

The World in Your Pocket

With technology these days we have everything at our finger tips.....Good and Bad

Does the phone with social media have our attention every minute of the day?

What do you do with your phone?

What are the things you can do good with it?

What are the things you can do bad with it?

Does your phone guide you?

Are you doing and saying things that you normally wouldn't?

Can you help your friends be accountable even if you have to say something to them?

Do you ignore your parents text and calls?

When you need direction what do you turn to?

Where do you get comfort from?

Direction from the Bible

Proverbs 3:6– “In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.”

Psalm 17:6 – “My steps have held fast to your paths; my feet have not slipped.”

Psalm 119:105-- "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path"

Doing the right thing even when no one is watching...

1 Peter 3:14 But even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed. “Do not fear their threats; do not be frightened.”

James 4:17 So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin

Galatians 6:9 Let us not lose heart in doing good, for in due time we will reap if we do not grow weary.

James 1:22 But be doers of the word and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

John 14:23 Jesus answered, “If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word. My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him.

James 2:8 If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, “Love your neighbor as yourself,” you are doing right.

Are you Addicted to your phone?

Addiction–

the fact or condition of being addicted to a particular substance, thing, or activity.

synonyms: dependency, dependence, habit, problem

Has your phone become an idol?

1 John 5:21

Little children keep yourselves from idols.

Ezekiel 14:3

"Son of man, these men have taken their idols into their hearts, and set the stumbling block of their iniquity before their faces. Should I indeed let myself be consulted by them?

1 John 5:21

Little children, keep yourselves from idols

Deuteronomy 5:8

'You shall not make for yourself an idol, or any likeness of what is in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the water under the earth.

Exodus 20:5

"You shall not worship them or serve them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children, on the third and the fourth generations of those who hate Me,

12 Ways Your Phone is Changing You

1. **We are addicted to distraction** – we check our phones 81,500 times a year or once every 4.3 minutes we are awake.
2. **We ignore our flesh and blood** – we are 23 times more likely to crash if texting while driving.
3. **We crave immediate approval** – “Beware of practicing your righteousness before other people in order to be seen by them. Matt. 6:1”
4. **We lose our literacy** – “To be changed and challenged, we need the clean sea breeze of old books. We need the life-living gust of the Spirit in the ancient book.” C.S. Lewis, C. Christopher Smith
5. **We feed on the produced** – enjoy each moment of life without feeling compelled to capture it.
6. **We become like what we “like”** – If we worship idols, we become like the idols. Rom. 1:18-27
7. **We get lonely** – technology isolates us instead of drawing us together. Be still and know that I am God. Ps. 46:10 Learn to use quiet times to draw near to the Lord.
8. **We get comfortable in secret vices** – anonymity is where sin flourishes. Every click will be accounted for.
9. **We lose meaning** – Job 28 celebrates the innovation of man and is a warning about the limits of wisdom we find in our own devices.
10. **We fear missing out (FOMO)** – Luke 16:19-31 rich man and Lazarus. One had it all, the other had nothing. In the end, their roles were reversed.
11. **We become harsh to one another** – Peeper app – rate on scale of 1-5 people you know. James 4:11,12
12. **We lose our place in time** – we lose track of time and we can't handle all of the joys, sadness, grief that is thrown at us every day in feeds, tweets, snaps.

What To Do?

1. Minimize unnecessary distractions in life to hear from God (1) and to find our place in God's unfolding history (12).
2. Embrace our flesh-and-blood (2) and handle one another with grace and gentleness (11).
3. Aim at God's ultimate approval (3) and find that, in Christ, we have no ultimate regrets to fear (10).
4. Treasure the gift of literacy (4) and prioritize God's Word (9).
5. Listen to God's voice in creation (5) and find a fountain of delight in the unseen Christ (8).
6. Treasure Christ to be molded into His image (6) and seek to serve the legitimate needs of our neighbors (7).

2017 Version of Gal. 2:20

My appetite for diversions and new daily curiosities has been crucified with Christ, and it is no longer the old me that lives online, but Christ living in me, and the life I now live online I live by faith in Christ, who loved me so much that He gave His life for me.

Food for thought....

Ever wonder what would happen if we treated our Bible like we treat our cell phone?

What if we carried it around in our purses or pockets?

What if we flipped through it several times a day?

What if we turned back to go get it if we forgot it?

What if we used it to receive messages from the text?

What if we treated it like we couldn't live without it?

What if we gave it to friends as gifts?

What if we used it when we traveled?

What if we used it in case of emergency?

This is something to make you go....hmm...where is my Bible?

Oh, and one more thing. Unlike our cell phone, we don't have to worry about our Bible being disconnected, because Jesus already paid the bill. Makes you stop and think, "Where are my priorities?".

And no dropped calls!

Have there been times when you've panicked over your missing cell phone? By comparison, do we have the same reaction when we lose our Bible? What do you think is meant by the statement, "we don't have to worry about our Bible being disconnected, because Jesus already paid the bill"?

"Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth." 2 Timothy 2:15

**Excerpted and adapted from the Jim Daly Blog, featuring thoughts from Focus on the Family's president.

What people have said who have been in the industry for years....

From the New York Times.....

“We limit how much technology our kids use at home.”---Steve Jobs

Yet these tech C.E.O.’s seem to know something that the rest of us don’t.

Chris Anderson, the former editor of Wired and now chief executive of 3D Robotics, a drone maker, has instituted time limits and parental controls on every device in his home. “My kids accuse me and my wife of being fascists and overly concerned about tech, and they say that none of their friends have the same rules,” he said of his five children, 6 to 17. “That’s because we have seen the dangers of technology firsthand. I’ve seen it in myself, I don’t want to see that happen to my kids.”

The dangers he is referring to include exposure to harmful content like pornography, bullying from other kids, and perhaps worse of all, becoming addicted to their devices, just like their parents.

“We have a strict no screen time during the week rule for our kids,” said Lesley Gold, founder and chief executive of the SutherlandGold Group, a tech media relations and analytics company. “But you have to make allowances as they get older and need a computer for school.”