

Content Concerns about Social Media: Education Yourself and Apply God's Word

Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.

(Philippians 4:4-9)

CHALLENGES

First, read the text above together.

Second, answer these questions about your use of technology and the use of technology by your children:

- What shows are you/they watching? (Talk about it together and write your list below.)
- What apps are you/they using? (Talk about it together and write your list below.)
- What websites are you/they visiting? (Talk about it together and write your list below.)
- What games are you/they playing? (Talk about it together and write your list below.)

Third, talk about how each show/app/website/game may or may not be a good fit for you and your family based on the application of God's Word to your lives. As parents, have the "tough" conversations from a place of love with your kids, and then, make a decision in about each one.

- Should it be cut out completely?
- Should you provide guidance for your child each time he/she watches/plays, etc?
- Do you need to dig in to learn more about each one before making the call?

Some possible resources include www.pluggedin.com or www.commonsensemedia.org.

