

Managing The Media in Your Home

Part 1: The Problem

Selected Texts

Introduction:

We must be aware of the clash between our culture and our Christianity and the problem it creates for the Christian home.

#1 The Power of the Media

- Incrementally realign our values
- Subtly waste our time
- Secretly erode our character

#2 The Battle We Are In

- It is spiritual (Eph 6:12)
- It is natural (Gal 5:17; 1 Cor 10:21; 2 Cor 6:14-16)
-flesh vs. spirit

#3 The Enemy We Face

- The devil (1 Pet 5:8; 2 Cor 11:14; Eph 2:2)
- The world (1 John 2:15-17)
- The flesh (Gal 5:19-21)
"Satan uses the world's lures to entice our flesh"

#4 The Danger of Extremes

- Paranoia
Discernment equals rules only
-We still fight on yesterday's battlefields
-We fail to prepare for tomorrow's battlefields
- Paralysis
Discernment equals exposure and experiments
"Like giving a razor blade to a one-year-old"

Conclusion:

- Be aware
- Be in prayer

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Part 2: The Principles

Selected Texts

Introduction:

Each of our homes must be a place where the atmosphere helps us and our families flourish in Christ.

#1 **Powerful Transformation** (Rom 12:1-2, Phil 4:8-9)

- Purpose: Be transformed, not conformed
- Process: Think right, do right, feel right

#2 **Careful Protection** (Eph 6:4)

- Begins with the establishment of boundaries
- Ends with the empowerment of principles

#3 **Skillful Instruction** (Deut 6:4-9)

- Natural everyday activity
- Non-confrontational opportunities
- Teachable moments

#4 **Successful Communication** (2 Tim 3:10-11a)

- What you say
- How you listen
- What they hear (verbal and non-verbal)

#5 **Thoughtful Evaluation** (Phil 4:10, 1 Thes 5:21)

- Decide what is good
- Select what is good
- Enjoy what is good

#6 **Wonderful Affection** (Eph 4:32)

- A place of loving grace
- A place of loving mercy

Conclusion:

What is the atmosphere in your home?

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Part 3: The Practical

Colossians 1:9-14

Introduction:

To properly create an atmosphere that fosters spiritual growth, we must regularly examine and appropriately adjust the impact media has in our home.

Step #1: Take a “Family Media Inventory”

Practical Action Sheet #1

- Gather data
- Don't make judgments
- Be thorough
- Include all the family

Step #2: Do the “Too Much Test”

Practical Action Sheet #2

- Time
- Unmonitored access
- Money
- Bad attitude content
- Profanity
- Rude/crude content
- Violent content
- Drug/alcohol content
- Sexual content

Step #3: Establish a Plan

Practical Action Sheet #3

- Write down the strengths and weaknesses of your family's media use
- Write down your revised boundaries and principles

Step #4: Come to an Agreement

- Parents must be responsible
- Children and teens must be responsive

Conclusion:

- Remain prayerfully aware.
- Feed the new man, not the old man.
- Establish boundaries and empower with principles.
- Find new ways to spend time together as a family.