

Sermon Discussion Guide Tension with Technology - Stevie Cairns 2/23/25

Hook - Getting to know one another

- How is everyone doing this week? Add other questions to get to know one another, especially ones related to the topic in the sermon.
- Are there any shows, movies, phone apps, etc that you have recently really liked?
 - Technology is the use of scientific knowledge for practical purposes or applications.
 - With this in mind, what are some examples of technology that you particularly love?
 - Example: Wow, my laundry machine saves me so much time. Love it!
 - What are some examples of technology that you dislike?
 - Example: ugh, I can't stand instagram
 - What are some things that you use that are technology that you don't typically think of as technology?
 - Examples: A chair perhaps? A bag?

Book - Scripture

- Read the scripture passages and discuss to understand **what the text is saying**:
 - Romans 1:11-12 & Romans 15:23-33
 - What are some things Paul is trying to accomplish with his visits?
 - Why do you think these passages were chosen for a sermon on technology? (Example answer: Paul's letters were a form of technology, yet he still thought it was important to be in person)
 - If you were just to read these passages, what would you gather about how relationships are meant to be like? Are there any words that stand out to you that describe the goodness of these relationships?



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Look - Connections to our world today

- This section focuses on implications about **what this text means** about what's wrong in the world, about trusting God, about who God is, etc.
 - Why do you think it is that technology seems to have such a magnetic pull on us like Stevie talked about?
 - What implications of that pull do you notice in your life?
 - What do you think God is inviting you to consider as you feel the pulls of technology in your life? In the life of your family? In the relationships you have with your friends?
 - In what ways do you see technology in your life driving you towards comparing yourself with others?
 - In what ways have you noticed technology inviting you towards counterfeit relationships?
 - Example: Woah, I send my friends a lot of instagram reels that are funny or make me think of them... but when was the last time I called them or invited them to coffee? Do I know how they are really doing?

Took - Personal Application

- This application focuses on **how God is calling us to respond**. This could be personally, as a family, small group, or church. It could be something to believe, to meditate on, to say or do this week.
- Stevie encouraged us to try taking a fast from technology sometime.
 - Who might be someone you could try this with?
 - For accountability, solidarity, etc.?
 - Maybe a close friend? Someone who loves Jesus? Someone who doesn't know Jesus? Someone who is seeking deeper relational connection with people too?
 - What technology do you feel like this could be helpful to try to fast from?
 - Examples: social media, phones, netflix, etc.



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- How long would you like to try it for?
- What are you hoping to experience as a result of this fast?
- Are there any other action steps you think could be helpful for you moving forward or have been helpful for you in the past?

Time of Prayer