

How much infinity greater is the Internet than television and through improved technology and affordability it is changing our discourse maybe for the worse. Why is this? Presbyterian Minister and Professor T. David Gordon has written several popular books of the impact of tv and internet on the Church. *Why Johnny Can't Sing Hymns* and *Why Johnny Can't Preach* are stinging indictments of the broader evangelical church detailing how popular culture has changed our expectations and has downgraded our mind in worship. Simply put we have allowed the short attention spans of television shows and the instantaneous results of a search engine to impact our modes of speech.

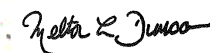
A few weeks ago in Sunday School I noted Dr. Sinclair Ferguson's helpful set of questions to ask when seeking God's Will. It seems like a good template for us to apply to use of new media.

- Is It Lawful?
- Is it Beneficial to me?
- Is it Enslaving?
- Is it Consistent with Christ's Lordship?
- Is it Helpful to Others?
- Is it consistent with Biblical Examples?
- Is it for the Glory of God?

Sinclair Ferguson says:
"Do you ever find yourself challenged on a course of action by a fellow-Christian, and automatically respond: 'what's wrong with it?'. It is the most natural form of self-defense. But it may well hide a guilty conscience. For, in our heart of hearts we know, as Paul so incisively teaches, that this is not the really important question. There may be 'nothing wrong with it'; but there may be nothing right with it; it may prove not to be beneficial to me."

Now don't misunderstand. By all means feel free to use, benefit and enjoy your smart phone, your Netflix, Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest, Google Reader, Skype and all the "apps" you can download. But remember social media should be used for your connectivity with God's glory and that God is watching.

Your Friend,



Melton L. Duncan
 Church Administrator

Recent "Pastoral Letters" are now online and being archived at westendherald.com

Calvary Presbytery

The 115th meeting of Calvary Presbytery is Saturday, July 28, 2012 beginning at 9:00 AM at Norris Hill PCA in Anderson SC. Please be in prayer for the pastors and elders that will be attending: Pastor Phillips, Pastor Spears, Pastor Starkey, RE Duncan, RE Bragdon, and RE Player. Visitors are welcome.

CHURCH INFORMATION

The West End Herald Editor: RE Melton L. Duncan, Sr.

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Office Hours: Monday - Friday 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Information Centers: Church Services information 1 * Directions 2

Hospital Information 3 * Upcoming Events 4 * Church Directory 5 * Monthly Activities 6

Church Services: Sunday: Sunday School - 10:00 AM

Morning Worship - 8:30 and 11:00 AM * Evening Worship - 6:00 PM

Wednesday: Supper - 5:45 PM * Prayer Meeting and Bible Study - 6:45 PM

Upcoming Events

July 27	WIC Game Night & Pool Party
July 28	Calvary Presbytery at Norris Hill PCA
July 29	Hymn Sing
Aug. 1	WIC Council
Aug. 3	Fun-Friday at Legacy Park
Aug. 3-11	Peru Mission Trip
Aug. 5	Ice Cream Social
Aug. 6	Diaconate Meeting
Aug. 8	Pastoral Care Committee Meeting
Aug. 8	WIC Circle 6
Aug. 12	Worship & Music Committee Meeting
Aug. 13	Session Meeting
Aug. 14	WIC Circles 1-5
Aug. 15	Missions' Committee Meeting
Aug. 15	Musical CAT Kids Program
Aug. 17	Fun-Friday at Jones Gap State Park
Aug. 17-18	Second Pres. Marriage Retreat
Aug. 19	The Lord's Supper at the evening service
Aug. 21	WIC Bible Study resumes
Aug. 22	CE Committee Meeting
Aug. 22	Musical CAT Kids Fun Night
Aug. 23	WIC Annual Meeting
Aug. 24	Men's Ministry-Greenville Drive Game
Aug. 26	Rally Day
Aug. 26	WIC Installation of Officers
Aug. 26	Evangelism/Church Growth Committee Meeting
Aug. 29	Regular CAT Kids/Covenant Kids resumes

WIC Pool Party and Game Night

For college-aged girls and above
 Friday, July 27, 2012

4:00 pm....until

Home of Alice Barnett

1000 Old Boiling Springs Rd., Greer, SC 29650

Call for directions: 289-0536

Please bring a heavy hors d'oeuvre.

