Identifying the dangers behind technology

Have you considered all the ways technology is a threat to your spiritual life?

Please stop to ponder this danger: Today's technology is <u>instant access</u> to all kinds of sins! Here are 11 sins to flee

1. **Pride**: James 4:4–6 - Technology can be used to fuel our greatest enemy within. We can hop online and are given an instant platform to speak without having proven character.
2. **Idolatry**: Ps 119:9–11 - Have you considered your use of technology in light of Psalm 119?
3. **Profanity**: Eph 4:29 - Do you post things online that you would be ashamed of saying Sunday morning at church?
4. **Workaholic**: Luke 12:16–21 - Do you spend your time using technology to build up something that could be gone instantly and has little to no eternal value?
5. **Authority & Submission**: Rom 13:1–2 - Children: Do you go to places online or download apps you know your parents have forbid you to go/use? Adults: Do you vent your frustrations online when things don't go your way?
6. **Anger & Murder**: Matt 5:21–24 - You don't physically have to kill someone to be a murderer. Hatred kills!
7. **Lust**: 1 Thess 4:1–8; Matt 5:27–28 - This is the seedbed of adultery. If you are looking at pornography as a Christian, there is NO ACCEPTABLE WAY in which God views this as ok.
8. **Stealing**: Eph 4:28 – Taking what you have not earned or have a legitimate claim to
9. **Lying**: Eph 4:25 - Do you present something about yourself that is not the complete picture?
10. **Lack of contentment**: 1 Cor 6:9–11 - Where are you discontent in your life? Ask yourself how is my use of technology fueling that discontentment and causing me to run from Christ?
11. **Laziness**: Prov 6:9–11 - Do you want everything handed to you or are unwilling to do anything about it yourself?

12 areas to consider about the character of your life as you interact with technology

1. **Witness/Evangelism**: When's the last time you fully/boldly shared the gospel online? And followed up on it?
2. **Responsibility**: Why do you want to quickly put yourself under the influence of the world?
3. **Popularity** – Do you seek recognition, honor, or approval from men?
4. **Shepherding** – Do you carefully tend to and care for God's sheep?
5. **Influence** – Do you notice the world is trying to change your thinking about everything God stands for?
6. **Warfare** – Which ways do you guard yourself from the world, and your own sins, when you use technology?
7. **Wasted time** – Have you thought about how much time your technology is consuming from your life?
8. **Finances** – Are you wisely using the resources God has allow you to have?
9. **Accountability** – You think you can hide online but God will hold you accountable for everything you do
10. **Distrust in God's sovereignty** – How do you respond when your technology breaks?
11. **Honesty**: Is your new life in Christ reflected in your use of technology?
12. **Integrity** – Is what you do online consistent through every aspect of your life?

7 ways to slow down the onslaught and get back on track with God without having to shed all your technology

1. **Trust in God's Word**: The principles for all that I need to live a God honoring life are in scripture (1 Tim 3:16–17)
2. **Repent of your sins**: As sins are revealed, seek God's forgiveness as you turn from them (1 John 1:9)
3. **Guard your thoughts** – Put up a biblical filter to sift out worldliness and sinful beliefs (Phil 4:8-9)
4. **Walk in obedience** – One of the greatest witnesses to ourselves and the world is to obey God (1 John 2:3-6)
5. **Find accountability** – God's design for the church is the inspired model for maturing (Eph 4:11–16)
6. **Stay on guard** – Resist the schemes of the devil and stand firm (Eph 6:10–19)
7. **Strive to Glorify Christ** – Pray for wisdom, trust God's sovereignty, and live to honor God (1 Cor 10:31)