

## Intro

- The average child watches **15,000** hours of TV before age 18.
- The average American home has the TV on **49** hours per week.
- The average American parent spends **36** minutes per week in meaningful conversation with their child.

**Deut. 6:4** Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. <sup>5</sup> Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. <sup>6</sup> These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. <sup>7</sup> ***Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.***

## TV & Movies

- Most do not reflect biblical values or a biblical worldview.
- The most popular TV channel for teenage girls is **MTV**.
- The 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> most popular channels for teens are **Comedy Central** and **Adult Swim**.
- The more violent shows a child watches at age **8**, the more likely he is to be convicted of a crime by age **30**.
- Watching TV promotes **selfishness** and a short attention span.
- What can you do?
  - **Develop a biblical culture in your family.** (see Deut. 6:7)
  - Watch TV & movies with your children.
  - Pre-screen movies (see additional resources).
  - Limit the amount of time your child watches TV each day.
    - Never allow the TV to be on during **meals**.
    - Watching TV prevents us from building **relationships**.
    - **1** hour per weekday and a total of **10** hours per week is plenty.

- Don't use the TV as a long-term babysitter. The American Association of Pediatrics recommends no TV for children until **2** years old.
- Chores and homework must always be finished first.
- Play with your kids: sports, board games, puzzles, reading, or hobbies.
- **Block** channels, times, and programs based on ratings.
- **Don't** let your children have a TV in their room.
  - **68%** of teenagers have a television in their bedroom.
  - Would you let a strange man in your child's bedroom at night?
- **Train your child to develop good media habits.**

**Psalms 101:1** I will sing of your love and justice; to you, O LORD, I will sing praise. <sup>2</sup> I will be careful to lead a blameless life — when will you come to me? I will walk in my house with blameless heart. <sup>3</sup> I will set before my eyes no vile thing. The deeds of faithless men I hate; they will not cling to me. <sup>4</sup> Men of perverse heart shall be far from me; I will have nothing to do with evil.

### **Video Games**

- Be mindful of the ratings, but don't trust the ratings.
- First person shooter games?
  - Children between 8 & 10 are 80% more likely to fight after playing these games.

### **The Internet**

- **90%** of kids going online for homework will stumble upon hardcore pornography.
- Install Internet filters (see additional resources).
- Accounts – Kids should not have administrative privileges.
- Check web history.
- Social networks, chat rooms – monitor or block these.
- Put your computer in a public space in your house.
- Parents must have the passwords for all accounts and regularly check kids' activities.

**Phil. 4:8** Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable — if anything is excellent or praiseworthy — think about such things.

### **Movie Review Resources**

<http://www.pluggedinonline.com/>

<http://www.movieguide.org/>

<http://www.screenit.com/>

### **Internet Filter Resources**

<http://bsafehome.com/>

<http://www.covenanteyes.com/>

### **Additional Reading**

*Home Invasion* by Rebecca Hagelin

*ReCreate: Building a Culter in Your Home Stronger Than the Culture Deceiving Your*

*Kids* by Ron Luce

*The Culture-Wise Family* by Ted Baehr and Pat Boone

*Raising Respectful Children in a Disrespectful World* by Jill Rigby

*Do Hard Things* by Alex and Brett Harris