



Faith
and
Technology

Content & Filters

Exciting Days for Us

Acts 17:26-27 “And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, that they should seek God, and perhaps feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us”

Huge Opportunity with Technology

Need to be Aware of how it could be dangerous

Know our Intention

- avoid vilification of things
- stay well away from legalism with practices
- not avoid but honest engagement in biblical truth we can apply in our circumstances

Conviction

- James 1:5 “If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.”
- wisdom – knowledge rightly applied

Last Week – Let Nothing Control You

Today – Content & Filters

- technology a huge inflow into lives and homes
- vast ways it has changed our engagement in...
 - entertainment
 - news and world views
 - information and education
 - advice and diagnosis
 - relationships

- Great Help – useful beyond belief
- Misleading and Incomplete help – dangerous
- Damaging Information – acted on brings pain

1. Installing & Cleaning our Filters

- think of the importance of the water and air entering our homes. Potential for mold, disease, massive health issues. Need clean air and water for basic health
- massive pipeline of technology into your life and home – how are your filters?

a) Huge Importance

- Rom. 12:2 *“Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.”*

- 1 Thess. 5:21 *“but test everything; hold fast what is good”*

- 2 Cor. 10:5 *“We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ”*

b) Cleaning the Filter

- desire of God – pure and without blemish

- Eph. 5:26-27 *“that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word,²⁷ so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish”*

- Titus 3:5 *“he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit,”*

c) Satan will try to send in the unhealthy

- 1 Peter 5:8 *“Be sober-minded; be watchful.*

Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. ⁹ Resist him, firm in your faith”

- John 8:44 *“You are of your father the devil,*

and your will is to do your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies.”

2. Some Areas to Examine

- how is technology & my use affecting my convictions, world view, and ultimately my actions?

- Phil. 4:8 *“Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.”*



a) Hope

- when it comes to leaders, economies, stability in our world, governments?

- Rom. 5:4-5 *“and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.”*

- Rom. 15:13 *“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope”*

b) Trust

- Have I become critical, unable to trust peoples words or motives? Has my trust in God, and his redemptive work been shaken by the way information is embraced?

- Proverbs 28:26 *“Whoever trusts in his own mind is a fool, but he who walks in wisdom will be delivered.”*

- Proverbs 3:5-6 *“Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.”*

c) Peace

- is my struggle with peace connected to my practice of technology?

- John 14:27 *“Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.”*

- Psalm 4:8 *“In peace I will both lie down and sleep; for you alone, O LORD, make me dwell in safety.”*

- Romans 8:5-6 *“For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶ For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace.”*

d) Faith

- growth in faith is important. Does my use of technology and man's predictions erode my faith & growth in this area?

- Heb. 11:6 “And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.”

e) Morality & Purity

- has the constant barrage of the worlds standard eroded my view of God’s call in my morals and practices?

- language has changed radically around this topic and we self define as good or moral.

- 1 Cor. 6:18 *“Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body.”*

3. Issue of Privacy and Accountability

- spiritual truth – bring into the light

- 1 Cor. 4:5 *“Therefore do not pronounce judgment before the time, before the Lord comes, who will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Then each one will receive his commendation from God.”*

So What

1. Unprecedented opportunity for Growth & God
 - comes with dangers to be aware of
2. Clear in Scripture that Filters are Important
 - What is streaming into my life?
 - Is it affecting my world view?
 - Am I washing my Filter regularly?
3. Spend some time checking the Effect and Allowing the renewal of God