



MOVIES, TV, MUSIC, AND VIDEO GAMES

A guided discussion on the topic of movies, TV, music, and video games

OPENER

“What are some of your favorite movies, TV shows, video games, and songs? Why?”

Prompts if no response: Provide some of your favorites, and list some of theirs you know they like.

Discussion Question 1:

What are some forms of entertainment that God is probably pleased with?

Prompts if no response: Movies with an encouraging or inspiring story or message; TV shows with clean comedy that makes us laugh; video games that challenge our mind with puzzles and new learning; beautiful music that gets us moving for exercise or relaxes us.



Discussion Question 2:

What are some forms of entertainment that God is probably displeased with?

Prompts if no response: Profanity and dark, depressing words in music; cruelty, extra violence, or immodesty in movies or video games; TV shows that make something evil look good, such as realistic depictions of the occult or “black magic” or immorality); turning entertainment into an idol.

Discussion Question 3:

God tells us not to look at wicked or worthless things. Why would God want us to be careful about what we watch or listen to?

Prompts if no response: Seeing lots of fake violence might make us insensitive to real-life violence; listening to lots of profanity might make us start saying it ourselves; spending too much time entertaining ourselves might make us less likely to connect with our friends and family or get depressed.



Hypothetical 1:

What would you think or say if you heard this: “Movies, TV, video games, and music are evil.”

Prompts if no response: Evil entertainment is evil; we have to be picky, yes, but not all entertainment is the same.

Hypothetical 2:

What would you say if you were told: “Come on! It’s just a _____ (song/ movie/tv show/video game). It can’t hurt you. It’s not like you are really doing something wrong.”

Prompts if no response: I don’t want that in my mind; that is purposefully trying to make evil look good, and good look evil; it is a waste of time when I could be doing something productive.



CLOSER

What are some alternatives to isolated screen time or entertainment just for yourself?”

Prompts if no response: calling a friend on the phone, going for a walk with the family...

SCRIPTURES FOR MORE STUDY OR REFERENCE

Psalm 101:3; Psalm 119:37; Isaiah 5:20; 2 Corinthians 10:15; Philippians 4:8; Proverbs 4:23; Matthew 5:21-22; 2 Timothy 2:22