



# Internet Safety Night Raising God-Pleasing Digital Citizens

# Welcome

## Knowing how to use the Internet and online technology is an important 21st century skill

- Children are early adapters—they may be using applications and trying new technologies that we're barely aware of
- Parents are still children's best guide to behaving responsibly online ... and a God-given responsibility



# Goals for Tonight

- To listen to God's will for our digital lives
- To understand how our children are using personal technology
- To keep our children safe when they're online
- To teach our children to make God-pleasing choices when using personal technology
- To start a discussion about Internet safety, personal privacy, and the importance of behaving responsibly online and off that we can continue with our families and others beyond tonight



# What God says...

- **Philippians 4:8-9**

8 Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, **whatever is right, whatever is pure**, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—**think about such things.** 9 Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. **And the God of peace will be with you.**

- How can these verses help our eyes and fingers use the internet to God's glory?
- What will happen if we don't?
- What will happen if we do?



# What Is a God-Pleasing Digital Citizen?

- **Representing God** online as you would in person
- Taking action against **cyberbullying**
- Not **copying** something that isn't yours
- Know how not to be fooled by **cybercriminals**
- Protecting personal information and maintaining online **privacy** and reputation



# As a Parent, Where Do You Start?

- Understand how children connect
- Use these technologies yourself
- Establish a code of conduct to follow online and off



# How Do Children Connect?

- Mobile devices, including cell phones
- Laptops, tablets, and personal computers
- Video game consoles



# What Children Do Online

- Work on schoolwork
- Visit virtual worlds
- Use apps
- Play multiplayer games
- Text or instant message one another
- Post profiles and interact with others on social networking sites
- View and post videos
- Download music, movies, and more
- Create and upload art





# Schoolwork

- Online tutorials
- Look up homework assignments
- Communicate with teachers
- Research papers
  - » Beware of plagiarism!
  - » Help your child find legitimate websites



# Virtual Worlds

- Popular virtual worlds:
  - » Poptropica
  - » Club Penguin
  - » Whyville
- Some are better than others
- Visit and play yourself
- Use parental controls to restrict sites
- Teach your child to report troubling or threatening behavior



# Online Games

- Consoles like Xbox Live are increasingly connected to the Internet, allowing kids to play against friends and strangers
- Many allow players to talk in real time using headsets and microphones
- Kids may be exposed to “trash talk” or worse



# Video-Sharing Sites

- Popular video-sharing sites:
  - » YouTube
  - » Vimeo
- Users view and post videos
- They post and read comments about the video content
- Beware of copyright infringement



# Social Networking Sites

- Popular social networking sites:
  - » Facebook
  - » Google Plus
  - » Twitter
- Users create “profiles”
- They communicate with friends and family, but also with people they may not know
- They may post things they later regret



# Malicious Files

Your computer may become infected with viruses and spyware through:

- » downloads
- » emails
- » peer-to-peer networking
- » infected websites
- » “friending” strangers on social networks



# Texting and Instant Messaging

- These allow children to “talk” with friends at any time on the computer or a cell phone
- Texting and instant messaging have replaced email and phone calls as preferred methods of communication



# Cyberbullying

- Using online technology to repeatedly act cruelly to someone
- Posting or forwarding a private text or embarrassing image to others
- Tricking someone into revealing embarrassing information and forwarding it to others
- Spreading malicious rumors
- Stealing passwords
- Often accompanies offline interactions





# How To Deal With Cyberbullying

- Never respond to unkind remarks
- Don't participate in cyberbullying
- Block the cyberbully
- Tell a trusted adult
- Save the posts
- Notify law enforcement, if appropriate
- Notify your child's school, if appropriate
- Don't be a bystander—speak out against bullying of any type



# A Digital Code of Conduct

- Protect your personal information
- Give everything the “grandma test” before posting
- Treat others online as you would treat them in person
- Stand up for others—don’t tolerate bullying
- Avoid plagiarism and copyright infringement
- Keep your password a secret
- Delete suspicious emails
- Check with me or another trusted adult before downloading or clicking on anything



# Basic Ways To Keep Your Child Safe

- Sign an Internet Safety Contract
- Keep the computer in a public area of your home
- Set limits on use
- Become familiar with the sites your child visits
- Know your child's online "friends"
- Know your child's passwords
- Keep your security software up to date



# Satan AND God Use The Internet

- Cyberbullying
- Phishing
- Predators
- Pornography
- Fellowship
- Evangelism
- Bible Study & Growth



# Resources

- **ConnectSafely**  
[www.connectsafely.org](http://www.connectsafely.org)  
Tips, advice, and the latest news on online safety.
- **AllSafeSites**  
[www.allsafesites.com](http://www.allsafesites.com)  
A child-safe Internet search engine.
- **Common Sense Media**  
[www.common Sense Media.org](http://www.common Sense Media.org)  
Reviews and rates websites and other media for children according to age-appropriateness.
- **Trend Micro**  
[www.trendmicro.com/internetsafety](http://www.trendmicro.com/internetsafety)  
Lots of information on Internet safety for families from Trend Micro, the sponsor of this Internet Safety Night presentation.



# Safety Through Software

- **OpenDNS**  
[www.opendns.com](http://www.opendns.com)  
A free Domain Naming Service that filters websites.
- **Trend Micro Online Guardian**  
<http://www.trendmicro.com/us/home/products/internet-safety/online-guardian/index.html>  
A software product that allows you to block and monitor online activity.
- **Covenant Eyes**  
[www.covenanteyes.com](http://www.covenanteyes.com)  
Monitoring and filtering software, plus excellent e-books.
- **McAfee SafeEyes**  
<http://www.internetsafety.com/safe-eyes-parental-control-software.php>  
SafeEyes is a popular content filtering and monitoring software that also has mobile versions.

