TECHNOLOGY – LOVE IT OR HATE IT?

TRIVIA QUESTION
Who said: “...if used creatively and correctly, new computer technologies can help people meet the human longing to connect with others and share the search for goodness, beauty and truth.”

INTERNET BASICS
- Be internet savvy yourself.
- Be an internet partner with your child.
- Keep computers in a common area.
- Don’t play with strangers
- Limit the time

IT’S SO EASY, IT’S DANGEROUS:
- Easy Access to risky information
- Anonymity allows people to lie
- Surprise!
- You can’t take it back

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION
1. How much is too much recreational time on the computer?
2. At what age should a child be allowed to get a cell phone?
3. How can you monitor screen time when you’re not home?
4. What are reasonable consequences if your child breaks one of your internet rules?
5. Are there any ways that you as a parent use technology that warrant changing?

SIGNS THAT YOUR CHILD MIGHT BE AT RISK ON-LINE
1. Your child spends large amounts of time on-line, especially at night.
2. Is time online trumping face-to-face relationships?
3. Time online keeps your child from participating in more active recreation?
4. Your child quickly changes the screen on the monitor when you come into the room.
5. Your child becomes withdrawn from the family.
6. Your child frequently is online longer than originally planned.
CODES PARENTS SHOULD KNOW:

ASL(R P) → Age, Sex, Location (Race/Picture)  BF / GF → Boyfriend / Girlfriend
CD9 → Code 9 Parent is around  GNOC → Get Naked On Cam
GTG → Got To Go  HAK → Hugs and Kisses
ILY or ILU → I Love You  KPC → Keeping Parents Clueless
LMIRL → Let’s Meet in Real Life  MOS → Mom Over Shoulder
NIFOC → Naked In Front of Computer  P911 → Parent Emergency
PAW → Parents are Watching  PIR → Parent In Room
POS → Parent Over Shoulder  PRON → Porn
PRW → Parents Are Watching  SX → Sex
TDTM → Talk Dirty To Me  WYCM → Will You Call Me
WYRN → What’s Your Real Name

HELPFUL WEBSITES

www.netsmartz.org – Comprehensive internet source for parents with children of all ages.
www.mindcompass.com – Articles on internet guidelines and parenting by Dr. Paul Simpson
www.trypsych.com – Triangle Psychological Services (Integrating Psychology and Faith)
www.internetfilterreview.com – Reviews the top 10 internet filters for families

BOOKS TO SUPPORT PARENTS and TEACHERS

Family Life Program for K-8 by RCL-Benziger, www.rclbfamilylife.com


Raising Kids Who Will Make a Difference – Helping Your Family Live with Integrity, Value Simplicity, and Care for Others by Susan Vogt, Loyola Press, ©2002

Just Family Nights – 60 Activities to Keep Your Family Together in a World Falling Apart by Susan Vogt, Brethren Press, ©1994


Families Creating Circles of Peace by Jim McGinnis, Ken & Gretchen Lovingood, and Jim Vogt

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CONCLUDING THOUGHT

When I said “Follow me” I didn’t mean on Twitter. – Jesus.

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