

Parents, your role is so important! Especially when it comes to teaching your children about the responsible use of technology. It's not easy, and so the Protect Young Eyes team wants to help. Below are discussion questions for you to use while watching our videos with your kids.

Protect Young Eyes is a website built for parents, with in-depth, Biblical analysis about the latest apps, device parental controls, and digital trends. If you're interested in receiving the Protect Young Eyes Parent Tech Updates email (bi-weekly), please text the word "protect" to: 66866. We'll send the latest tech trends directly to your email!

Blog posts that you might find helpful at protectyoungeyes.com/blog:

- [Instagram has a Porn Problem \(Instaporn\)](#)
- [What's the Right Age to Give My Kid Social Media?](#)
- [5 Days of Snapchat Discover - Parents Beware](#)
- [Snapstreak Addiction. Why Kids Can't Put Snapchat Down.](#)
- [No Social Media Until High School #waitingisloving](#)

You are the first formators of your children. It's our passion to help families honor God with technology.

Video 1: The Digital Life Introduction

1. Be honest – do you think you control your technology Why did you answer the way you did?
2. Explain what Chris meant by his explanation of the comma and the good things we enjoy in life.
3. 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?
4. 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?
5. 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?

Video 2: The Internet Never Forgets

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?

Video 3: My Words Matter

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?

Video 4: Sometimes the Internet is Awful

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?

Video 5: Screens Can Mess with Your Brain

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.

Video 6: You are > Likes and Comments

- 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?

Video 8: Snapchat (Bonus)

- What does it mean when something is 'hacked'?
- Snapchat earned nearly \$150 million in the 1Q of 2017 (Apr-June). LeBron James earned \$71 million for playing basketball in 2016 - \$23 million salary. The rest in endorsements (advertising). Compare Snapchat to LeBron James. LeBron gets paid to play basketball, and essentially gets a nice bonus from advertisers. They value him. Snapchat doesn't pay any of their 'players' and the advertisers don't either. What does this mean for the people who use Snapchat?
- How does Snapchat get people to play for free? (Answer: features! Like the Snapstreak! They find ways to get them to return to the app frequently, so they can guarantee advertisers a big audience. They hack their users.
- Maybe read this article together (parents, please read it first to make sure you agree with its content):

Video 9: Pornography. It's Just a Word. Let's Talk About It.

1. Just to re-emphasize something Mr. McKenna said – 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.
2. What are some practical, easy steps that middle school kids can take to steer away from pornography?
3. 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.
4. Ephesians 5:13 says, "But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible." Why is it important to keep technology use in the light?
5. Read Luke 15:11-32 (The Story of the Prodigal Son). We don't need to be trapped by pornography. Some of us may be struggling. For others, it may be a bad habit. Maybe you saw it early. Maybe it was an accident. Maybe it wasn't. Regardless of how it started, a forgiven future is possible. Just turn to God. He's not upset at you if you look at pornography. Let me say that again! Just like in the story of the prodigal son, where his dad is just waiting for his son to come home, even though his son wasted his inheritance and was a complete jerk, God is always excited for us to turn back to Him. **THAT'S OUR GOD.** Not shaking His finger at our wrongs, but patiently waiting for us to be faithful and turn away from bad choices. [*Catholic educators and youth ministers – this is a perfect spot to point toward the sacraments of the Eucharist or Confession*].