

Pursuing Christ in a Media Saturated World

I. Introduction

A. Read the Text

Php 3:7–8 *But whatever things were gain to me, those things I have counted as loss for the sake of Christ. More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but rubbish so that I may gain Christ,*

B. Ten Commandments of Social Media

- 1. Thou shalt not fear boredom*
- 2. Thou shalt not “multitask” (not until thy kingdom come, thy homework be done)*
- 3. Thou shalt not WILF (WILF describes the “What Was I Looking For” phenomenon of using Google to look for one thing, and then burning two hours hunting down random and unimportant facts)*
- 4. Thou shalt not text and drive (or talk, or sleep)*
- 5. Thou shalt keep the Sabbath a screen-free day*
- 6. Thou shalt keep thy bedroom a media-free zone*
- 7. Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour’s upgrade*
- 8. Thou shalt set thy accounts to “Private”*
- 9. Thou shalt bring no media to thy dinner*
- 10. Thou shalt bring no dinner to thy media.*

II. Pursing Christ in a Media Saturated World

A. Biblical Principles of Sanctification

1. Personal walk with Christ

a) Fear of the Lord

Pr 1:7 *The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge; Fools despise wisdom and instruction.*

a) Strengthening by the Holy Spirit

Eph 3:16–19 *that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in the inner man, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; and that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled up to all the fullness of God.*

b) Grounding in the Love of Christ

c) Obedience by faith working through love

1 Th 1:3 *constantly bearing in mind your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ in the presence of our God and Father,*

2. Right relationship to family

a) Honor and obedience of parents

Eph 6:1–3 *Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. HONOR YOUR FATHER AND MOTHER (which is the first commandment with a promise), SO THAT IT MAY BE WELL WITH YOU, AND THAT YOU MAY LIVE LONG ON THE EARTH.*

b) Good communication

Eph 4:29 *Let no unwholesome word proceed from your mouth, but only such a word as is good for edification according to the need of the moment, so that it will give grace to those who hear.*

c) Intentional discipleship

Eph 6:4 *Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.*

3. Effective relationship with the church

a) Regular, active attendance

Heb 10:24–25 *and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more as you see the day drawing near.*

b) Active service and use of giftedness

1 Pe 4:10 *As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.*

c) Accountability and discipleship

Heb 3:12–13 *Take care, brethren, that there not be in any one of you an evil, unbelieving heart that falls away from the living God. But encourage one another day after day, as long as it is still called “Today,” so that none of you will be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.*

B. Internet Terminology

1. Gif - looping animation

2. Meme

humorous image, video, text that is copied (often with variations) to others. Often an image with white text over it to make it funny!

a) Top meme of the year - Harambe - the Gorilla

3. Avatar

-In computing, an **avatar** is the graphical representation of the user or the user's alter ego or character. An icon or figure representing a particular person in a video game, Internet forum, etc. It may take either a three-dimensional form,^[1] as in games or virtual worlds, or a two-dimensional form as an icon in Internet forums and other online communities.^{[2][3]} Avatar images have also been referred to as "picons" (personal icons)^[4] in the past, though the usage of this term is uncommon now. It can also refer to a text construct found on early systems such as MUDs.^[5] The term "avatar" can also refer to the personality connected with the screen name, or handle, of an Internet user.^[6] Common avatars may be Internet memes.

4. Cinemagraph

picture which has a repetitive movement

5. Info graphic

Chart, table, ordered information

6. Infogram

a specific piece of an infographic

C. Social Networks

1. *Kinds of social networks*

- a) 16 Apps Website – OneNote**
- b) Most popular apps - OneNote**

2. *Particular dangers of social networks*

Handling ourselves socially is hard enough with the people we actually live with and physically interact with

a) Narcissism – look at me, like me, notify me

Php 3:7–8 *But whatever things were gain to me, those things I have counted as loss for the sake of Christ. More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but rubbish so that I may gain Christ,*

(1) Don't show yourself off

(2) Focus on family and godly relationships

(3) Point to Christ

b) Love of the world

1 Jn 2:15–17 *Do not love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world. The world is passing away, and also its lusts; but the one who does the will of God lives forever.*

c) Being a Busybody

I have to be involved in everyone's life

1 Ti 5:13 *At the same time they also learn to be idle, as they go around from house to house; and not merely idle, but also gossips and busybodies, talking about things not proper to mention.*

d) Gossip

Pr 26:20–22 *For lack of wood the fire goes out, And where there is no whisperer, contention quiets down. Like charcoal to hot embers and wood to fire, So is a contentious man to kindle strife. The words of a whisperer are like dainty morsels, And they go down into the innermost parts of the body.*

e) Impurity

Eph 5:3–4 *But immorality or any impurity or greed must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints; and there must be no filthiness and silly talk, or coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks.*

f) Deceit

Ro 12:9 *Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil; cling to what is good.*

Pr 12:22 *Lying lips are an abomination to the LORD, But those who deal faithfully are His delight.*

(1) *Pretending to be someone I am not*

(2) *Misrepresenting someone else*

g) Lack of depth

1 Pe 1:22 *Since you have in obedience to the truth purified your souls for a sincere love of the brethren, fervently love one another from the heart,*

