



MAKING SENSE OF MEDIA

AN INNERACTIVE TOOL TO HELP STUDENTS THINK BIBLICALLY
ABOUT THEIR MEDIA PRINCIPLES

By Scott D. Foreman

Being reactive to media decisions won't cut it.

The time has come for parents, pastors, counselors and influencers of youth to be intentional and proactive in helping pre-teens and teens navigate their way through the media maze.

It's not a fool-proof approach (there's always ways around things) but this guide will at the very least create an environment for examination of the Scriptures and develop a plan for how to think Biblically about our media decisions.

My prayer for you as you go through this guide is that you will take your media choices very seriously. Hundreds of men and women in the world today will have their lives destroyed simply because they never understood the incredible influence of pictures, chatting and music.

With God's help, you can be prepared and live victoriously now and for the rest of your life.



Rachel and Scott

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DOES MEDIA MATTER?



YOUR MIND AND THUS
YOUR MEDIA MATTERS
TO GOD

MAKING SENSE OF
MEDIA

STOP TO CONSIDER



Today it is almost impossible to not see or hear some form of media during the course of a day.

One researcher said we see at least *247 advertisements in a single day*. We've become so accustomed to it we don't even know it's happening. In the midst of all that messaging there are messages (well, duh?)

– but often times these messages are contrary to God's plan for your life, and when that messaging is consistent enough and subtle enough we can start to buy into it (sometimes literally).

WHERE DOES IT ALL COME ?

Media is one the most important means of communication in today's generation, and it comes in a variety of packages.

Today there is:

- Visual Broadcast Media (Television shows)
- Audio Broadcast Media (Traditional & Satellite Radio)
- Print Media (Newspapers, Magazines, etc)
- Digital Media (Netflix, YouTube)
- Video Games
- Internet (Blogs, Podcasts, Mobile sites, Apps)
- Promotional Media (Billboards, website ads, etc)
- And many others that have crept up since you started reading this.

Can you think of any others?

As you can see, there are multiple ways that we can take in information. Almost every where we turn today *media* is present – so yes, media *does* matter.

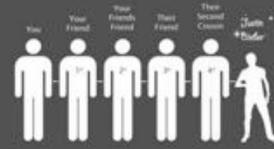


LOOK OUT FOR WHAT YOU CAN'T SEE

As stated, in the midst of all that communication there are **subtleties** – images and words are slipped in. And without even knowing it we have been exposed to some pretty powerful messaging. There's messaging that we can somewhat control (like turning off a commercial or looking the other way) but there's much that slips through in every day life that we need to know how to process these subtleties when they happen.

Your brain is a powerful machine (contrary to what some of your friends or your Math teacher may tell you). God created it to be able to process complex situations from a variety of angles, to allow you to make the best possible decision, based on the data you've been presented with. Some of your processing is based off of genetics (what your parents passed down to you), but much of it is based off of environment (what you accumulated in your brain since you were born). Those 'environmental' processes are what we need to pay special attention to.

DID YOU KNOW?



THERE ARE, ON AVERAGE, 3.74 DEGREES OF SEPARATION BETWEEN ANY ONE FACEBOOK USER AND ANOTHER.

LOOK OUT FOR WHAT YOU CAN'T SEE

Consider this:

“Every second your senses are taking in about 11 million bits of information, but you are only aware of about 40 of those bits. Because our conscious mind is so limited it works on a need to know basis. Think of the human brain as a survival machine vigilantly scanning the environment always making predictions about what will happen next. It works by recognizing and responding to patterns. Cognitive science tells us we don’t notice the world around us when it’s reliably predicted away, when what we are experiencing in the moment matches our intuitive predictions.

However, missed predictions fire a hardwired neural response that biologically commands our attention. This reaction is what neuroscientists technically call the “Oh SNAP!” circuit. When we expect something to happen and it does not, a distress signal is released from the anterior cingulate cortex (ACC). The ACC is closely wired to the thalamus, a dual-lobed mass of gray matter beneath the cerebral cortex that plays a critical role in awareness by helping direct conscious attention. Nothing grabs our attention better than the element (and emotion) of surprise. Advertisers do this best by interrupting expected patterns.”

