

The Dangers of Social Media

1. The world has changed so much in the last 25 years.
2. More communication. (cell phones, email, texting)
3. More access to information. (Google, Wikipedia, YouTube, etc.)
4. Much more opportunity for connections.
5. At the forefront: Facebook! (also Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat, etc.)
 - a. Worldwide, there are over 1.65 billion monthly active Facebook users (1.3b in China!)
 - b. 1.09 billion people log onto Facebook daily
 - c. Five new profiles are created every second.
 - d. 50% of 18-24 year-olds go on Facebook when they wake up
6. Social Media is a part of life for most of the current generation! It's not going away.
7. It is a tool. Like a hammer, axe, crowbar.
 - a. Much good can be done, but also used to the wrong way – destructive!
8. What are some dangers of social media?

1. The danger of wasting time.

- 1.1. Time is precious
 - 1.1.1. *Ephesians 5:15-16 See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, Redeeming the time, because the days are evil.*
- 1.2. Social media takes up a lot of people's time.
 - 1.2.1. 28% of all time online is at FB.
 - 1.2.2. Average FB user = 50 minutes per day average. 1.09b x 50 minutes = 54.5b minutes each day! 103,691 years!
- 1.3. "opportunity cost"
 - 1.3.1. What if the world studied the Bible for 55 billion minutes a day?
 - 1.3.2. Helped the needy?
 - 1.3.3. Visited the lonely?

2. The danger of addiction.

- 2.1. (1 Corinthians 6:12) *All things are lawful unto me, but all things are not expedient: all things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any.*
- 2.2. (1 Corinthians 6:20) *For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.*
- 2.3. Some are addicted to Social Media.
 - 2.3.1. 20% of FB users admitted to being "addicted" to Facebook.
 - 2.3.2. 90% of teens are on. 70% of Teens use their phones for social media.
 - 2.3.3. Studies show similar brain changes to those addicted to drugs.
- 2.4. Could you quit? 99 days of freedom. Many could not last 3 days!

3. The danger of a poor influence.

3.1. We all have an influence on others.

3.2. God wants us to be a good influence.

3.2.1. *Matthew 5:16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.*

3.2.2. *1 Corinthians 15:33 Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners.*

3.3. Not much is more public than out social media! Everyone sees it.

3.3.1. What we post and share.

3.3.2. What we like.

3.3.3. What we tweet and retweet

3.3.4. What we send via snapchat and instagram.

3.4. Would you want people judging you by what you share on SM?

3.4.1. What if I put your instagram photos or FB like up on this big screen for all to see?

3.4.2. God is always watching!

3.4.3. *Matthew 12:35-36 A good man out of the good treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things: and an evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things. (36) But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment.*

3.5. Flame wars! Controversial topics debated.

3.5.1. Abrasiveness, lack of tact, dismissiveness, vain arguing, even hatfulness.

3.5.2. Those are all things that preachers do on SM!

3.6. Guard your influence!

4. The danger of worldliness.

4.1. The amount of filth and wickedness on the internet is staggering.

4.1.1. 65% of images posted on the net are of naked women

4.1.2. Filthy music, videos, pictures, nude selfies circulated.

4.1.3. *2 Timothy 2:22 Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart.*

4.1.4. *Matthew 5:8 Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.*

4.1.5. *Philippians 4:8 Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.*

4.2. We are not to love the world.

4.2.1. Does social media make you closer to God or to the world?

4.2.2. Are you like the frog in the pot with the water being slowly heated?

1. Christians be careful.

2. Parents know what your kids are doing on social media.

3. Check their phones, know their passwords, souls may be on the line!