

THE INTERNET AND YOU

Introduction

The internet is a wonderful thing.

The internet is a wicked thing.

1. Think before you commit

It consumes our time.

“Be very careful, then, how you live – not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil.” (Ephesians 5:15-16)

It alters the way we communicate.

“I have much to write to you, but I do not want to use paper and ink. Instead, I hope to visit you and talk with you face to face, so that our joy may be complete.” (2 John 12)

It disrupts our activity.

It increases our anxiety.

It shapes us.

“And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord’s glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.” (2 Corinthians 3:18)

“Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God – this is your spiritual act of worship. Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is – his good, pleasing and perfect will.” (Romans 12:1-2)

2. Think before you click

“Do not offer the parts of your body to sin, as instruments of wickedness, but rather offer yourselves to God, as those who have been brought from death to life; and offer the parts of your body to him as instruments of righteousness.” (Romans 6:13)

“This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but men loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil.” (John 3:19)

“Finally, brothers, 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.” (Philippians 4:8)

True?

Noble?

Right?

Pure?

Lovely?

Admirable?

3. Think before you communicate

“There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven... a time to be silent and a time to speak.” (Ecclesiastes 3:1, 7)

“When words are many, sin is not absent, but he who holds his tongue is wise. The tongue of the righteous is choice silver, but the heart of the wicked is of little value. The lips of the righteous nourish many, but fools die for lack of judgment.” (Proverbs 10:19-21)

“My dear brothers, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry.” (James 1:19)

Who are you speaking to?

Who is listening in?

“Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.” (1 Peter 2:12)

“...so that in every way they will make the teaching about God our Saviour attractive.” (Titus 1:10)

Some recommended resources

Websites

FIEC – www.fiec.org.uk

The Gospel Coalition – www.thegospelcoalition.org

Blogs

Tim Challies – www.challies.com

John Stevens – www.john-stevens.com

Paul Levy – www.ealinglevy.wordpress.com

Online Sermons

Your local church.

Podcasts

Reading Between the Lines (Glen Scrivener) – *5-7 minute devotionals*

The Briefing (Al Mohler) – *worldview analysis from Christian perspective*

Videos

The Bible Project – www.jointhebibleproject.com