

LIFE IN THE AGE OF OUTRAGE

Sunday, November 15, 2020 | Wawasee Community Bible Church | Milford, Indiana | Pastor Josh Weiland

Part 4 | **What's On the Line Online**

Multiple Scriptures

Three Responses to Culture...

RECEIVE | **REJECT** | **REDEEM**

God is **CALLING** you

your whole being Luke 18:18-23

everyone he calls he *sends* John 20:21

We are sent to love people and invite them
to follow Jesus with us.

to **DO** what Jesus commands

follow = obey 2 Corinthians 5:20; John 14:15

WWJT? 1 John 2:6

online as it is **IRL**. *(in real life)*

walk worthy of the Gospel

Philippians 1:27; Colossians 1:10; Ephesians 4

bringing glory to Jesus or pouring fuel on the fire?

eternity is in the balance

Principles of Following Jesus Online

1. Remember: **EVERYONE** is watching. Colossians 4:5-6
2. Be **SELECTIVE**; guard your feed. Proverbs 4:23; 2 Peter 3:17-18
3. Resist the urge to **FIGHT** every battle. Proverbs 26:4-5; 1 Cor. 10:23-24
4. Make **GRACE** the default mode. John 1:16
5. See **PEOPLE** not avatars. Matt. 16:26; Philippians 2:3-4; 2 Tim. 2:24-26; Mark 1:17

Win the person, not the argument.



What is this? – Each week people from Wawasee Bible meet in small groups in various homes to learn about Jesus, pray, eat, laugh, and live life together. We call them Life Groups. The questions here are based on the sermon each week (often a parallel passage of Scripture), and guide each group's study. If you're interested in connecting with a Life Group, let us know on the Connect Card in your bulletin.

Getting Started

Getting to Know You: Part of our goal together is getting to know one another. *How many Facebook/Instagram/Twitter friends/followers do you have? How many of them do you actually communicate with? — What was the last thing you posted on social media?*

Review your message notes. What stood out to you from the message this week? Do you have questions? Disagreements? Discuss it with your group.

** This week's questions are adapted from:*

Ed Stetzer and Andrew MacDonald, Christians at Our Best: A Six-Week Guide to Living in the Age of Outrage (Carol Stream, IL: Tyndale Momentum, 2019).

Engaging Online

In Colossians 3, Scripture calls us to a specific way of living as people in Christ, whether online or in real life. **Read Colossians 3:1-2, 8-10, 12-14.**

1. How should our role as Kingdom ambassadors influence our online behavior? Why might we be tempted to be harsher or more dismissive of people online than we would in person?
2. How does this passage give us a blueprint to effective online engagement? How do the *Principles of Following Jesus Online* relate to the ideas in this passage?
3. Paul starts off with the reminder that we "have been raised to new life with Christ." How should this affect our posture toward others online?
4. Why is Christ's peace in our hearts necessary for the kind of love we're called to show? How have you experienced this peace, and how has it helped you engage others, either online or in person?

If we want to use technology and social media as tools for God's Kingdom, we need to practice the *Principles of Following Jesus Online* (Stetzer discusses six on pages 236–243 of *Christians in the Age of Outrage*). Read through the verses that accompany each principle and reflect on what Scripture says about online engagement that glorifies God.

1. *Remember that everyone is watching:* 1 Thessalonians 4:9-12; Romans 2:22-24
2. *Be selective; guard your feed:* Psalm 39:4-5; Matthew 6:19-21
3. *Resist the urge to fight every battle:* Proverbs 12:18; 15:1; Matthew 5:9
4. *Make grace the default mode:* Colossians 4:5-6; Luke 6:32-36
5. *See people, not avatars:* Romans 12:10; Luke 18:9-14
5. Which of these principles do you struggle with in your own online activities? Why has this proven to be such a challenge? Where have you found success? What habits or perspectives have you adopted that have helped?
6. Consider your online habits throughout the day. During what activities or on which devices do you find it difficult to exercise these principles? What can you do to put these principles into action?

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Continued from Life Groups Homework on previous page...

Technology is inherently neither good nor bad. Every technological innovation is a tool that God has provided and becomes more powerful with each generation. Our mistake is in thinking that Christians do not need discipling in how to use these tools wisely.

7. How has technology changed your life? What is different today from twenty or thirty years ago?
8. Unless we intentionally submit our technology use to God, we allow ourselves to be disciplined by the world. What practices have you consciously implemented around technology and online behavior? How have these practices changed how you interact online compared to the way the world does?
9. How have you seen technology used for the advancement of God's Kingdom? What churches, ministries, or leaders are using technology in ways that have helped you or others in their spiritual walks? What do they do that makes them successful?

Pray

Share prayer requests in your group, and be sure every person is prayed for by name.



NOVEMBER CHALLENGE

Pray for a Neighboring Church.

Before you close, have someone in your group pull out their phone, open Maps, and search for "church". Spend some time praying for one of the local churches that pop up nearest to you. (If Wawasee Bible pops up first, go to the next one!)

Word Find for Colossians 4:2-6 (ESV)

Find the words **bolded** below.

² **Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful** in it with **thanksgiving**. ³ At the **same time, pray also** for us, that God may **open** to us a **door** for the word, to **declare** the **mystery** of **Christ**, on **account** of which I am in **prison**—
⁴ that I may **make it clear**, which is how I ought to **speak**. ⁵ **Walk** in wisdom **toward outsiders, making** the **best** use of the **time**.
⁶ Let your **speech always be gracious, seasoned** with **salt**, so that you may **know** how you ought to **answer each person**.

P	P	K	W	D	N	T	O	P	E	N	A	A	T
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