

GOD'S TECHNOLOGY

Training our Children to use Technology to God's Glory

Study Guide



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Introduction

1. In what ways has digital technology changed your life?
2. What are some of the challenges you and your children have faced with the Internet, Facebook, email, etc?
3. How does your use of technology affect your spiritual life? For better or for worse? Or both?
4. How might digital technology impact the eternal destiny of your children?
5. What attempts have you made to train your children in the use of the Internet, cell phones, etc?

Four Biblical Principles

1. What Bible verses or chapters are relevant to the Internet?
2. Explain how we can say "God created the Internet."
3. What good uses have you found for the Internet, Facebook, etc?
4. What mistakes have you made with technology?
5. How can we use technology to worship God?
6. How would you teach your children the four biblical principles?

Three Possible Responses

1. What view of human nature lies behind the response of "enthusiastic embrace?" What are the dangers of this response?
2. What view of human nature lies behind the response of "strict separation?" What are the dangers of this response?
3. Explain "disciplined discernment."
4. How would you decide if your children should visit a particular website?

Seven Step Training Program

1. Educate

- a. What websites or books have you found helpful in educating yourself about technology?
- b. What did you learn from them?
- c. What have you taught your children about using electronic media?

2. Fence

- a. Can you name six fences from the film?
- b. Which of these limitations have you found problematic and why?

3. Mentor

- a. What is a mentor?
- b. How would you mentor someone in their use of computers?

4. Supervise

- a. Where do your children access the Internet?
- b. Are you satisfied with your level of supervision? How can you improve upon it?
- c. How much would you be willing to pay per month to protect your children's moral and spiritual health? What digital supervision software is too expensive for you?
- d. How will you gradually reduce supervision?

5. Review

- a. How often do you sit down with your children and review their use of digital media?
- b. What questions should we ask our children about what they are learning and their mistakes?
- c. How would you approach your child and what would you say if you found out that he or she was viewing pornography?
- d. What sanctions would be appropriate and when?

6. Trust

- a. How do you know when it is right to trust your child enough to step back and let them become their own filter and blocker?
- b. Who would be an appropriate accountability partner for your use of technology?

7. Model

- a. What do you want your children to learn from your own use of technology?
- b. What do you not want your children to copy from your use of digital technology?
- c. Which of the seven steps would you leave out? Would you add any?

Facebook

1. How would you apply the seven steps to Facebook?
2. Are there any additional guidelines you would offer for Facebook?

Conclusion

1. How should John 3:19-21 influence our parenting?
2. In what ways do rules help our children?
3. What do our children need most of all?
4. In what ways can you use technology to teach and apply the Gospel to your children?
5. What role does technology have in developing a relationship with the Lord?
6. What is the most powerful motive to use the Internet for God's glory?