

Living in the Information Age

Lesson for Sunday, June 21, 2026

INTRODUCTION:

- ⇒ We began this series by defining technology as *a God-given, man-made tool that shapes our _____, _____ and _____*. We also learned that when it comes to the influence of technology in our lives that it is an issue of _____.
- ⇒ Last week we focused on the influence of digital technology in our lives and the importance of not allowing technology to influence our thinking more than the Word of God.
- ⇒ We live in a flood of information. This flood doesn't just _____ us; it _____ us. Unfiltered, the information we consume shapes our habits, attention, fears and hopes.

BIBLE STUDY: In this text, Paul warns believers to not to be “taken captive” by hollow (vain), deceptive (deceit) ideas rooted in human tradition instead of Christ. Notice...

1. The _____ to observe
 - a. The word “spoil” means to capture or to enslave.
 - b. Paul’s words echo Proverbs 4:23.
 - c. Paul warns the Christian to stay alert so that no one “takes you captive” through empty and deceptive ideas built on human tradition and the basic patterns of the world rather than on Christ.
2. The _____ to observe
 - a. Notice the words that Paul uses to describe false teaching in this verse:
 - i. Spoil – it is _____
 - ii. Vain – it is _____
 - iii. Deceitful – it _____ the truth
 - iv. After the tradition of men – it is _____
 - v. Not after Christ – it _____ Christ
 - b. The world’s way is not God’s way (Isaiah 55:8) and Christians are to be proactive in guarding their hearts and minds from worldly influences.
3. Colossians 2:8 in the Information Age
 - a. In our information age, Paul’s warning takes on a new intensity because we are constantly surrounded by messages on screens, in news feeds, in entertainment that seek to shape the way we think.
 - b. We must learn to recognize the difference between information and _____. The information age gives everyone easy access to facts, opinions, and “hot takes,” but that abundance does not automatically produce wisdom or Christlikeness.
 - c. Colossians 2:8 reminds us that what matters is not how much information we have, but whether our thinking is “after Christ.”

- d. The question we must address is, how do we discipline our thinking, so we are not captured by the wrong information?

APPLICATION: Consider these concrete, everyday practices a Christian could put to work to grow in biblical discernment in the information age.

1. _____ your mind in Scripture
 - a. Set a daily, unhurried time in the Word so that God’s truth is the “baseline” in your heart.
 - b. We cannot think biblically without constant exposure to God’s Word.
 - c. A good reference to consider: Psalm 1
2. Pray for _____
 - a. Make it a habit to ask God for wisdom before you open your phone, scroll social media, or respond to a big cultural story: “Lord, help me see this as you see it.”
 - b. Consider verses such as James 1:5 and Colossians 2:8 and shape them into our daily prayer.
3. Slow down and “_____” content
 - a. Before you believe, share, or let something sink in, pause and ask a few questions:
 - i. “Who is saying this, and what do they gain if I believe it?”
 - ii. “What are the assumptions about God, people, and the world. Do they line up with Scripture?”
 - iii. “What spiritual fruit does this bear in me: peace, joy, and love or fear, envy, and anger?”
 - b. Consider Ephesians 4:27 – Is your on-line content possibly opening space for the devil to gain a foothold in your life?
4. Set wise _____ for your inputs
 - a. Decide in advance what types of content you will avoid (for example, sources that normalize immorality, traffic in constant outrage, or regularly distort truth), and use tools like “mute,” “hide,” or content filters as acts of spiritual wisdom, not legalism.
 - b. Set limits on the time you spend on your tech so that the information stream doesn’t quietly become your main discipler.
 - i. Example: No phone in the first 30 minutes of the day...
 - ii. No scrolling after a certain hour.
 - c. Consider Ephesians 4:29 – Is what I am being exposed to edifying to me and to others?
 - d. Or Ephesians 4:30 – Do any of my on-line habits grieve the Holy Spirit?
 - e. Or Ephesians 4:31-32 – Do I allow what I see in the media to incite me to anger or evil speaking of others?

Choose one of these points that you can apply this week in your digital habits. Which one will it be?