

# Timely topics; timeless truths

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## *Social media*

April 24: Intelligent design  
May 1: Gender identity  
May 8: Secret baptism  
May 15: Close communion  
June 5: Dual (or duel) citizenship  
June 12: Social media  
*June 19: No study – Campbell and Schultz (King) farewell*  
June 26: Living together  
*July 3: No study – July 4 weekend*  
July 10: Tattoos



## **Introduction**

Social media can appear to be a wonderful blessing and a horrible mistake. Likely, you have noticed this dual nature of social media. On your own, write down two blessings that you see through social media. Also, write down two problems that you see with social media.

### Blessings

- 1.
- 2.

### Problems

- 1.
- 2.

## **What is social media?**

How would you define social media based on your previous experience and understanding?

A brief history of social media

Although there are major similarities, not all forms of social media are the same. Below are some of the major forms of social media.

Facebook    Twitter    Instagram    LinkedIn    Snapchat    Tiktok    Youtube

Agree or Disagree: There is no such thing as a bad medium, just bad people using it.

## **Problems of social media**

Total depravity is a key doctrine to consider when asking a question like, 'what could go wrong on social media?'. Let's look to the following passages from the Bible that inform us about this doctrine; Gen 5:3, Ps 53:3, Rom 3:10.

How do you see the depravity of humanity showcased on social media?

### **Sexual immorality**

God is serious that we should not mess around with sin or only keep it at arm's length distance away. Sexual immorality runs rampant on social media, especially on Instagram, Snapchat, and Tiktok. Read 1 Corinthians 6:18. Then, evaluate how to best apply this Biblical principle to the use of social media.

### **Negative self-imagining**

Proverbs 31:30 and 1 Peter 3:3 are two passages that demonstrate that a young woman should not find her ultimate value in her physical attractiveness. Instead, she, like all believers, finds her value in Christ's love for her. How can social media go against such an understanding?

Agree or Disagree: A Christian should have nothing to do with a platform that hurts our young women in this way.

### **Echo chamber**

Read Proverbs 13:20. Apply the concept of this passage to the usage of social media. Is it good or bad that social media can cause us only to hear the voices that agree with us? Why?

## **Positives of social media**

In John 17:14-16, Jesus prays that his disciples who are not of the world but are in it are protected. This is the approach that we have to our life in the world. We are in this world, but not of it. In this world, we operate as masks of God. Would it be fair to say that being on social media is part of living in this world? Why or why not?

Agree or Disagree: We can minister to people through social media.

## **Conclusion**

Evaluate for yourself. Do you feel that you should or should not be on social media? Why or why not?