Swimming is optional/there will be inside and outside



Fun Friday for Second Pres. Kids



ATTENTION:

Second Pres. Nursery Kids and Moms

Our next Fun Friday Playdate

August 3, 2012 * 10:00 AM

Legacy Park

336 Rocky Slope Road, Greenville, SC 29607

Meet near the covered areas and playground

For questions call Rebekah Johnson @ 430-3408

Music Notes

We welcome to the organ Mrs. Dana Carter from Hendersonville, North Carolina. We thank Dana for her service while Ellen is away.

Please mark your calendars with upcoming dates:

Musical CAT Kids Program

Wednesday, August 15th

Musical CAT Kids fun night

Wednesday, August 22nd

Regular CAT Kids/Covenant Kids resume

Wednesday, August 29th



Ice Cream Social
Sunday, August 5th



Sympathy

We offer our Christian love and sympathy to Monica Bianchi and family in the death of her mother, Margaret Mete, on July 4, 2012 and to Lynne Outzs and family in the death of her mother, Virginia Rushton, on July 20, 2012. We pray for these families during this time of loss and grief.

New Baby

We congratulate Mike and Laura (Slayton) Lizak in the birth of their daughter, Hanna Michelle Lynn on Friday, July 20, 2012. She weighed 7 pounds, 13 ounces and was 20 1/2 inches long. Both mother and daughter are doing well.

Meals for New Mothers

The WIC's program "Meals for New Mothers" is online at takethemameal.com. If you would like to take a meal to the Lizak family (Mike and Laura) after the birth of their new baby, please sign up using Lizak and password 1892. If you have any questions you can call Janice Leathers at 895-6646 or 616-4854.

Second Presbyterian Marriage Retreat

Bonclarken Conference Center, Flat Rock, NC

August 17-18, 2012

Conference Speaker: Dr. Derek Thomas

Minister of Preaching and Teaching, First Presbyterian Church, Columbia, SC

\$189.00 per couple

Full amount is due by Sunday, July 29th

(includes lodging, Friday evening dinner and Saturday morning breakfast)

There are still a few spaces available

Call or see Bill Hedgpeth if you would like to attend.

Hymn Sing



Sunday, July 29

Following the evening service in the sanctuary.

A special time of fellowship as we sing your favorite

hymns from the Trinity Hymnal.



WIC Precepts

Ladies in the church, you are invited to join us for Precepts Bible Study as we begin a 12 week study, Spiritual Gifts. We will meet each Thursday from 9:30 - 11:30 am starting September 13th. Each lesson requires approximately 5 hours of homework per week. If you plan to participate, please let Mary Russell (329-1670) know by August 24th as books need to be ordered.

The Honour of Your Presence

is requested at the marriage of

Miss Kaitlyn Christina Lyons

to

Mr. Aaron Lee Bouchillon

Saturday, the fourth of August at two o'clock

Second Presbyterian Church

Reception is to follow

Bride and groom are registered at Target, Bed Bath & Beyond, and Belk

Church Calendar

Sunday, July 29

8:30 AM **MORNING WORSHIP**
 9:45 AM Children's Chapel
 10:00 AM **SUNDAY SCHOOL**
 11:00 AM **MORNING WORSHIP**
 4:45 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal
 5:30 PM Season of Prayer in the Chapel
 6:00 PM **EVENING WORSHIP**
 7:15 PM Hymn Sing

Wednesday, August 1

6:30 AM Men's Bible Study
 5:00 PM WIC Council
 5:45 PM **FAMILY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP SUPPER**
 6:45 PM Musical CAT Kids
 6:45 PM Youth Bible Study
 6:45 PM **PRAYER MEETING AND BIBLE STUDY**

Friday, August 3

Peru Mission team departs/returns August 11th
 10:00 AM Fun Friday at Legacy Park
 12:00 PM Men's Fellowship Lunch and Bible Study

Saturday, August 4

2:00 PM Aaron Bouchillon/Kaitlyn Lyons wedding

All Adult Summer Sunday School Class
Sunday, July 29, 10:00 am, sanctuary
Bill Hedgpeth - "Wait for the Lord"

Lost and Found

If you have left an item at church it may be located on the lost and found bookshelf which is located in the bathroom hallway of the gym building. The first week of August items not picked up will be given away or taken to the Rescue Mission. Please retrieve your lost item today. For more questions ask Mike Carey, Chairman of Sympathy & Service.

