

I recently happened upon an interesting article that probed the findings of a newly published study examining the use and knowledge of modern slang. This article attracted my attention because I have a bit of fascination with the “language” that has developed within the world of cyber conversation - specifically texting. Following is a list of the currently popular words/terms identified in the study:

Currently popular slang words/phrases:

rizz
ate and left no crumbs
cap/no cap
that’s gas sus
caught in 4k
beige flag
skibidi simp
logging
brain rot 6 7
cheugy
mid brokie
infinite aura
deets
periodt

If you have a few minutes to spare, pull up the website urbandictionary.com and find out the meaning of the above slang - some of them are quite creative! But slang isn’t a new phenomenon; every generation has its own cache of slang words. My teenage decade (the glorious ’70’s) had the following slang: skinny, can you dig it, psyche, jive turkey, the crib, spaz, dream on, far out, hang ten, to the max, yo mamma, chill, fab, right on, to the max, 4-sho, be there or be square, 10-4 good buddy, etc. What slang were you throwing around in your teenage years? On a humorous note, here’s a slang term that makes me giggle: **sub-slang**, which refers to slang words that get their roots from parent level slang words. Slang offspring!!! Who knew?!?

Some additional findings of the study examining the use and knowledge of modern slang are: **1)** Americans are too old to use slang at the age of 43; **2)** 37% found slang use in the workplace completely unacceptable; **3)** there exists a widespread knowledge gap when it comes to knowing the meaning of slang, and also the appropriate use of slang; **4)** 50% of respondents think it’s a bad idea to use a slang word without really understanding its definition.

I think the one time we want to abstain from using slang is when we are sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We should strive to be very clear when we’re talking about God’s holiness, and when we explain sin, and when we discuss the reality of heaven & hell, and when we describe the crucifixion and resurrection of Christ, and as it may concern any other area of the Gospel story. Yep, straight talk is the best Gospel language. Grace & peace, love you. PK