Interesting, isn't it? There's so much being thrown at us that much of it can't even be properly digested. Mentally, that is.

<https://www.psychologytoday.com/blog/unconscious-branding/201410/how-your-brain-forces-you-watch-ads>



WHAT DOES GOD SAY?

God places a high priority on the mind. He speaks about making wise decisions with our brains and being wise with our thoughts. As the Creator of brains – He knows the potential of a mind that is filled with 'junk' or filled with Him.

ROMANS 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."

What does Romans 12:2 say about the process of 'transformation' and not being conformed to this world? How does that happen?

"You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you."

ISAIAH 26:3

What does Isaiah 26:3 say about the person whose mind is focused on the Lord? What is their emotional state?

WHAT DOES GOD SAY?

SECOND CORINTHIANS 10:3-6

"For though we walk in the flesh, we are not waging war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds. We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ, being ready to punish every disobedience, when your obedience is complete."

What does 2 Corinthians 10:3-6 say about the importance of every thought? What are we supposed to do with every thought and what does that answer mean?

"To put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness."

EPHESIANS 4:22-24

What does Ephesians 4:22-24 say about the process of "mind renewal" from what we were to what we are in Christ?

2

MEDIA AND INTEGRITY



**BE THE REAL DEAL IN
LIFE. PARTICULARLY IN
YOUR MEDIA.**

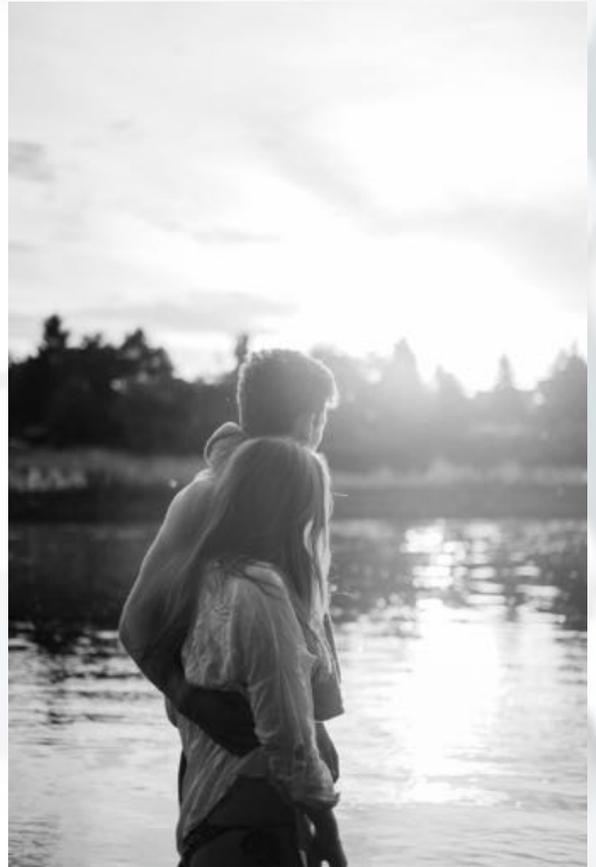
STOP TO CONSIDER

Integrity is authenticity. It's the real deal. The real deal is always the real deal.

It's making sure what you believe in is meshed with real life. If you believe something, you live it. You don't present something that isn't true.

We demand integrity in life. We demand and we expect people and things to be the real deal. For example:

- A chair (we expect it to be the real deal when we sit on it)
- Your doctor (we expect him to tell us the truth, even if it's bad)
- Relationships (we expect friends to be friends, not 'frenemies')



AM I LIVING A LIE?

Don't we despise liars? And yet, when we don't make a commitment to live a life of integrity **we are living a lie**. Did you know that **1 in 8 lie on social media about social status, life events and activities?** When we present ourselves on social media as something other than what we actually are (or believe) then we're presenting something that isn't actually true. So even though we would say we despise hypocrites – often times the biggest hypocrite is looking at us in the mirror.

