



AN ANALOG LIFE IN A DIGITAL WORLD: Pursuing God

Pastor Stephen Hay
September 5, 2021

Life Group Discussion

Encouragement: Describe something beautiful that you encountered this week. (something in nature, an act of kindness, photo, sound...) How did it make you feel? Did it have any impact on your perspective or mood throughout the day? Invite others to share examples as well.

Scripture:

Read [Psalm 119: 33-37](#)

- The Psalmist had access to the traditions and commands of God's law for His people, yet he desired to go deeper. Where did he turn for instruction? What was his *primary* source? Why wasn't he satisfied by only hearing about these things from other people?
- What do you think is the difference between learning the 'way' of statutes versus just a list of statutes? Or the 'path' of commandments versus simply the commandments? What are some pitfalls in learning information without seeking to understand its context and intent?
- What does our heart have to do with observing God's law? How does it help us interpret things?
- What kinds of things do you imagine the Psalmist was referring to as worthless? What would be an example of something 'worthless' that you are tempted to give attention to?

Read [Philippians 4: 8-9](#)

- Why do think Paul encourages followers of Jesus to give their attention to these types of things?
- How challenging do you find it to resist the distraction of other things? How can the lessons of the Psalmist and Paul be helpful? What are some practical strategies you can use to resist that temptation and maintain focus on things that God values?

Prayer: Ask the group to share examples of things other than God that they are tempted to look to for advice, comfort or help. Pray together for revelation in those moments. End by reading [Psalm 121](#).

Next Steps: If you haven't already, commit to the mealtime challenge! Find a friend that you can share your thoughts and struggles with as you become more aware of the impact screens may be having on your relationships.



AN ANALOG LIFE IN A DIGITAL WORLD: Being Me

Pastor Derek Sanford

September 12, 2021

Life Group Discussion

Encouragement: Take turns sharing about a moment that has helped define who you are today. Why was that so defining for you?

Scripture:

Read [Colossians 3:1-17](#).

- What are the things we are to “put to death” and “put on”? How does our use of technology make this transformation difficult? How does it make it easier?
- How do vs. 1-3 impact our ability to “put to death” and “put on”? What is one step you can take toward setting your mind on things above, or hiding your life with Christ?

Read [Philippians 4:4-9](#).

- How do these verses help us find our identity in Christ? What is the result of practicing these things according to the passage?
- If we are living out these verses, how do we look different from the rest of the world? What impact does it have on our relationships?

Prayer: Take a few moments of silence to confess how our identity has been formed by the world. Pray through Colossians 3:1-17 over the group that they would experience the transformation described there.

Next Steps: Encourage each other to continue no screens during meals. How does your use of technology need to change to help you find your identity in Christ?



AN ANALOG LIFE IN A DIGITAL WORLD: Connecting to Church

Pastor Derek Sanford
September 19, 2021

Life Group Discussion

Encouragement: Share some ways you are encouraged to follow Jesus by something you hear or read via digital media. How has someone personally encouraged you on a media platform?

Scripture:

Read [1 Corinthians 9:19-23](#)

- Pastor Derek said we need to be both faithful to God's truth and flexible in our methods of communication to reach as many people as possible for Jesus. How have you used both faithfulness and flexibility in your own life and witness?
- Read again [1 Corinthians 9:22](#). Paul says he became "all things to all people, that...I might save some." Give some examples of "becoming all things" from your own life or from others you have observed.
- Grace uses technology as a tool to reach people with the gospel, a tool to connect people, and a way to keep the church unified. How have you seen this work in your life or family over the past year? What are some dangers that could come from our increasing dependence on technology? How can we be "all things to all people" toward those who don't have access to advanced technology or struggle to use it?
- How are you doing with the commitment to be screen-free during mealtimes? What changes has this made in your life or the lives of your family?

Prayer: Sit in silence for several minutes as a way to help you connect with God then pray for His wisdom to use technology for His glory.

Next Steps:

- Consider how your group uses technology to build unity and encourage one another. Are there any changes you could make to improve?
- Think about the 3 people you pray for in those 3 minutes at 3pm each day. How could you "be all things" to one of them?



AN ANALOG LIFE IN A DIGITAL WORLD: Engaging Others

Pastor Stephen Hay
September 26, 2021

Life Group Discussion

Encouragement: The big idea this week was, “Technology connects where distance divides.” How has that been true for you in the last 18 months?

Scripture:

Read [Romans 1:8-10](#); [Colossian 4:16](#); [2 Peter 1:12-15](#); [1 John 1:3-4](#)

- How did Paul, Peter, and John take advantage of the communication technology of their day (letter-writing)?
- How have you seen the Church redeem technology for the sake of the gospel?
- In what ways has technology helped you in your faith? (Think: Teach, Correct, Encourage, Pray. Also- think outside the box! “Technology” is a broad term...)
- In your day-to-day life, how is technology helping you to connect with others in a meaningful way?
- What percentage of your tech time is building relationships (versus entertainment, consumerism, work, news, etc.)?

Prayer: Use the ACTS method (Adoration; Confession; Thanksgiving; Say what you need). Give group members a minute to think through the lens of this sermon series- how can we praise? What do we need to confess? What can we thank God for? In what ways do we need Him to guide us?

Next Steps: How did the mealtime challenge go for you? What have you gained by putting aside your phone during specific times of the day? What analog and/or digital commitments are you ready to make in your life? How can this group help you?

*Leader: If you’re group is already making meaningful connections through technology throughout the week, encourage everyone to keep it up! If not, consider how you as a group could practice with one another.

Examples- Use a text message or an app like Facebook Messenger to send a note of encouragement. Use a video app like Marco Polo to pray for one another. Commit to using the YouVersion READ plan for the 1 Peter series- invite the group to do the plan together and challenge one another to share thoughts in the “Talk It Over” section each day. (See www.whoisgrace.com/READ)