

## In-Class/Group Discussion Questions (Faith)

### Instructor Introduction:

*Hello! There are probably more questions than you need, but just pick and choose what you like. It's important that students be given a chance to reflect on what we presented to them. We hope these questions give them an opportunity to do this. Or, insert your own! You know your kids best.*

*Warmly,*

**Chris McKenna**

*Founder, Protect Young Eyes*

*Creator, Virtue in Media*

### **Discussion Questions for Kindergarten – 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade**

1. Remind students with call and response: "Technology is a blast, but be careful."
2. We saw in Holy Scripture in Philippians 4 where St. Paul gives us a list of things to think about so that our brain stays good and healthy. Just like we give our bodies good food to keep it healthy, we need to feed our brains good thoughts to keep it healthy. Here's what Paul asked us to think about. Repeat after me:
  - a. Whatever is true, (they repeat)
  - b. Whatever is pure, (they repeat – continue)
  - c. Whatever is right,
  - d. Whatever is holy,
  - e. Whatever is friendly, and
  - f. Whatever is proper.
  - g. *Let's do it one more time*
3. What are some activities we can do to take a break from playing on a computer or watching TV and videos? (Make a list. Share with parents in your newsletter or ministry website. Tweet! They can use it at home when kids are 'bored'.)
4. Sometimes on YouTube or even during a game we might play, we might see something scary. Has that ever happened? Or, we might see something that makes us feel uncomfortable. You might call it a bad picture. Has this ever happened? Who can remind us what we're supposed to do when that happens?
5. In Psalm 119:37, which Mr. Chris shared with us, it says to "avert my eyes from what is worthless." Do you know what it means to avert?
6. Have any of you ever had someone who you didn't know try to talk to you on the computer? Raise your hand if that has ever happened. It can be scary. If anyone ever tries to talk to you that you don't know, what do you do? We talked about these two steps when we practiced what to do when we see a scary, uncomfortable, or bad picture. We PUT IT DOWN and then TELL SOMEONE! (have them repeat this here again, if you choose)
7. Tell me the most important thing you've learned from the presentation and our discussion.

## **Discussion Questions for Grades 3-4:**

1. **Remind students with call and response: “Technology is a blast, but be careful.”**
2. You heard Mr. Chris talk about how amazing our brain is. Did you know that there are over 4 miles of blood vessels in our brains? That’s over 20,000 feet! Crazy! God made us as unique, amazing, and wonderful. Each and every one of you. But, can you feel your brain working? Not really. It’s not like a muscle. So, we have to be really careful with what we feed our brains because screens can hurt our brain and we won’t even feel it.
3. Does anyone want to come up here to help me show you how long 20,000 feet is? Come up here, and I’m going to give you a ruler. This is 1 foot. If you had 20,000 of these, it would stretch from here to [figure out a point that’s 4 miles from the school].
4. We saw in Holy Scripture in Philippians 4 where St. Paul gives us a list of things to think about so that our brain stays good and healthy. Just like we give our bodies good food to keep it healthy, we need to feed our brains good thoughts to keep it healthy. Here’s what Paul asked us to think about. Repeat after me:
  - a. Whatever is true, (they repeat)
  - b. Whatever is pure, (they repeat – continue)
  - c. Whatever is right,
  - d. Whatever is holy,
  - e. Whatever is friendly, and
  - f. Whatever is proper.
  - g. *Let’s do it one more time*
5. What are some activities we can do to take a break from playing on a computer or watching TV and videos? (Make a list. Share with parents in your newsletter or ministry website. Tweet! They can use it at home when kids are ‘bored’.)
6. Sometimes on YouTube or even during a game we might play, we might see something scary. Has that ever happened? Or, we might see something that makes us feel uncomfortable. You might call it a bad picture. Has this ever happened? Who can remind us what we’re supposed to do when that happens?
7. In Psalm 119:37, which Mr. Chris shared with us, it says to “avert my eyes from what is worthless.” Do you know what it means to avert?
8. Have any of you ever had someone who you didn’t know try to talk to you on the computer? Raise your hand if that has ever happened. It can be scary. If anyone ever tries to talk to you that you don’t know, what do you do? We talked about these two steps when we practiced what to do when we see a scary, uncomfortable, or bad picture. We **PUT IT DOWN** and then **TELL SOMEONE!** (have them repeat this here again, if you choose).
9. Why is it so much easier to type mean things to other kids through a screen than it would be to say it face-to-face?
8. Do you know what it means to be a bully? What about a cyber bully? Recently, adults have started calling Instagram Instabully – why do you think that is? [Due to the ways kids are leaving comments, creating fake accounts, making kids feel awful]. What would you do if you saw someone using technology to say hurtful things?
9. Mr. Chris shared James 3 from Scripture where it says, “the tongue is like a spark.” What is a spark? What power does a spark have? How does this relate to our words and the power of our thumbs when we type?
10. Tell me the most important thing you’ve learned from the presentation and our discussion.

