

# HARRISONBURG FIRST CHURCH <sup>OF</sup> <sub>THE</sub> NAZARENE

## Greetings HFCN Church Family,

What a crazy week it has been for all of us! We want to take a minute to express our deep gratitude for the many prayers prayed for us as church staff and texts of encouragement we have received throughout these days. We are praying for you as well, for your health and safety and that you would see God move and provide in incredible ways as we all take everything step by step.

While we can't predict everything about this situation, we are working to follow God in obedience as we find creative and meaningful ways to be the church, to serve one another and to bring hope to others through Christ.

One way we see that we can do this is by providing some resources to help you dig deeper into the Word and into our mission as a church. In the following pages, you will find response and discussion guides, links to videos and downloads, commentary and tips. Each page includes a challenge that will help you lean into what we are learning about together.

Feel free to use as many as you like, even if it is sponsored by a ministry that you aren't currently involved in. Feel free to share these resources with others as well. We hope these bless you as much as they have already blessed us.

**Until we meet again,  
Pastor Adrian Mills**

### **Sunday Morning Message:**

**Video Link:** <https://vimeo.com/397800961>

**Additional Resource:** Sunday Message Response Guide (pg 1)

### **HFCN Student Ministry "Culture Shock" *Living Counter Culturally: Social Media***

**Video Link:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BGMQyp12MDM&t=533s>

**Additional Resource:** Response Guide, Family Response Guide (pg 2-3)

### **HFCN Children's Ministry Tips: Kids and Social Distancing in a Tech Driven World**

**Video Link:** <https://youtu.be/NMBwS6h6JB4>

**Additional Resource:** Family Response Guide & additional resources (pg 4)

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## Sunday Message Response Guide Drifting, Part 2 - The Two Sides of Technology Week of March 15, 2020

**Core Scripture:** Hebrews 12:1-3 1 Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, 2 fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. 3 Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

**Secondary Scripture:** Hebrews 2:1 We must pay the most careful attention, therefore, to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away.

### Response Questions

1. As you read and think about the Core Scripture for this week, what stands out to you? What's something you may not have noticed or considered before?
2. Remembering back to Pastor Adrian's message on this topic on Sunday, what made the most impact on you personally?
3. The message makes a distinction between "possessing technology" and "technology possessing us". What is the difference in your mind?
4. Adrian spoke of the ways that technology can change us (internally) and consume us (externally). What are some ways you can identify with this in your own life?
5. Read the following Scriptures: Luke 12:34, 1 Corinthians 7:35 How might they shed light on your use of technology?
6. What evidence would you show to demonstrate that your use of technology helps, rather than hinders your relationship with the Lord and others? Or, what evidence would you show that it may actually be a hindrance?
7. "We don't have a technology problem. We have a worship problem." What gaps in our hearts do we seek to fill using technology? How does that speak to a greater understanding of a disconnect in our worship?
8. How can you be "focused" and "urgent" in these matters? How can we ensure that your efforts in these areas don't lead to legalism, but rather lead to greater freedom and connection with God?

### Optional Video Link •

An Honest Facebook Movie • [https://youtu.be/CDmVF\\_ku7vE](https://youtu.be/CDmVF_ku7vE)

**Challenge - As a church, we are being called to GO! So we are issuing you this challenge to encourage you to go, because you have been transformed by God to bring hope to others through Christ.**

• Hope Distributed is in need of *immediate volunteers* as they work providing incredibly important care to our community. *If you are well enough to serve in this way*, please call 540-578-3510 to find how you can help.

• Many of your neighbors or those in your sphere of influence will have needs which go beyond the physical. As your health permits, check on them, identify their need and help meet that need.