For example, some teens struggle with the following:

- We make our parents/ church believe that our communication honors the Lord, but we're not afraid to drop an F-bomb here or there in school to make us seem more acceptable
- We tell our parents that we're committed to purity, and yet on a date we will allow things to happen that we would be ashamed about if our parents found out
- We claim to be Christ-followers, but when around popular students in school or else where we suddenly are more concerned about their opinions than Jesus
- We watch things on TV and listen to music that doesn't represent our Christian faith well

Did You Know?

**1 IN 3 PEOPLE FEELS MORE
DISSATISFIED WITH THEIR LIVES
AFTER VISITING FACEBOOK,
ACCORDING TO A STUDY.**



THE MEDIA/INTEGRITY CONNECTION

Check out what **Ephesians 5:1-2** tells us about how we're to relate to the outside world – how we're to be consistent as God's children to the outside world (and not fake):

EPHESIANS 5:1,2

"Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God."

Be imitators of God" (Ephesians 5:1).

It's so easy in our media decision to imitate other people and their likes and dislikes. But God commands us in this verse to imitate *Him*. That has an immediate impact on so many of the things we watch and listen to.

Did You Know?



THE "LIKE" BUTTON ON FACEBOOK WAS ORIGINALLY GOING TO BE CALLED "AWESOME".

But this also means we're not to present ourselves different than we are. You never see God presenting Himself different than who He really is. And He is telling us in Ephesians 5:1 to be the same way. For example, our character on Facebook is to be consistent (going out of our way to not present ourselves as someone different than we really are). When we're matching our character with God's we can't be something other than authentic.

YOUR TURN



What are some ways that it is easy to allow our friends to control our media decisions?

If Jesus were alive today do you think He would engage in media? If so, how would He engage with people on it?

THE MEDIA/INTEGRITY CONNECTION

Not only does **Ephesians 5:1-2** tells us that we are to be imitators of God, it also says....

EPHESIANS 5:1,2

"Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God."

"Walk in Love" (Ephesians 5:1).

As Christians, our attitudes towards others is to be an attitude of love. Facebook is a great means to communicate love – and we're not talking about to your 'special friend' 😊.

Not just in our social media choices should we have a loving attitude towards others, but in all forms of media we can communicate love by the choices that we make based on the people that are around us. We may have more 'freedom' to engage in a particular form of media that another cannot participate in. In those situations we need to put the other person first and consider their needs. This is what Paul was talking about in Romans 14:15...

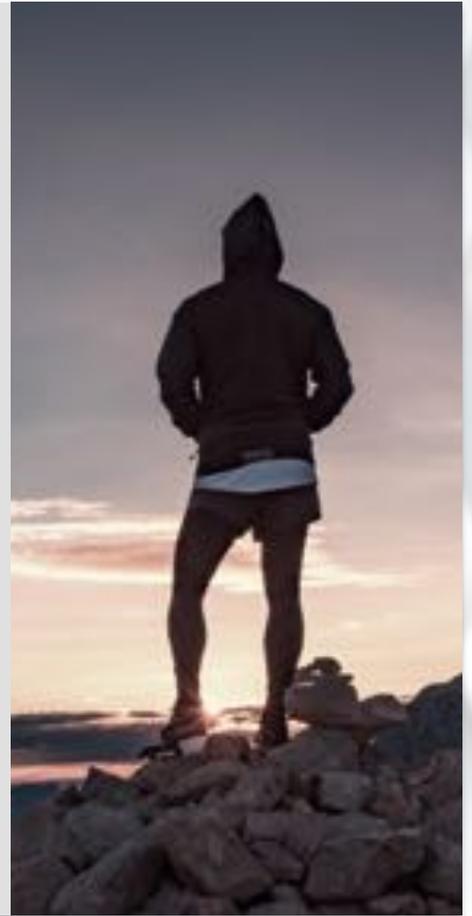
For if your brother is grieved by what you eat, you are no longer walking in love. By what you eat, do not destroy the one for whom Christ died.