## **Discussion Questions for Middle and High School:**

### **Introduction [MS/HS]**

1. Let's take a little poll – who thinks they control their technology? Now, who thinks their technology controls them? Be honest! Why did you answer the way you did?
2. 1 Peter 5:8, “stay alert! Watch out for your great enemy, the devil. He prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour.” When Peter says, “stay alert!” What do you think he means? How does this relate to technology?
3. In Galatians 6:7, it says “you will harvest what you sow.” In other words, if I plant corn seeds, what's going to grow? CORN. If I plant wheat seeds, what's going to grow. WHEAT. If I plant seeds of bullying, negativity, and poor choices online, what's going to grow in my life? [Wait for an answer]
4. **[MIDDLE SCHOOL]** They laid out this choice – we can either be AWFUL or AWESOME with our technology. You are getting older – you have choices and adults aren't always going to be there to help you make it. What will you do?
5. **[HIGH SCHOOL]** They made it pretty clear that this is your life. Your choice. Every day to think about NOW vs. LATER. You are getting older – you have choices and adults aren't always going to be there to help you make it. What will you do?

### **The Internet Never Forgets [MS/HS]**

1. Right now, if I printed off the last 12 months of your gaming chats or social media activity and handed it to your parents, what would surprise them?
2. The Scripture from Galatians 6, where it says, “you can't fool God.” Why is it important to remember that? If we delete something awful, like our search history or a comment, what does this verse tell us?
3. If you knew that employers and colleges won't hire you or give you a scholarship or let you play sports if notice certain behaviors online, what would you change about how you use the Internet?
4. If inappropriate pictures of you were being shared at school, what would you do?
5. GUYS – let's say you noticed that your friends were passing around an inappropriate picture of a girl from school. Are you required to step in and do something? Why or why not? GIRLS – what about the other way around with a picture of a guy?

### **My Words Matter [MS/HS]**

1. Without saying names, can you remember a time that you observed a friend say something on social media or in a game that made you think, “man, that was really dumb”?
2. Why is it so much easier to type mean things to other kids through a screen than it would be face-to-face?
3. In Genesis 1, we read that God spoke, and everything came into existence. Later, in John 1, we read that Jesus is the Word. What does this tell you about the significance of what we say?

### **Sometimes the Internet is Awful [MIDDLE SCHOOL ONLY]**

1. Students, please, please don't forget what was said here. Don't ever trust a profile picture or what someone says. Treat them like creepy hoodie guys until you know for sure.

Promise? You are too precious and amazing to take a chance online. Yes, there are people out there who are specifically targeting children.

2. Do you remember what they said to do if you run into someone who seems like they're trying to get information from you? That's right, PUT IT DOWN and TELL SOMEONE. This is so important, that I'd like you to repeat after me, PUT IT DOWN [repeat]. TELL SOMEONE [repeat].
3. They shared Proverbs 4:23, "with all vigilance guard your heart." What does it mean to "guard your heart?" Why is your heart important?

### **Screens Can Mess with Your Brain [MS/HS]**

1. You heard them talk about how amazing our brain is. Did you know that there are over 4 miles of blood vessels in our brains? That's over 20,000 feet! Crazy! God made us as unique, amazing, and wonderful. Each and every one of you. But, can you feel your brain working? Not really. It's not like a muscle. So, we have to be really careful with what we feed our brains because screens can damage them.
2. LeBron James earns over \$75 million/year. \$23 million from playing basketball and the rest from endorsements. Advertising. In other words, Companies make money from him using their stuff and so they give money back to him. Snapchat, YouTube, they all make money off you. How? Do you ever get any of that back? Is this whole digital system fair?
3. In Psalm 119:37, which was shared with us, it says to "avert my eyes from what is worthless." Do you know what it means to avert?
4. **[HIGH SCHOOL]** Pornography exists to trick you into believing lies about love. Lies about how people want to be treated. Love and affection are gifts to be given to someone – not a thing to be taken forcefully [*Leader: depending on your comfort level, this would be the spot to drill in a little deeper on the issue of pornography and "coming clean" if needed. According to a 2016 Barna study, 41% of Christian boys with strong faith ages 13-24 and 13% of girls view porn regularly.*]
5. Friends, when it comes to seeing things online that can mess with our brains, we have to be really careful with inappropriate content including pornography. Once it gets a hold of you, it does not give up easily. I want you to feed that precious brain videos and images that are awesome and not awful.

### **You are > Likes and Comments [MS/HS]**

- Please hear me when I say that there is no one like you. You are unique. Unrepeatable! A complete miracle created by God. No one lays on their deathbed and wishes they had used Snapchat more. No one.
- Here's the verse from Galatians 6 again, "I am not trying to please people. I want to please God. Do you think I am trying to please people? If I were doing that, I would not be a servant of Christ." Why do teenagers constantly want to win the approval of other people?