you to see how you respond to authority while you are young

# Habit #2

They **preserve their spirits**

- **in humility** (I Peter 3:8-9)

- Isaiah 66:2: **the humble** are more valuable to God than anything else in Creation
- I Peter 5:5: “**clothe**” yourself with humility
- Philippians 2:3-4: practically: think of **others** first

- **in honesty**

- Psalm 15:1-2: person whom God **invites into His home**
- Luke 8:15: type of soil that **receives God’s Word**
- it takes **no time at all** to start being honest
- practically: seek to be **yourself, free from pretensions**

# Habit #3

They **guard their souls** (Proverbs 4:23)

- our emotions are **not necessarily** bad
  - brotherly love between David & Jonathan (I Samuel 18)
  - romantic love (Song of Solomon)
  - deep grief in Jesus (John 11:35)
  - source of expression of praise to God (Psalm 30:12) and our need of Him (Psalm 42:1-2)
- I Peter 2:11: Satan tries to sway us through **the soul**
- Deuteronomy 4:9: results in **forgetting God's Word**
- Hebrews 6:13-19: **anchor** for the soul – God's promise by oath
- Psalm 23:3: if you sway, allow the Lord to **restore your soul**
- Lamentations 3:24: let God be **the portion of ("fill")** your soul

# Habit #4

They **feed their minds**

- **fill** your mind with (Philippians 4:8 TLB) these thoughts, and empty it of (II Corinthians 10:5) these
- (Psalm 119:11) **meditate** on God's Word to be free from sin
- **write** in a journal frequently, so that you don't forget
- I Corinthians 10:31: **apply** your mind in *all* you do

# Habit #5

They **discipline their bodies** (I Corinthians 9:27 TLB)

- (Mathew 6:22-24): if **eye** is clean, whole body is clean
- **tongue**:
  - ship's rudder: fire of **Holy Spirit** (Acts 2:3-4) or of **hell** (James 3:6)
  - (Proverbs 18:7, 21:23) **guardian** of soul
  - (Psalm 12:6) **refine** what you say many times before saying it
  - (Matthew 15:17-18) indicates the **condition** of the heart
  - (Matthew 12:36-37) every **careless word** will have to be accounted
- (Revelations 2 & 3) “He who has an **ear**, let him hear what the **Spirit** says.”
- **belly**:
  - (Philippians 3:18-19) don't get carried away **too much with food**
  - (Matthew 6:16-18) periodic **fasting** is good

# Habit #6

## They value God's gifts

- time:
  - only **2.2 billion seconds** in an average lifetime!
  - **redeem** the time, that most valuable of all of Gods gifts
  - (I Peter 5:6) **wait** for God's time – for marriage, ministry, etc.
- money:
  - (Hebrews 11:16) live as an **alien** on earth, so God is **unashamed**
  - (Luke 16:10-13) be **faithful** (**righteous**, and **careful**) with money

# Habit #7

**They are bold witnesses**

- to **the Devil**:
  - (Revelation 12:11) overcame him by **the word of their testimony**
- to **unbelievers**:
  - (I Peter 3:15) always be **ready** to make a **gentle**, **reverent** defense
- to **fellow-believers**:
  - II Timothy 4:2 (TLB) – always be ready to **encourage others**

# If all this sounds impossible...

- it's because it is!!
- but... 2 conditions:
  1. faith (Mark 9:23)
    - ♦ (Hebrews 12:1-3) so, fix your eyes on Jesus our Example; what God did for Jesus, He will do for you
  2. power (Mark 10:27)
    - ♦ (John 14:16) so, seek for a continual filling and empowerment of the Holy Spirit
- (Philippians 2:13) God promises both the desire and the ability
- knocking out the “T”:
  - (Matthew 13:58) **CAN'T** be done
  - (Matthew 15:28) **CAN** be done