ROMANS 14:15

YOUR TURN

What are some ways that we can be unloving by how we engage with people on social media?

What are some ways you can show love on social media and by your general media decisions?



THE MEDIA/INTEGRITY CONNECTION

Not only does Ephesians 5:1-2 tells us that we are to be “imitators of God” and to “walk in love”, but it also says...

EPHESIANS 5:1,2

“Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.”

“Gave Himself” (Ephesians 5:1).

The statement “gave Himself” is an incredible summary of the entire life of Jesus. But if you look at the verse there was an object to the giving: us. He used His life to advance our cause.

Yet for many of us, if we were to be completely honest and transparent, we use our lives to selfishly advance our ideas, thoughts, opinions, etc. We want people to notice us and what we’re doing instead of concentrating our efforts on encouraging others and what they’re doing.

In life, and especially in media/social media, our attitude should be to **escalate others** and **dethrone us**. We’re to be putting the interests of other first. On Facebook that can be the opposite.

Did You Know?



**EVERYTHING YOU SAY TO
SIRI IS SENT TO APPLE,
ANALYZED AND STORED.**

YOUR TURN



Is it possible to talk about yourself in a non-selfish way? How? When does it cross the line into selfishness?

If people are genuinely concerned about others, how could they demonstrate that with how they interact with people on social media?

THE MEDIA/INTEGRITY CONNECTION

Not only does **Ephesians 5:1-2** tells us that we are to be “imitators of God”, to “walk in love” and that Jesus “gave himself up for us”, it also says....

EPHESIANS 5:1,2

“Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.”

“Sacrifice to God” (Ephesians 5:1).

Jesus lived to honor His heavenly Father. He did nothing of Himself (John 5:19) but used His life to accomplish the Father’s will and point people towards Him. He was eager to help other people get closer to His Father.

What a great example for us, not just in our regular communication with people, but in our social media. It’s amazing that some Christians rarely talk about Jesus on things like Facebook, when Facebook is a captive audience of people who read what is written. For the people that are sharing Jesus on things like social media, there are no doubt countless people learning more about God and coming to Him because of the Internet.

The world doesn’t need more teens that are afraid to talk about what they believe (there are plenty of those already). What the world desperately needs is students who are lovingly bold about their faith – they’re not cowards. Too many Christians would claim a willingness to share their faith but they’re “waiting for the right opportunity.” Well, sometimes that’s camouflage for “I’m a chicken.”

Jesus’ life was not to promote Him, Jesus’ purpose was to glorify His heavenly Father. His life was a sacrifice to God – literally.



YOUR TURN



What are some ways that you could occasionally interject what you believe in your Facebook posts?

Why do we often times have an easy time talking about movies and video games but a difficult time talking about the Lord?

3

MEDIA AND PURITY



OUR CULTURE TELLS US
TO BE LIKE THEM.
JESUS TELLS US TO BE
LIKE HIM.

STOP TO CONSIDER

It almost seems like with every passing day it becomes **harder and harder** for a Christian young person to stay pure when using social media.

The pictures reveal more. The words become more vulgar. If you don't have a sensual or provocative post here and there you won't get the 'likes'.

- Lisa says social media has changed how she thinks about guys: "We don't date we just hook up."
- Nathan has admitted to asking girls to send him revealing pictures.
- Carrie said recently "Social media is destroying our lives." The interviewer said "So why don't you just go off it." Carrie replied "Cause then we would have no life."



GOD TAKES YOUR PURITY SERIOUSLY

Thankfully the concept of 'purity' is something God takes the time to discuss and give us some direction on in His Word. Let's see what He says about it in the verses that follow what we were just reading in Ephesians...

EPHESIANS 5:3-5

"But sexual immorality and all impurity or covetousness must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints. Let there be no filthiness nor foolish talk nor crude joking, which are out of place, but instead let there be thanksgiving. For you may be sure of this, that everyone who is sexually immoral or impure, or who is covetous (that is, an idolater), has no inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God."