VBS Missions Project

Thank you for supporting our VBS Mission Project this year. We challenged each church family to match the average week's offering of one of our VBS students which was \$8.33. **Another \$701.63 was received these past two Sundays making the total given \$1,590.62. Thank You!**

Remembering One Another

Remember in prayer this week the following shut-in member.
 Also, send her a note of encouragement.

Sara Weathers
 11 E. Augusta Place
 Apt. 219
 Greenville, SC 29605

Praying For One Another

Remember in prayer this week the following members.

Lee Bailey
Joel and Alice Barnett
Geoffrey
Brian and Maria Bassett
Nathaniel, Christopher, Matthew

The Second Presbyterian Church

105 River Street
 Greenville, South Carolina 29601-2537

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WORSHIP AT SECOND
THE LORD'S DAY
JULY 29, 2012

MORNING WORSHIP
 8:30 & 11:00 AM

WILLING TO WORK
 2 Thesalonians 3:6-15

Anthem:
 Open My Eyes
 Hymns: 345, 591, 584
 Dr. Richard D. Phillips preaching

EVENING WORSHIP
 6:00 PM

THE REIGNING LORD
 Hebrews 1:10-14
 Hymns: 27, 441, 677
 Psalter: Psalm 140

Dr. Richard D. Phillips preaching

«Title» «First Name» «Last Name»
 «Address Line 1»
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 Corner of River and Rhett Streets
 Greenville, South Carolina

July 23, 2012

Letter from the Church Administrator Social Media and the Gospel

The other day I was waiting in a checkout line at a store and checked my phone for messages. My "smart-phone" is officially smarter than my computer and does all the functions of my watch, alarm clock, compass, weather report, calendar and informs me when my favorite college team has a new football commitment. Friends tell me that email is now old fashioned because many people choose to communicate in "real time" with social media, text or chat. So it was that I was scanning my messages and in real time I read on a social media site where an old friend from Scotland was stuck in traffic on the highway and was asking for suggestions on where he should pull off the road for dinner. I happened to know exactly the place he was and a few seconds after he posted his query I made a suggestion. Though we were separated by thousands of miles of ocean and hadn't spoken in person with one another in a decade we were able to have instant virtual communication. We connected and I helped my old friend find a "spot of tea." To some of you this may not even be all that big news.

The Apostle Paul had Roman roads, a world class education and citizenship in the empire but think about what we have in our very hands - the ability to communicate with the world. Are we Gospel minded when we use social media? Are we Gospel minded with what we are putting into our minds online? Are we mindful of how we appear, what we choose to update our status with, how we are communicating our testimony? Are we Gospel minded when we read uncharitably what other friends choose to say?

The new era we live in is truly interconnected but I think the case can be made that in some cases *more* social media is truly *less helpful* in terms of lasting, healthy satisfying Christian conversation. There is ever increasing instantaneous communication but is there improved meaningful communication? The need for Christian people away from the distractions of the online world to listen, talk, show hospitality and concern has never been greater. With every advance in bandwidth and download speed our communication diminishes.

It strikes me that for some the way we behave online is also a matter of grave concern. The things we are saying or doing when we are cloaked behind anonymity and a username often removes (seemingly) the consequences of our actions. If we care to admit it's often time more fun to get caught up in other people's successes or tragedies than deal with our own, isn't it?

Almost 30 years ago the noted literary critic Neil Postman wrote *Amusing Ourselves to Death, Public Discourse in the Age of Show Business* a criticism of popular uses of *television*. Postman famously said "television has gradually become culture...we rarely talk about television, only about what's *on* television... The world given to us by television seems natural, not bizarre."