

Technology & the Bible

Lesson for Sunday, June 7, 2026

INTRODUCTION:

- ⇒ Share one piece of technology that you would say is integral to your life.
- ⇒ DISCUSS: Have you ever given any thought to what the relationship between the Christian and their technology ought to be? How much does your Christian faith inform the technology you use or don't use? What are some biblical principles that shape your use of technology?
- ⇒ It would be a mistake to think that just because we don't find words like smartphone, algorithms and social media in the Bible that God doesn't have something to say about it.
- ⇒ In this series of lessons, we want to learn what it means to have a biblical worldview of technology in our tech-driven world.
- ⇒ In this lesson, we want to ask and answer some questions to get us on the same page for the rest of our study.

BIBLE STUDY:

1. What is technology?
 - a. Allow the class to attempt to define technology...
 - b. We tend to think of technology as simply the internet, our smartphones, various gadgets, or even social media.
 - c. But if you take a minute to think about those answers, you'll realize that those are simply forms of digital technology and that humanity has always had some form of technology – whether it be a shovel, medicine, or the printing press.
 - d. Technology has been with us from the very beginning. The definition of technology that we will be using is: *Technology is a God-given, man-made tool that shapes our **habits, hearts and habitation.***
2. Where did technology come from?
 - a. Technology is God-given and man-made.
 - b. The seeds of technology appear in the very first chapter of the Bible. Read Genesis 1:27-30. This is often referred to as the Dominion Mandate, given by God to man.
 - c. The Bible does not introduce “technology” as a separate topic, but it does introduce human creativity and tool-use almost immediately after creation.
 - d. When God commands humanity to “fill,” “subdue,” and “have dominion” over the earth, that implies active man-made cultivation, problem-solving, and the development of tools and systems for stewarding creation.
 - e. Genesis 1:28 and Genesis 2:15 present humanity as image-bearers who are to work the garden, cultivate the earth, and extend ordered life into the world.
 - f. Later in Genesis 4, we see early examples like city-building, animal husbandry, musical instruments, and metallurgy, showing that human ingenuity develops very early in the biblical story.
 - g. In a very real way, a strong case can be made that technology is a direct outgrowth of **stewardship**. “Subduing” the earth requires making the creation of God useful for human flourishing.
 - h. Technology is not merely a modern invention; it is one of the ways humans exercise responsible **dominion** under God.
3. Is Technology Good, Bad or Neutral?
 - a. The simple answer to this question is: **Yes!** Technology shapes our habits, hearts and our habitation (the world around us). Let's look at a Biblical example that makes this point.
 - b. Read Exodus 31:1-11. What gifts from God do you notice in this passage?

- i. This passage tells us that the Lord filled a man with His Spirit, wisdom, understanding and ability in every craft to design and create things for God's **glory** and for the **good** of the people.
- ii. Those abilities were good and were given to all the craftsmen of the day to create what God had commanded them. God used these gifts to build articles and elements for a place of worship where He would be able to dwell in Israel – the Tabernacle.
- c. Now read Exodus 32:1-10. How were the gifts given in this passage used for sinful purposes?
 - i. Almost immediately, God's people went from hearing His instructions about creating a place of worship to using their gifts to create a false image of worship.
 - ii. They sought to make a name for themselves rather than honoring God.
 - iii. As a result, the Lord's anger burned against them because they had used the gifts He gave them to worship Him to worship other gods.
 - iv. The tools and abilities they were given for **righteous** purposes were used instead to **rebel** against God and His desire to dwell among His people.
- d. Do you see the point? Technology can be used for good, and it can be used for evil.
- e. Our creative gifts along with our sinful heart can be a recipe for disaster unless we take the time to slow down and ask the hard questions about what technology is and how it is shaping us. We need God's help!
- f. Over the course of this series, we want to ask ourselves, "Are we using our technology in ways that honor the Lord?"

APPLICATION: THE GLORY OF GOD AND THE GOOD OF OTHERS – A FRAMEWORK

In our digital age, it is increasingly evident that we are easily distracted and inclined to use our God-given tools such as technology in ways that don't bring glory to God. While this might seem like a new problem, we have seen today that it is an age-old problem. If that's the case, how does the Bible instruct us to use our gifts and talents – and even our technology – to love God?

- ⇒ In the Great Commandment Jesus sums up the entirety of how Christians are called to live in light of God's truths. Read Matthew 22:34-40.
- ⇒ Jesus summarized the entirety of the Christian life – loving God and loving others. Notice how Jesus's command directs us outside of ourselves. Instead of focusing on what we might want or making it all about us, He points to others.
- ⇒ Think about all the different areas of life you're actively involved in. Take me for example: I am a husband and a father to two, a son, a brother, a church member. In each of these areas of life, I have duties and responsibilities to other people. God has placed me in these contexts and calls me to live above reproach and walk in wisdom as I seek to love him and love those around me (Ephesians 5:15; 1 Peter 2:9).
- ⇒ Given how technology has been incorporated into nearly every area of our lives, from our personal life to our families, our work, and even our churches, we must think wisely and biblically about how these tools are shaping and forming us. The command to love God and love our neighbor extends to every area of our lives, include how we use the technologies that God has given us.
- ⇒ DISCUSS:
 - As we find ourselves in an increasingly tech-dominated world, how have you seen technology impact your ability to love others in a better way?
 - How have you seen a negative impact?
 - Discuss the same thing about our relationship with the Lord? How has technology hurt and helped?
 - If there was one thing you know you need to change about your use of technology, what would it be? Follow-up with: Why wait to make those changes if you know it is something you ought to do?