# TECH

# SAFETY

## A PANEL & GROUP DISCUSSION

### THE EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH OF CRYSTAL LAKE

# TECH SAFETY:
## A PANEL AND GROUP DISCUSSION

Men's Ministry, at their April 6, 2019 breakfast, had a presentation and discussion of ideas on technology and internet safety—as it relates to individuals and families. This is an important topic. It is not a matter of *if* you use technology but *how* you use it. Used rightly, tech can be a helpful servant. Used wrongly (or even carelessly), it can be a cruel and enslaving task-master.

To understand the scope and spiritual danger of technology, watch this message from Josh McDowell at Moody Founder's Week in 2015. Pastor Jay had the Pastors and Elders watch this several years ago – quite sobering:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oOSbUjmupW

*"Our use of technology is a theological question, because Jesus Christ claims Lordship over all areas of life."* - Samuel James

*"We've accepted the lie that technology is neutral, not realizing it is weighted against a pure mind and Christ-honoring lifestyle . . . Maintaining mental and spiritual purity while surrounded by the temptations of technology thrusts us into a new level of satanic warfare . . . Satan doesn't respond to sweet reason, he doesn't play by the rules, and he won't go down without a fight. Churches need to help, guide, and encourage their people to confront the enemy. There is nowhere to hide. This is not a war that cannot be won without prayer, earnest prayer, and intercessory prayer. And accountability."* - Erwin Lutzer

*The sharing of truth and the setting of rules—without a loving, intimate, and communicative relationship— will lead to a rejection of that truth and those rules by our children.*
(adapted from a talk by Josh McDowell)

## PANEL: ARRON BULLOCK AND DAVE JENKINS (OF SCHOOL DIST. 47)

· **PROJECT B3:  https://www.d47.org/Page/9850**
  The district's "Project B 3" – be safe . . . smart . . . kind; good resources for parents, and all of us, to consider.

· Dave (from D47) recommended a device to help you set guidelines around when and where your kids spend their online screen time: **Disney Circle https://meetcircle.com** and the app **https://meetcircle.com/app**

## INTERNET MONITORING / REPORTING / APP & DEVICE CONTROL
### (THESE ARE THINGS MEN IN OUR CHURCH ARE USING)

**• Covenant Eyes: https://www.covenanteyes.com**

Their accountability service is designed to help you overcome pornography by monitoring your screen activity and sending a report to a trusted ally who holds you accountable for your online choices.

**• Our Pact:  https://ourpact.com**

Our Pact is much more than a parental control app. It's the catch-all family locator and screen time management solution you've been waiting for.

**·  Net Nanny:  https://www.netnanny.com**

Net Nanny provides a content-control software marketed primarily towards parents as a way to monitor and control their child's computer activity. The software allows a computer owner to block and filter Internet content, place time limits on use, and block desktop PC games.

**• Norton Family:  https://family.norton.com/web**

Norton Family parental control software helps protect your kids from online predators by showing you what your kids are doing online and identifying potential dangers before they become problems.

**• Accountability 2 You:  https://accountable2you.com**

A peer-based accountability platform that encourages rich communication to help individuals achieve and sustain excellence!

**• Qustodio Parental Control  https://www.qustodio.com/en**

The Internet's best free parental control app. Designed to supervise, manage and protect your child's device use on the go!

· Check with your Internet provider for options.

## TABLE COMMENTS & SUGGESTIONS

· Use computers in visible areas

· No phones for kids in bedrooms after bedtime

· Meet with another guy to talk about "What are you doing online?"; man-to-man;

  also,  parent-to-child; accountability

· Discuss with your children the "what" and "why" of what they view

· 8th grade when given first phone

· Monitor activity on kids' phones

· If married, a man's wife should be able to view/monitor his phone

· Online reverse lookup to find phone numbers

· *Andy Crouch, *The Tech-Wise Family.* (Crouch is executive editor of Christianity Today)

· *Eliza Huie, *Raising Kids in a Screen-Saturated World.* (Huie is a parent and Christian Counselor)

· *The chapter, "The Church, Technology, and Purity" in Erwin Lutzer's book, *The Church in Babylon: Heeding the Call to Be a Light in the Darkness.* (Lutzer is a prolific author and Pastor Emeritus of The Moody Church in Chicago).

· *The chapter, "Set Tech Limits" in Ben Sasse's book, *Them: Why We Hate Each Other and How to Heal.* (Sasse is a US Senator from Nebraska)

· Sherry Turkle, *Reclaiming Conversation: The Power of Talk in a Digital Age* (Turkle is Professor at MIT and a licensed clinical psychologist).

· *John Dyer, *From the Garden to the City: The Redeeming and Corrupting Power of Technology* (Dyer currently serves as the Director of Web Development for Dallas Theological Seminary).

· *Tony Reinke, *12 Ways Your Phone Is Changing You* **and** *Competing Spectacles: Treasuring Christ in the Media Age* (Reinke is the communications director for desiringGod.org).

· *Steve Kozak, *3 Realities Pastors and Parents Should Consider to Prepare Students for the Digital World.* (Kozak currently serves as the vice president of youth ministry for CE National. Steve and his family use to attend EFCCL). https://stevenkozak.com/blog

· Cal Newport, *Deep Work* **and** *Digital Minimalism* (Newport is an associate professor of computer science at Georgetown University and author of six books)

· Kara Powell, Art Bamford, and Brad M. Griffin, *Every Parent's Guide to Navigating Our Digital World.* (The authors are part of the Fuller Youth Institute)

· Websites: *Focus on the Family; *Family Life; *Pure Ministries; *Josh McDowell Ministries

**IF YOU HAVE COMMENTS, QUESTIONS, OR ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS, PLEASE CONTACT ARRON BULLOCK: THBULL@GMAIL.COM.**