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## **Student Ministry Series: Culture Shock** **Social Media** **Response Guide**

*Thanks for giving this a try! We hope you like it and find it useful. You are encouraged to find a journal or a notebook, and answer these questions in your own time as you reflect on what it means to live counter culturally in the area of social media. You might also find it interesting to get online with your small group and talk through these together.*

**Scripture Texts:** Matthew 5, Romans 12:2, John 14:5-7

*(Don't have a Bible? Download the YouVersion Bible app or visit [www.biblegateway.com](http://www.biblegateway.com))*

### **Response**

1. *Read Matthew 5.* Jesus brings in some pretty tough challenges to those who follow him. Where do you think the church is doing a good job at follow Jesus's call to be counter cultural? How do you think the church could improve?
2. *Read Romans 12:2* What do you think it means to "renew your mind?" How can you do that?
3. Our first point was "You've heard it said that creating the right aesthetic is important, but I tell you that God made you unique, perfect for His plan and purpose in your life." Can you see ways that God made you unique and how that might help you accomplish the things He has allowed you to do or to reach your future goals?
4. What does it look like to you when someone chases clout? Do you feel like getting likes and followers matters at all? How does it feel when stuff you've shared is well received?
5. *Read John 14:5-7* Jesus is very clear here that HE is the truth. Truth is a fixed point, and that fixed point is him. As the world increasingly tells us that truth is relative, that you can have your truth and I can have mine, how do you feel about Jesus saying, basically, "No, there is one truth and it is me." How do you feel about telling that to others?
6. We talked about our body being our own, and evaluating how we treat, use and present our body in a way that pleases God. Are there ways that you are falling short in any of those areas? What might you need to change? Who can you ask to hold you accountable in this?
7. If we compare our social media feed to a diet, what are you taking in that is making you healthier and helping you have a stronger faith? What are you taking in that is NOT building your faith or helping you live a healthy life? How might you need to change things to make your social media diet better?

**CHALLENGE: As a church, we are being called to GO! So we are issuing you these challenges to encourage you to get out into the world, even digitally, so that you might be transformed by Jesus to bring hope to others through Christ.** . 1) Each day, post something positive and encouraging on the social media feed of your choice; 2) get on YouTube and discover Christian content; 3) have a conversation with a friend about what you heard in this message or thoughts you had as a result.

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## Student Ministry Series: Culture Shock Social Media *Family Response Guide*

As church staff, we have wanted to be able to talk about social media with our families and to help them talk with their kids. In this unique situation we are all in right now, with events being canceled, social distancing and quarantines, we thought this was the perfect time!

In the coming days, there is a lot of opportunity for us to spend real face to face time together with our families. There is also a lot of time for us to isolate. We get to choose how we spend that time.

If there is anything you'd like to review in tonight's message, we will be uploading the message to the 3D YouTube page. Please, use the questions below to guide your conversation, but don't be afraid at all to let your conversation ebb and flow naturally with your student's interests.

*A final note:* The questions will only be as effective as you are patient and open. If this is the first discussion that you are having with your student, outside of setting technology use rules, it might be a little difficult. Stay in it. We hope this is the first of many conversations like this.

- 1. Challenge:** Name 15 forms of social media, past or present, in under a minute.
- 2. For parents:** What do you remember about the "dawn of social media?" Talk about the advent of AIM and text messages, chat rooms and MySpace.  
**For students:** What is the earliest memory you have about social media?
- 3. For students:** Our first point was "You've heard it said that creating the right aesthetic is important, but I tell you that God made you unique, perfect for His plan and purpose in your life." What are some of the things you like about the way God made you?  
**For parents:** Tell your student some of the things you see that are positive and unique about them.
- 4. For students:** What does it look like to you when someone chases clout? Do you feel like getting likes and followers matters at all? How does it feel when stuff you've shared is well received?
- 5. Both:** Read John 14:5-7 Jesus is very clear here that HE is the truth. He is setting down a really concrete line about the idea that truth is not relative. Truth is a fixed point, and that fixed point is him. As society increasingly tells us that truth is relative, that you can have your truth and I can have mine, how do you feel about Jesus saying, basically, "No, there is one truth and it is me."
- 6. Both:** Lack of focus on the more important things, comparison, bullying, drama, anxiety, and more. What is the greatest challenge you face as it applies to social media?
- 7. Final challenge:** Taking turns, for one minute each, starting with the oldest to the youngest, everyone in the conversation has the opportunity to express themselves on the culture of technology in the house. During your minute, no one else is allowed to speak. The speaker may address their thoughts on rules, time limits, things they like, things they don't like, things they worry about, anything at all. At the end of the minute, the response from the others in the conversation is limited to, "Ok. I hear you."
- 8.** Take a minute for prayer, encouraging your student to open the prayer and you closing it.

