

Confronting the challenges of social media use

5.24.26

Ephesians 5:15 ¹⁵Pay careful attention, then, to how you walk—not as unwise people but as wise—

Observations:

I Peter 5:8 Be sober-minded, be alert. Your adversary the devil is prowling around like a roaring lion, looking for anyone he can devour.

I. Improper use of social media may challenge the quality of parental duties

A. What is our role?

Pro 22:6 Start a youth out on his way; even when he grows old he will not depart from it.

Eph 6:4 Fathers, don't stir up anger in your children, but bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.

B. Social media usage may challenge those goals.

--Developmental challenges (We want our kids to be well balanced adults)

Luke 2:40 The boy grew up and became strong, filled with wisdom, and God's grace was on him., 52 And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and with people.

Socially Spiritually Intellectually Physically

--Safety challenges (We want our kids to be safe)

C. When should kids get online?

--Is your child able to ID the dangers? Especially with predators.

--Is your child mature enough to handle bullies and hate?

--Is your child spiritually advanced enough to spot false teaching?

II. Improper use of social media may challenge our ability to trust God

A. Savior complex

Isaiah 46:10 I declare the end from the beginning,
and from long ago what is not yet done,
saying: my plan will take place,
and I will do all my will.

B. Worrying

Phil 4:8 ⁶Don't worry about anything, but in everything, through prayer
and petition with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. ⁷And the
peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your
hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

III. Improper use of social media may challenge our view of self

1 Corinthians 6:20 You for you were bought at a price. So glorify God with
your body.^[a]

Eph 2: ⁴But God, who is rich in mercy, because of his great love that he had
for us,^[b] ⁵made us alive with Christ even though we were dead in trespasses.
You are saved by grace!

Jer 1:5 I chose you before I formed you in the womb;
I set you apart before you were born.
I appointed you a prophet to the nations.

2 areas of concern

A. Selfies:

B. Tragedies:

IV. Improper use of social media may challenge our use of the gift of time

A. Biblical principles regarding time

Ephesians 5:15–16 ¹⁵ Pay careful attention, then, to how you walk—not as unwise people but as wise— ¹⁶ making the most of the time,^[a] because the days are evil.

James 4:13 ¹³ Come now, you who say, “Today or tomorrow we will travel to such and such a city and spend a year there and do business and make a profit.” ¹⁴ Yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring—what your life will be! For you are like vapor that appears for a little while, then vanishes.

B. Potential times challenges with social media

Addictions

Theft

V. Improper use of social media may challenge your integrity later

Gal 6:7 Don't be deceived: God is not mocked. For whatever a person sows he will also reap,

A. Improper posting may create relationship tension in the future

B. Improper posting may create roadblocks in career plans

Close:

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