

## **Unearned Influence**

### **Ready:**

*“Then a poor widow came and dropped in two tiny coins worth very little. Summoning his disciples, he said to them, ‘Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. For they all gave out of their surplus, but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had—all she had to live on.’” – Mark 12:42-44*

### **Set**

The day after my daughter learned she made the golf team, she asked me to take her to the driving range. Through hook after hook after hook, her driver wasn’t cooperating. I had her address the ball as she usually would, relax her grip, turn the club head barely 1/16 of an inch, re-grip, and swing. Her drive went right down the middle. “Hit another one.” Right down the middle. For some reason, I can’t coach myself to hit them like that, but I was able to help her!

I remember watching Tiger Woods on TV on the driving range before the third round of the 1997 Masters. Watching every swing closely from nearby were two coaches who helped Tiger make the adjustments he needed to continue to dominate the tournament and take home the coveted Green Jacket.

As I watched, it struck me: here is a young man who is becoming the greatest golfer of his generation, and he has coaches who haven’t accomplished anything near what he has and can’t compete anywhere near his level. Yet their coaching helped Tiger get to where he needed to be to win.

Sometimes coaches get players to where they want to be because they’ve been there before. But far more often in sports – and life – coaches are people who maybe haven’t been there but still have valuable experience and information to help athletes get where they want to be.

### **Go**

1. Whom have you earned the right to speak into with the Gospel?
2. How could you train up someone you know well in the way of a relationship with Jesus Christ?

### **Workout**

Luke 16: 19-31; Acts 8:26-39

### **Overtime**

“Dear Lord, I know You have called me to share the good news about You. Help me

overcome all my fears and excuses to reach those You've placed in my path. Amen."



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