What's interesting is the contrast between Ephesians 5:1-2 and Ephesians 5:3-5. In the first passage God lays out the incredible examples of God the Father and of Jesus and His **selflessness**.

The second passage reveals how the enemy seeks to take God's plan for *selflessness* and turn it into **selfishness**. This is typically how your enemy, Satan, works. He always seeks to take what God has given or established it and twists it and manipulates it into working it against God's plan. So it's interesting that Paul connects sexual impurity with the opposite of selflessness.

Selfishness ("covetousness") defines what sexual impurity is. It's a way of thinking and living that focuses on fulfilling what you want from a sexual perspective instead of what God wants.



TIME OUT...DOES GOD HATE SEX?

Let's take a quick time out. For the sake of context here we need to discuss sex a little bit.

Our society has high jacked sexuality. They have made it into something that God never intended it to be. It is now all based on making yourself "feel good" *outside* of marriage – because you deserve it.

However, when God created sex He designed it to "feel good" within marriage between a man and a woman. **God is not anti-sex.** He's not "anti" anything He created. What He is against is the sinful man-made distortion that sex has become in our society.

When sexual activity is between one man and one woman who are married, God is the biggest cheerleader and God calls that 'honorable' (Hebrews 13:4).



YOUR TURN

How do your friends (or people you associate with) talk about sexually related things – or things relating to 'impurity'?

How does it make you feel when they talk this way?



PURITY...WHAT IS IT?

Taking a look at several Bible passages, here is the definition could be used for purity...

Purity is choosing to think on things and use words that honor the Lord Jesus. It's refusing to be a part of anything sexual in thought, word or conduct outside the marriage relationship between a husband and wife.

God is the best guidance counselor you could ever have. He has never given bad advice and always has your best interests in mind. It's also a huge added bonus that He knows the future.

So when God tells us He wants us to be pure it would be advisable to listen.

"For God did not call us to be impure, but to live a holy life.

**1 THESSALONIANS
4:7**

PURITY...WHAT IS IT?

To be blunt about it, when we don't follow God's design for purity and sex we are making a choice to step outside the parameters of God's will for our lives.

Go back and look at what Ephesians 5:3 says. It says that **impurity shouldn't even be named among us**. Not even a hint...not even a trace...no evidence whatsoever. That's a pretty high standard.

So when God looks at our lives He doesn't expect to see traces of sexual jokes, sensual YouTube videos, SnapChats that have pictures even remotely improper, etc. It doesn't mean things like YouTube or SnapChat are wrong – but the videos we look, what we post and what we engage in on should have **not even a hint** of anything sexual related to them.



But what about those **pictures I see that I click** on when I check my Facebook account? **NO! Not even a hint!** Meaning: nothing sexual in **what you look at**, nothing sexual in **what you joke about**, nothing **sexual in what you do** in any of your activities – we're to be clean from it.

God has called us to be pure.

THE MEDIA/PURITY CONNECTION

Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Instagram, SnapChat, movies, video games and everything related to these things can all be the *vehicle* to your impurity. They can all get you to where you don't want to be.

Social media is bombarded and filled with things that can trigger impure actions and behaviors in your life. Just because **you may not see** blatant pornography on Facebook there are many other "Facebook friendly" things you can look at that affect your thinking/your heart in the same way as pornography. Looking at people lustfully because of pictures they have posted or things they are discussing is no different as far as what it does to you/your relationship with others and the Lord.

Some of you know **which friends you have on Facebook** that you can go to and look at their pictures because often times **they're in revealing clothing** or **posing in a sensual way**. Many students will give in and go to those profiles, 'like', and comment on those photos and **take pleasure in viewing those things**. If that is you then you are **guilty of feeding your desires** and **not fulfilling God's plan for your purity**.



YOUR TURN

Let's look at Ephesians 5:3-5 again and think through some application:

EPHESIANS 5:3-5

"But sexual immorality and all impurity or covetousness must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints. Let there be no filthiness nor foolish talk nor crude joking, which are out of place, but instead let there be thanksgiving. For you may be sure of this, that everyone who is sexually immoral or impure, or who is covetous (that is, an idolater), has no inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God."

