HeartMatters
DIGITAL MEDIA SAFETY PROGRAMS

Discussion Guide for Truth in Love, Episode 1

Questions

- What are some of your favorite activities to do during the summer?
- Have you ever been on a mission trip or visited another country before?
  - If so, where did you visit?
  - What did you learn from the trip?
- What's your favorite video game?
  - Do you usually play solo or multiplayer games?
- Think about your friend group and your closest friends. How did you first meet them?
  - How did you become friends with them?

- Everyone has been the new kid before at some point. What can you do to make new people at your church, school, etc. feel welcome?
- Why do you think Carson is nervous about going to church and youth group?

Comments

Courtney mentioned that she wants Zane's video game playing to be in moderation and, if it's a multiplayer game, not to play with strangers. Eye strain and addiction can come from playing games too much. Playing outside and "touching grass" more than being on a screen is much better for people's health and can be more fun than a fantasy world. Maybe you can try something new this week that doesn't involve screens. Zane and Carson tried skateboarding. What are some new activities or sports that you're interested in trying?

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Playing with strangers online can be dangerous, as many predators are found on places like Roblox and other popular game platforms. Predators try to get personal information, have inappropriate relationships, and even worse. Many of them pretend to be a kid to form relationships with young gamers. If a stranger tries to get you to do things with them outside of the game (like moving to Discord) or ask for personal information or photos, that's a red flag. Report and block them. Seek God for wisdom to help you stay safe online and offline (Ephesians 5:15–17, James 1:5).

Zane didn't think about inviting Carson to church until Matthew suggested it. Christians should have a desire to see lost souls saved. We should do what we can to lead them to Jesus (Romans 1:16, Mark 16:15, Romans 10:14-15). Think about the people you see every day at school or work. This week, try to find an opportunity to invite one person to your church. Pray for God to help you tell someone about Jesus. You never know. God may have put that person in your life to help them make it to Heaven.

Zane was having a hard time not having his normal friend group around. Carson was dealing with having to move to a new place. Change is a part of life (Ecclesiastes 3:1). It can often be uncomfortable or even painful. However, change can often lead to better things (Isaiah 43:19). In the life of a Christian, anything can be used by God to bring about good (Romans 8:28). If everything around you seems chaotic and always changing, remember that Jesus is always the same (Hebrews 13:8, Malachi 3:6). God is the only true constant in this world.