
SOCIAL MEDIA

INTRODUCTION

- ▶ Newsweek, March 2000, "Is Technology Making Us Intimate Strangers?"
- ▶ Pros: efficient and productive
- ▶ Cons: we stay too busy, no time for self-reflection, cell phones at our daughter's soccer games, multi-tasking and distraction
- ▶ Technology, for the most part, creates the illusion of intimacy. As marvelous as it can be, it also foils us. It keeps us from the best of ourselves and enables us to avoid others. It makes us into intimate strangers.

INTRODUCTION

- ▶ Facebook is here to stay
- ▶ 1.86 Billion (compared to 1.2 in 2014, and the population of China at 1.38 billion, 7.5 Billion in the world)
- ▶ 1 of every 5 webpages checked in the US is Facebook

IS THIS FAIR?

- ▶ Can we really blame technology for this?
- ▶ There is an obvious problem when we look around us, but what is the root of this problem?









TROOMS

← AMERICAN ART

↑ AMERICAS

BLUE





FREE

New York World Telegram
Princess to See Cop
At Canterbury's

Pay Bonito Terrorist 40
in Peace Justice Rubble

MILLARD SAVED FOR THE FOUR







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WE ARE CHANGING

- ▶ When we incorporate a new technology into our lives it changes us.
- ▶ Minds:
 - ▶ Social media is teaching us how to think. It conditions our brains to be bombarded with tiny bits of decontextualized information a dozen times a second.
 - ▶ We are losing our attention spans

OUR MINDS ARE CHANGING

- ▶ We are losing the ability to slow down and think critically
- ▶ The myth of multitasking
- ▶ Constant need to be distracted and entertained

OUR HEARTS ARE CHANGING

- ▶ Continually drawn to thinking more and more about ourselves
- ▶ Social media becomes self-promotion and self-advertising
- ▶ We feel drawn to the opinions of others and all of our values are filtered through what other people think about us.

OUR HEARTS ARE CHANGING

- ▶ We are created for glory and we are filling that appetite with the approval of others and not God's glory
- ▶ FOMO

FOMO

- ▶ Oxford English Dictionary: "FOMO– fear of missing out, anxiety that an exciting or interesting event may be happening elsewhere, often aroused by posts seen on a social media website.
- ▶ If we miss out on the "right now" it's over.

IDENTITY

- ▶ Where are we drawing our identity from?
- ▶ How many likes, retweets, favorites, repins, or links can we get?
- ▶ We change what we value (even ourselves) on the response we get from others.

BEFORE YOU POST

- ▶ Will this ultimately glorify me or God? Will this stir or muffle healthy affections for Christ? Will this merely document that I know something that others don't? Will this misrepresent me or is it authentic? Will this potentially breed jealousy in others? Will this fortify unity or stir up unnecessary division? Will this build up or tear down? Will this heap guilt or relieve it? Will this fuel lust for sin or warn against it? Will this overpromise and instill false hopes in others?

OUR RELATIONSHIPS ARE CHANGING

- ▶ “The way we interact online becomes the norm for how we interact offline. Facebook and Twitter communications are pretty short, clipped, and rapid. And that is not a way to have a good conversation with someone. Moreover, a good conversation involves listening and timing, and that is pretty much taken away with Internet communications, because you are not there with the person. So someone could send you a message and you could ignore it, or someone could send you a message and you could get to it two hours later. But if you are in real time in a real place with real bodies and a real voice, that is a very different dynamic. You shouldn't treat another person the way you interact with Twitter.” - Douglas Groothuis

OUR RELATIONSHIPS ARE CHANGING

- ▶ We “control” the way we are perceived.
- ▶ We just show people what we want them to see.
- ▶ We get the illusion of companionship without the demands of friendship. - Shelly Turkle

OUR RELATIONSHIPS ARE CHANGING

- ▶ Envy
- ▶ Comparison
- ▶ Sacrificing depth for breadth

OUR RELATIONSHIPS ARE CHANGING

- ▶ The smartphone is causing a social reversal: the desire to be alone in public and never alone in seclusion. We can be shielded in public and surrounded in isolation, meaning we can escape the awkwardness of human interaction on the street and the boredom of solitude in our homes. Or so we think. - Tony Reinke

OUR TIME IS CHANGING

- ▶ 50% of Facebook users use it first thing in the morning
- ▶ Always takes more time than you think
- ▶ The Gospel of Jesus Christ and His Kingdom breaking into this world is much more worthy of our sustained attention than the latest trending hashtag.

IN CHRIST IS SATISFACTION

- ▶ Minds
- ▶ Hearts
- ▶ Relationships

SAFEGUARDS

- ▶ Turn off nonessential notifications.
- ▶ Guard your morning disciplines.
- ▶ Recognize that much of what you respond to immediately can wait.
- ▶ Put your phone down during meals or time with others.
- ▶ Detox often.