"Not even named among you" as far as things that are of a sexually related nature is a pretty high standard - but an important one for God's children. Why do you (or maybe why do you not) think this would be important for a teenager?

It would be virtually impossible to remove yourself from all sexual references, jokes, insinuations, etc. in your teen/high-school culture. Does "not even named among you" mean that you have to run away from someone every time something sexual is discussed? Why or why not?



YOUR TURN



What do you think the connection of “thanksgiving” in this passage has to do with sexual purity?

What should you do when friends begin to discuss sexuality (or any other thing that doesn’t honor the Lord)?

Are there particular forms of media that consistently put you in positions to think about impure words or actions? Which ones? What are some decisions you should make to improve that area of your life?

4

MEDIA AND ACCOUNTABILITY



**GOD PUT PEOPLE
AROUND US FOR A
PURPOSE.**

STOP TO CONSIDER

God is all that we need. But thankfully God has put people around us to help us in many areas of life.

This is one of the reasons why involvement in a church and a church youth group are so important. Having close, meaningful relationships with people that are our age, or a trusted adult, a parent or a youth pastor can be a very important part of our spiritual growth and spiritual consistency.

It's very easy to get into a little 'shell' or 'cocoon' when it comes to media – where the things we are participating in are unknown to the outside world. Very few people know what we're looking at or getting into and no one has access. That's a dangerous place to be in.



ACCOUNTABLE? TO WHOM?

Here's one way to think about accountability: It's **welcoming a challenge from another individual/group regarding a personal goal in order to better achieve it.** It's realizing who you are and having a friend or a mentor help you to get to where God wants you to be. It's a willingness to be humble and admit that you don't have it all together and that you make mistakes.

GALATIANS 6:1-5

"Brothers and sisters, if someone is caught in a sin, you who live by the Spirit should restore that person gently. But watch yourselves, or you also may be tempted. Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. If anyone thinks they are something when they are not, they deceive themselves. Each one should test their own actions. Then they can take pride in themselves alone, without comparing themselves to someone else, for each one should carry their own load."

The above verses give us some good guidelines for how people can help each other with issues that they're having. Good accountability happens when:

- **A Growing Christian is Doing the Helping** (who doesn't struggle the same)
- **The Helper is Gentle Spirited** (is approachable and gentle)
- **The Helper Is Mature** (so as not to compare himself to you for his own pride)

IS IT REALLY THAT IMPORTANT?

God did not intend for you to struggle alone when it comes to media (or any other area of your life). If there are temptations that you are susceptible to or things that have 'tripped' you up in the past, there are people that can help you with those things. Chances are the people that can help you are the people that are involved in your life right now.

Check out what Proverbs 27:17 says about that...

As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another.

PROVERBS 27:17

What's the only way that iron can sharpen iron? When there is sparks...heat...friction. It's the same way when we're "sharpening" someone else.

Between you and someone else there may be times when a difficult discussion has to be had relating to your media decisions or something else that they see in your life. It's not always easy, but according to the Bible, that's how 'sharpening' can take place.

MAKE ACCOUNTABILITY REAL

When it comes to the movies that we watch, the websites that we go to or what we decide to post on our favorite social media site, there are people that should have access to this part of our decision making to help us make sure we're not making unbiblical choices. Here's some things to consider:

1. **Add the right people.** Who are the people that need to be a part of your 'Media Accountability List'? Probably it should be your Mom and Dad, a Youth Pastor, maybe an older college-aged friend that you trust. But particularly when it comes to social media sites like Facebook: one of these people needs to be connected to you or have permission to follow you and even access your site to see what's happening.
2. **Ask the right people.** Who is one person in your life that is an older, committed Christian that you trust the most. Someone that exemplifies the characteristics of Galatians 6:1-5: (Growing, gentle spirited, mature, not a blamer).
3. **Allow the right people.** There are certain people that *should* be a part of your social media sphere and your media decision making (see #1) – but there are definitely people that *should not* be a part of your media world (whether it be people on Facebook, SnapChat, or people you'd watch a movie with). There are certain 'friends' on Facebook that you simply need to 'de-friend' or 'unfollow' and not even think twice about it – simply because what they consistently post or discuss is not helping you live a life of social media purity (see Proverbs 7:24-25).

