



John 4:4-26
11.09.2014



study questions

Use these questions in your community group time to dig deeper and discover how you can apply today's message to everyday life.

INTRODUCTION

For better or worse (possibly both), technology, media and the internet have become hugely integrated parts of our modern lives. Our cell phones, e-mail accounts, TVs and social profiles play significant roles in our day-to-day. Few of us, however, have paused to ask what effect these things have on our walk of faith. It's easy to vaguely assume we have already reached a conclusion and continue on our way believing our lifestyle choices are constructive to a life following Jesus. Scripture has a lot to say about what a healthy life of discipleship looks like, and it's only by overlaying these scriptures on top of our actual day-to-day practices that we get a clear picture of what is and isn't helpful as we follow Jesus.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Read Matthew 22:34-40. Use this description of life in God's Kingdom as the lens through which you discuss the following questions.

1. Read 1 Corinthians 6:12. In regards to morality, we are used to asking the question, "What is allowed?" Here, Paul teaches us to instead ask the question, "What is helpful?"
 - a. Think of your daily interaction with technology and media. What is helpful in your pursuit of becoming Christ-like? What is perhaps unhelpful?
2. Read Matthew 6: 31-33.
 - a. When you use your cell phone, go online or watch TV, what are you seeking?
 - b. How can these things help (or not) you seek God's Kingdom in your life and world?
3. Read 1 Corinthians 10:31. God wants to infuse every part of our lives, even things as mundane as eating and drinking (and texting and TV watching).
 - a. Are there times when you "put God on pause" in order to focus on something else?
 - b. What would it look like to let him infuse even our leisure time and our techno-social interactions? Is there anything in you resistant to that?

MOVING FORWARD

As media and technology become more and more present in our lives, it's easy to forget that these things have the power to change the way we think, live, talk and seek God's Kingdom. This week, simply pay attention to the prevalence of these things in your life and where they are leading you. Invite God to lead you as you seek healthy and helpful uses of technology, media and life online.

CHANGING YOUR MIND

Read again John 4:1-26. Notice the risk, presence, patience, curiosity, mystery and overall love that are present in this interaction. Which aspect of Christ-like relationships is most challenging or scary to you? Pray for God's guidance as you trust him in this area.