



Technology is a gift from God. And while our screens can be wonderful tools, they are terrible masters. In this series, we will talk about life and faith in the digital age.

These questions are designed to extend the impact of the weekend message. Use them to go deeper in your personal study time, with your family and/or with a group.

1 Share how screen-based devices (TV, computers, smart phones, gaming systems) have evolved in your lifetime. How has life changed as a result of these technologies?

2 It's important to acknowledge that **technology is a gift from God**. Passages like **Genesis 4:20-22, Genesis 6:14-16, Exodus 31:1-6, 2 Chronicles 3, and Nehemiah 3** (among many others) depict God's people innovating, constructing and benefitting from their era's technology. Reflect for a moment on the ways you are grateful for the innovation and technology God has provided for us.

3 Read **Mark 12:28-34**. **Our purpose is to love God and love others**. Why does Jesus' two thousand year old answer still matter for us today?

4 Jesus' first answer was: *love God*. How has your heart, soul, mind, and strength been helped by screens and technology to love God? How has it been hindered?

5 Jesus second answer was: *love others*. How do screens and technology help you love others well? How do they keep us from loving well?

6 Finish by praying **James 1:25** over your group for this series. Ask God to lead us into freedom for the sake of loving Him and others the way we were made to.





Technology is a gift from God. And while our screens can be wonderful tools, they are terrible masters. In this series, we will talk about life and faith in the digital age.

These questions are designed to extend the impact of the weekend message. Use them to go deeper in your personal study time, with your family and/or with a group.

1 Most smartphones have a *Screen Time* feature that will tell you how much time you're on your phone. When's the last time you looked at it? (*If you're feeling brave, look at it right now*). Does the data surprise you at all?

2 **Read Deuteronomy 6:4-9.** God knows that **my heart and soul are shaped by what I keep close.** So it makes sense that He invites us into a life immersed in His Word. The places mentioned in the passage relate to where we live (home) where we spend time (the road) and where we meet and do business with others (the city gates). What do you think dominates the world's attention in these spaces?

3 **Read Luke 5:15-16.** Jesus had a habit of getting away - even when people wanted more of him. Time with God was too life-giving to miss. What have been your best rhythms in prayer and Bible reading? What have been your biggest struggles?

4 **Read John 14:27. God speaks peace. The world makes noise.** What are ways our screens and devices amplify the noise of the world? What kind of messages or headlines usually get the most attention?

5 **Read Romans 12:1-2. My mind is either being formed by the world or transformed by Jesus.** What habits with screens (*for instance the amount of time spent or the kind of content viewed*) have you sensed in your life are shaping you to fit the world's mold? What do you sense God is asking you to do about it?

6 **No one has earned our attention more than Jesus.** It's no accident Romans 12 encourages us "*in view of God's mercy.*" Without mercy, this can make us feel guilty and defeated. With mercy, we can move forward in hope. Pray **Hebrews 12:2** over your group, asking the Lord to renew your minds by focusing on Christ.





Technology is a gift from God. And while our screens can be wonderful tools, they are terrible masters. In this series, we will talk about life and faith in the digital age.

These questions are designed to extend the impact of the weekend message. Use them to go deeper in your personal study time, with your family and/or with a group.

1 Have you tried a digital detox before? If not, what are your biggest excuses why you haven't? If you have, share a little about your experience and what you learned about yourself, your relationship with others and your relationship with God.

2 Read **John 13:34**. Jesus introduces a new way to think about love - not based on ourselves or based on our neighbors, but based on Him. That means **love looks like Jesus**. Why does it matter that Jesus makes Himself the measure of love? How would you explain this to someone who wasn't a Christian?

3 Jesus modeled a love that was - among other things - present (*John 1:14*), committed (*John 17:6-12*), forgiving (*Luke 17:3-4*) and serving (*Matthew 20:25-28*). How does our use of smartphones and screens affect whether or not we're present to others? What about the other characteristics Jesus showed?

4 Read **John 13:35** and **John 15:12-13**. **Loving like Jesus gets the world's attention**. Stories that spread fear and cause division are a dime a dozen online. Clickbait rarely delivers what it promises. But Christ-like love turns heads in a different way. Why are people drawn to stories of love that looks like Jesus? *Follow up:* How can Christ-like love open a door to talking about faith? Share any experiences that come to mind.

5 Read **1 John 4:9-10**. **Love is always on mission**. Jesus turned the cross - a horror in human innovation - into the centerpiece of His saving work. And He's not done saving. Finish by praying that God's love would spread through your group and into the lives of those you encounter in person and online.