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## HFCN Children's Ministry Family Resource Guide Kids and Social Distancing in a Tech Driven World

We are so glad that you are taking the time to join with us to help your child deal with all that they have experienced in the past few weeks, and in the weeks to come. It could be easy right now to disconnect from the church and the support that provides us as believers. We so deeply appreciate your commitment to helping keep your child connected to their faith and to the ministry which serves them.

We are excited to hear about how this time really impacted you and your child's faith and helped connect you both to the call of God for HFCN: the call to GO!

### **3 Tips for Helping your Kids with Social Distance in a Tech Driven World:**

**1. Don't feed the fear** - Technology has filled our lives with a lot that we consider white noise. However, our children are listening to a lot more than we think! This can put them in a state of information overload, a state which creates stress and anxiety that we have to help them work through.

One way we can easily help them is by turning off the news and news apps when they are present. If you choose to have the news on, commit to having calm, thoughtful conversations where they are able to ask questions and gain reassurance. Review the story of Jesus calming the storm found in Luke 8. Work together to memorize 2 Timothy 1:7.

**2. Set Solid Screen Time Boundaries** - Establish healthy boundaries for how much technology EVERY member of the house consumes, including yourself. When you need to use technology, encourage them to find tech free ways to occupy themselves, like going outside or getting into your game closet. Be intentional to use technology WITH them in an encouraging way.

**3. Focus on this not as a time of limitations, but of opportunities** - Read Hebrews 12:1-3 and consider the suffering Jesus endured and why he was able to endure it. He did not endure the cross because he enjoyed the cross. He endured the cross because he focused on joy, that was the joy of being able to pave the way for our salvation and the reconciliation of mankind to God.

Focus on joy. Do not grow weary or lose heart. Teach your children in this way as well and look for and act on opportunities where you and your child can serve those around you.

**Discussion Guide:** *Use these questions, to help your child work through what they are experiencing.*

1. What have you heard about the Corona virus? How do you feel about all of that?
2. Are you worried about anything or are you just sort of feeling ok about it all?
3. I need some help coming up with some ways we can fill all these extra hours we have at home. What do you think we should do?
4. Can you think of a creative way that we might encourage someone who feels stuck at home like we feel stuck at home?

**Challenge:** **As a church, we are being called to GO! So we are issuing you these challenges to encourage you to get out into the world, even digitally, so that you might be transformed by Jesus to bring hope to others through Christ.** ... 1) Each day, have your child join you in creating something positive for you to post on social media, be it sharing a meme, doing a funny photo shoot, or sharing your favorite jokes; 2) write a physical letter and mail it to a relative or loved one in the demographic most impacted the virus, those over 60; 3) if you are healthy, check on your neighbors and find out if you can bring them anything they might need.

**Resources to prepare them for Easter: (Please, engage these WITH your child.)**

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Saddleback Kids: The Story of Easter

[https://youtu.be/z-39hoxYgdE?list=PLYn06r4leL\\_RguA\\_6LO-11rkjEsNb21oa](https://youtu.be/z-39hoxYgdE?list=PLYn06r4leL_RguA_6LO-11rkjEsNb21oa)

Great Downloadable Resources on Easter and more <https://kidscorner.reframedia.com/activities>