YOUR TURN

Is there someone you can think of that you respect that you would allow them to ask you questions relating to your Christian walk and specifically your media decision? Who might that person be?

Would you be willing to talk to that person and ask them to hold you accountable to your media decisions?



5

WRITING YOUR MEDIA PLAN



**NOW IT'S YOUR TURN TO
THINK IT THROUGH AND
LIVE IT.**

PUT IT INTO PRACTICE

We've looked closely at media and how it relates to integrity, purity and accountability. Now it's up to you to decide how you're going to live in light of what you've discovered from God's Word. Now you need to determine if you're going to be simply a hearer of the Word or a person who lives the Word.

On the next page you will find a place for you to write out your media standards based on what we have been discussing. Before you write in your answers prayerfully take the time to go back and review the Scriptures that we discussed and write down a thoughtful, sincere answer. This will help you more than you realize when you're in a tough situation and have to make split second decisions. As you're working through this final worksheet feel free to go back and review the answers you gave previously and copy down what you wrote.

With God's strength and by God's grace you can be a student who lives by their Biblical standards when it comes to media. May your example be used to draw people closer to God as He is glorified through your decisions.

MY PERSONAL MEDIA PLAN

Proactive Biblical Thinking: Based on Romans 12:2, Isaiah 26:3, 2 Corinthians 10:3-6 and Ephesians 4:22-24 I want my thinking to be continually transformed by God's Word. I will seek to do this through the following ways:

Media and Integrity: Based on Ephesians 5:1, I want my media decisions to imitate God (no hypocrisy), walk in love (think of others first) and be sacrificial to God (use my choices for Him and not me). Based on these things I want to see the following in my life when it comes to different forms of media:

Visual Media (movies, YouTube, etc):

Audio Media (music, podcasts, etc):

Social Media (Facebook, SnapChat, etc):

Media and Purity: Based on Ephesians 5:2 I want my media decisions to not have even a hint of sexual inappropriateness, crude joking or filthy talk. Based on these things I want to see the following in my life when it comes to different forms of media:

Visual Media (movies, YouTube, etc):

Audio Media (music, podcasts, etc):

Social Media (Facebook, SnapChat, etc):

Media and Accountability: Based on Galatians 6:1-5 I want to be transparent with certain people when it comes to my media decisions. I want them to be able to examine any area of my life as it relates to media. Based on these things I want to see the following accountability in my life when it comes to different forms of media:

Visual Media (movies, YouTube, etc):

Audio Media (music, podcasts, etc):

Social Media (Facebook, SnapChat, etc):

LEADER'S GUIDE



**NOW IT'S YOUR TURN TO
THINK IT THROUGH AND
LIVE IT.**

A GREAT RESPONSIBILITY...

It really is a awesome to thing to come alongside a young person and influence them towards Christlikeness. You are to be commended for taking this seriously and for desiring to help the student that is going through the process of writing out their media standards.

When I went through this process with my son I found the following to be helpful:

1. **Allow the student to work through this process by him/herself one section at a time, and then meet to discuss it.** This allows the student to discover these truths on their own without your prompting and gives them time to think through it.
2. **Meet regularly to discuss what they have worked on.** Commit to meet at a set time and stick to it for the duration of the process. The ideas section to section are intended to flow – so long disruptions between sections may not be the best for continuity.
3. **Make tweaks as you go along.** They won't necessarily get every concept on their first attempt – that's ok. But if you need them to re-think something that they have written ask them to rework it and follow up on it the next time you meet.
4. **Follow up once it's finished.** After the student has written out their media principles on the final page, give them some time to flesh it out, but schedule a time to get back together to see how it's going.

God bless you on this journey of helping a student think Biblically about their life. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to connect with me.