3. Benefits of social networks

a) Keep track of family and friends

b) Exalt Christ through your profile

c) Enjoy fun moments in the lives of others

d) Share in fellowship with other believers

e) Share the gospel

f) Declare the truth

g) Point people to godly resources

4. Communication and social networks

a) Biblical communication

(1) *No unwholesome word*

Eph 4:29 *Let no unwholesome word proceed from your mouth, but only such a word as is good for edification according to the need of the moment, so that it will give grace to those who hear.*

(2) *No immorality or impurity*

Eph 5:3–4 *But immorality or any impurity or greed must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints; and there must be no filthiness and silly talk, or coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks.*

(3) Encouragement and edification

1 Th 5:11 *Therefore encourage one another and build up one another, just as you also are doing.*

(4) Truthfulness

Eph 4:25 *Therefore, laying aside falsehood, SPEAK TRUTH EACH ONE of you WITH HIS NEIGHBOR, for we are members of one another.*

b) Wise use of time

Eph 5:15–16 *Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise, making the most of your time, because the days are evil.*

(1) You don't have to respond to every comment

(2) You need to have enough emotional and spiritual energy to engage those you personally come in contact with

5. Monitoring social networks

a) Younger kids generally cannot handle this responsibility

b) Have your kids use an account you set up

c) Get software to track conversations and only allow certain kinds of contacts

d) Require your permission to accept friend requests or talk with certain people

D. Texting

1. The language of text

a) Know some of the symbols – OneNote

b) Know some of the emoji's

c) Take some time to know the abbreviations

(1) CD9 – Parents around (Code 9)

(2) PIR/POS/NP – Parents in Room, Over shoulder, Nosy

(3) PRON - Porn

2. The benefits of text

- a) Share important information**
- b) Bring encouragement and show appreciation**
- c) Stay in touch with those you don't regularly interact with**

3. The dangers of text

- a) Disengagement with "real-time" relationships**
- b) Easy to misunderstand**
- c) Easy to say inappropriate things that last forever**
- d) Easy to feel intimate without accountability or effort**
- e) Communicate without thinking or biblically filtering thoughts**

4. Relationships and texting

- a) Consider not allowing opposite sex texting unless there is an accountable relationship**
- b) Considering limiting the amount of time spent texting – too many words**

Pr 10:19 *When there are many words, transgression is unavoidable, But he who restrains his lips is wise.*

Jas 3:2 *For we all stumble in many ways. If anyone does not stumble in what he says, he is a perfect man, able to bridle the whole body as well.*

- c) Consider the dangers of**

5. Biblical principles and texting

- a) All biblical principles of communication and relationship apply**
- b) No sluggards!**

Pr 13:4 *The soul of the sluggard craves and gets nothing, But the soul of the diligent is made fat.*

Pr 21:25 *The desire of the sluggard puts him to death, For his hands refuse to work;*

Pr 26:16 *The sluggard is wiser in his own eyes Than seven men who can give a discreet answer.*

Pr 26:13 *The sluggard says, “There is a lion in the road! A lion is in the open square!”*

Generally teens will gravitate toward the form of communication that is easiest for them and requires the least commitment

E. YouTube

1. *Nature of video sites*
2. *Monitoring video sights*

F. News/Blog/Podcasts/Bible Apps

1. *Dangers*
 - a) **Bad information/doctrine**
 - b) **Waste of time**
2. *Benefits*
 - a) **Great teaching/information**
 - b) **Quick access to lots of data**
 - c) **Fun and accountability**
3. *Best ones!*
 - a) **Feedly app**
 - b) **Podcast**
 - c) **Bible Apps**
 - (1) *YouVersion*
 - (2) *ScriptureTyper*

G. General Media

1. *Movies/TV*
 - a) **Clear play**
 - b) **Streaming**
 - (1) *Beware of picking which sin to filter!*
 - (2) *Beware of being lulled into lots of movie consumption*

(3) Beware of watching movies that are inappropriate regardless of the kind of filter

2. Video games

a) Kinds of games

(1) You need to know and approve every game your teen is playing

(2) Games on devices can seem harmless but become tremendously addicting

(3) Watch out for in-game upgrades

b) Time limits

(1) Learning to control desires is an important part of maturity

(2) Any activity can become an idol

(3) Video games are particularly enslaving

c) General rules

(1) Don't play bad guys

(2) Play as a family

d) Online gaming

(1) General

(a) My advice – don't allow this

(b) Know who is playing

(2) Proxy "networks"

3. Music

a) General guidelines

b) Streaming services

(1) Pandora

(2) Spotify

H. Using Devices

1. General

a) If you are too busy or too lazy to monitor it, don't use it

b) Have a once a year tech security review – then monitor weekly/monthly

c) Family app purchase

(1) All family can use the apps

(2) Must request permission to get apps

2. Computers

a) Restrict internet use

b) Establish a filtering/reporting system

3. Phones

a) Limit cellular capability

b) Consider no phones in the room

c) Establish filtering/reporting system

4. Tablets

a) Use restrictions

b) Establish filtering/reporting system

5. Smartwatches

6. Fitness trackers

I. Monitoring/Protection of Devices

1. Kinds of monitoring

a) On device

(1) Use of restrictions and passwords

b) Software

(1) Net Nanny

(2) Norton

c) Hardware/software

(1) Circle with Disney

2. Kinds of protection

a) **Anti-virus**

b) **Firewall**

III. Conclusion

A. Review

B. Closing Illustration

C. Proposition

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2. Kinds of protection

Outline

