

Teens & Internet Safety

By: Rob Trevino | Administrator: HisLoveforme.com

- Know Who You Are & What God Expects From You
- Always get your Parents permission to use the Internet
- Know that The Internet is used by Christians & Non-Christians
- Ask your Parents to install Internet Safety Software on your computer
- Ask your Parents to set proper Parental Controls for your Internet Safety
- Put your computer in a room where your Family hangs out the most
- Use the Internet while your Parents are awake
- Don't let "Anyone" convince you to visit a website that "God" would not approve
- Stay away from chatrooms – They Are Very Dangerous and can lead to sin, & death.

Know Who You Are & What God Expects From You

- If we call ourselves Christians, then we must do our absolute best according to God's Word, to be a Christian Example to everyone around us, whether it be at Worship Services, Bible Study, Home, School, The Grocery store, or anywhere else.
- One of the ways we can be an example, is to Honor our Parents - Exodus 20:12. If we obey God's Word, then we will obey our Parents, and in doing so, everything we do in life will be to Honor God. Reading our Bible daily, will help us learn what God wants for us as Christians, so we must study God's Word everyday, even during summer vacation, or any vacation.

Always get your Parents permission to use the Internet

- As Teenagers, we sometimes might feel that our Parents treat us like children, but what we need to understand is, that our Parents have a Biblical Responsibility to God, to make sure they raise us according to how God's Word instructs them to raise us. Asking your Parent's permission to use the Internet will always be best, and they will be proud of you for trusting them, and you will feel good about trusting your Parents too.
- When we learn to appreciate the great responsibility that God has put on our Parents, then we will help our Parent's by obeying them, not because we have to, but because we love them with all our heart.

Know that The Internet is used by Christians & Non-Christians

- As Christians, we need to Know that the Internet is used by many different types of people – Both Christians and Non-Christians as well.
- Some people know a lot about computers, and the Internet, while others no little or almost nothing at all about computers and the Internet.
- There are many people using the Internet, who target Teenagers and pretend to be younger than they really are, in order to convince the Teenager to secretly meet them.
- Many Teenagers are still missing, have been physically hurt, or killed, because they allowed themselves to be convinced to meet the stranger, instead of listening to their Parents, and staying away from websites and chatrooms that God would not approve. Remember, if you have to hide something from your Parents, “Don’t Do It”.

Ask your Parents to install Internet Safety Software on your computer

- Installing Internet Safety Software on your computer, prevents visiting places on the Internet that we should not be visiting in the first place.
- Just as we read our Bibles daily to prevent our minds from being occupied with ungodly thoughts, we should also use the available resources that prevent us from visiting ungodly websites, chatrooms, or any social networking website that we know God does not want us to be visiting.
- Remember, Internet Safety is just as important as keeping our homes secure, so intruders can't break into our homes, in the same way that strangers and predators can't lure or convince us to meet them and become in danger while doing so.
- Also, friends don't encourage friends to do ungodly things, online or offline.

Ask your Parents to set proper Parental Controls for your Internet Safety

- Again, trusting our Parents is always the best thing to do, and not trying to break the rules of the Parental Controls that our Parents set for our Internet use, is an excellent way to show our Parents that we can be trusted, and that we as teenagers trust our Parents judgement for our best interest, to help us stay on the Christian Path of continually Walking in The Light.
- One day, if God's Plans include us being Parents to our own children, we will remember the Christian upbringing our Parents raised us with, and also raise our children with the same Christian upbringing we were raised with.
- Parental Controls for our Internet use, is no different than our Parents having the Biblical responsibility to make sure they control who they allow our friends to be, so that we are continually walking in The Light.

Put your computer in a room where your Family hangs out the most

- Putting your computer in a room where your Family hangs out the most, will help the entire Family avoid ungodly Internet use, and will also teach us that having access to a computer at home, is not to be taken lightly, because there are many Families who are not as fortunate to have a computer to use for School, Work, etc.
- Having your computer in a room where your Family hangs out the most, can actually be quite fun, and allow us to learn God's Word as a Family, while gathering around the computer to watch Christian Teaching Videos, as well as taking turns to share different Bible Scriptures, using Computer Bible Software, while having Family Devotionals.
- The more we hang out together as a Christian Family in our Christian Homes, we learn so much more about each other, than we would, than if we didn't.

Use the Internet while your Parents are awake

- Using the Internet while your Parents are awake, will allow you to ask for their help and their Christian Advice regarding websites you aren't sure of – They will give you a “Real Quick Answer”, whether or not you should be visiting an area on the Internet.
- Another important responsibility we have as Christians is, using the time that God gives us each day, as Christians should use God's Time. While our Parents are awake, they can periodically monitor our Internet use, to make sure we are using God's Time in a responsible Christian manner. Can they possibly do this while they are sleeping?
- As a Christian Teenager, it's always nice when our Parents are proud of us for anything, Right? So, why not give our Parents another reason to be proud of us, when using the Internet, avoid anything that will not make God and your Parents Happy.

Don't let "Anyone" convince you to visit a website that "God" would not approve

- Simply put: The devil is always waiting for a chance to tempt us to sin, so as Christians, we must always be mindful of what our eyes & ears take in, so that we don't fall into the devil's temptation.
- If we are not careful, the devil can quickly take our minds off of God's Word, by using Un-Godly Websites to occupy our time, which is actually God's Time.
- The Internet in itself is not bad, it's how people use the Internet in a sinful way, that gives the Internet a bad name.

Stay away from chatrooms – They Are Very Dangerous and can lead to sin, & death.

- Earlier in this presentation, we talked about the danger of chatrooms, but this is a subject that needs to be talked about more so now than ever.
- Since the beginning of the Chatroom, many Teenagers and even Preteens, have been the victims of violent and deathly crimes, committed by persons pretending to be the same age, or just a few years older than the Boy or Girl they convinced to meet them away from the victim's Home.
- Just imagine: "How Would Your Parents Feel, If you became one of the Victims we just talked about"?
- How would your siblings feel?
- How would The Church feel?
- How Would God feel??????????