

## Following Christ in the Age of Technology

- Media is our primary gateway to culture.

How do Christ Followers approach the use of technology?

Romans 12:2

Do not be conformed to this present world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind...

1 Corinthians 9:22

...I have become all things to all people, so that by all means I may save some.

Is technology morally neutral?

Examples: Cars; Vaccines; Reproductive technologies; AI

The sufficiency of scripture

2 Timothy 3:16–17

Every scripture is inspired by God and useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the person dedicated to God may be capable and equipped for every good work.

Do you believe that the Gospel is sufficient to guide us in all domains of our life?

The medium shapes the message

Biblical examples

Genres and Literary Mechanisms (Poetry, Narrative, etc.)

Mediums (burning bush; Donkey; the Incarnation)

Oral>written>digital

The use of screens to displays scripture and lyrics.

Livestream

'information does not necessarily spell knowledge, and knowledge does not necessarily spell wisdom, and the incessant demand for unending sensory input from the digital world does not guarantee we make good choices.' -DA Carson

5 things we Need to Know about Technological Change.

-Neil Postman

All technological change is a trade-off. For every advantage a new technology offers, there is always a corresponding disadvantage.

The advantages of new technologies are never distributed evenly among the population. Embedded in every technology is a powerful idea, sometimes two or three. These ideas are often hidden from our view because they are of their somewhat abstract nature. Technological change is not additive, it is ecological. Media tends to become mythic, as if divine in origin.

Applying the Truth of God's Word.

1. The heart is the driving force behind it all

Matthew 15:11;18

11 What defiles a person is not what goes into the mouth; it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles a person.

18 But the things that come out of the mouth come from the heart, and these things defile a person.

At best, technology can be a useful tool to help us connect and communicate the message of the Gospel within our own community and our broader culture. At worst, it will amplify our sinful desires and distract us from the goal of becoming better disciples.

2. Only God can satisfy our deepest desires

Ecclesiastes 1:8–9

...The eye is never satisfied with seeing, nor is the ear ever content with hearing. What exists now is what will be, and what has been done is what will be done; there is nothing truly new on earth.

Psalms 107:9

For he has satisfied those who thirst, and those who hunger he has filled with food.

John 6:35

Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. The one who comes to me will never go hungry, and the one who believes in me will never be thirsty.

3. God remains the same and His word never changes

Hebrews 13:8

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever!

Isaiah 40:8

The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.