

The Messenger

COLDWATER CHURCH OF CHRIST

Mar 20, 2016



I wrote a blog post not too long ago in which I was critical of those who, in an effort to make worship more enjoyable, use video and other technology to “manipulate people’s emotions.” Unfortunately, this left a few readers with the impression that I’m against the use of technology; which is certainly not the case. I think there are both positive and negative aspects to technology. Here are a few thoughts on how I believe technology is both helping and hurting the church today.

Reading the Bible on a Smartphone or Tablet

Many are quick to criticize those who read the Bible on their smartphones or tablets, but personally, I preach from an iPad and I use both my phone and my iPad regularly for Bible study. Here are a few benefits to reading the Bible from an electronic device:

- **Greek and Hebrew Words** -The Olive Tree Bible app with ...

This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you... (1 John 1:5).

**VISITORS,
WELCOME!**

Sunday:

9:30 a.m. Bible Class

10:30 a.m. WORSHIP

1:00 p.m. WORSHIP

Wednesday:

7:00 p.m. Bible Class

We have Bible classes for all ages & fellowship for lunch every Sunday!

P.O. Box 321

2008 Hwy. 306

(1.2 miles east of I-55)

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ELDERS

Billy Bland

Seth Daniel

Jim Jackson

W. Timothy Wilkes, Sr.

DEACONS

Jason Bayless Jared Brown

Jerry Davis Jeffrey Ferrell

Ron Johnson Andy Ratliff

Joe Owen Tim Wilkes, II

PREACHER

Clifton Angel

“Enhanced Strong’s Dictionary” allows me to tap on any word to see the Greek or Hebrew word and its definition. This has enhanced not only by personal Bible studies, but also the way I learn during sermons and Bible classes.

- **Various Translations** - I believe it is best to use multiple translations of the Bible when you study. Using a Bible app on a smartphone or tablet allows a person to access dozens of translations instantly.
- **Accessibility and Mobility** - One of the greatest benefits of using a Bible app is having your Bible with you wherever you go.

There are probably many other benefits to using a Bible app on your smartphone or tablet that we don’t have time to cover, but there are also some negatives as well:

- **Distractibility** - It’s hard to keep reading the Bible when a text message, a tweet, or some other notification pops up. Furthermore, it’s hard not to periodically switch over to Facebook or Twitter, just to see what’s happening. It requires a tremendous amount of discipline to just read the Bible when doing so from a device.
- **Context** - When I’m looking at the open pages of my printed Bible, I can usually see two or three chapters of text (much more than I can see on a small screen). This allows me to visually recognize when a word or phrase is used several times in a particular context.
- **Experiencing the Text** - We experience words on a page differently than we experience them on a screen. “Modern screens and e-readers fail to adequately recreate certain tactile experiences of reading on paper that many people miss and, more importantly, prevent people from navigating long texts in an intuitive and satisfying way” (<http://www.scientificamerican.com/article/reading-paper-screens/>).

For me, the best solution is to use both a digital and a printed Bible. I switch back and forth between these two mediums and I encourage others to do likewise. I encourage those who use Bible apps not to completely abandon their printed Bibles, because there are many benefits to using a printed Bible. At the same time, I also encourage Christians who use printed Bibles not to be critical of their brethren for using mobile devices to study Scripture, because there are many benefits to that as well.

Social Media

One of the giant advancements in the world of technology is social media. It’s hard to

believe, but Facebook boasts over 1.5 billion users! That is over 21% of the world's population!

Social media is all about bringing people together. It can bring Christians together with non-Christians and give us the opportunity to impact their lives with the gospel. It can also bring Christians together with one another and help us teach, reprove, correct, train, and encourage one another. I have found social media to be a huge blessing to my life and my work as an evangelist.

But as much as social media brings people together, it also has the tendency to isolate us. We're engaging with a device, rather than engaging with the people in the same room. We have thousands of virtual relationships, but very few genuine relationships.

I believe the church needs to take advantage of the opportunities afforded us by social media, but guard against the ever-growing problem of isolation. We need to use phones and computers to the glory of God, but we also need to know when to turn them off and get out in the real world to serve people and touch their lives.

In order for social media to help the church and not hurt the church, we must exercise discipline.

Written by Wes McAdams

<http://www.radicallychristian.com/how-technology-is-helping-and-hurting-the-church>

(Part 2 will be published 3/27/16, OR, you can view entire article at link above)

Sermon Review

A.C.T.S. — When Saul Met Paul

(Acts 13:6–12)

I. Some Observations of Irony

II. A Question of Curiosity

III. The Message of Authority

Selected Lessons from Our Bible Bowl Passages — John 16 – 18

(John 16–18)

I. Biblical Contents (John 13–17) **III. Biblical Presence** (John 17:13–17)

II. Biblical Offense (John 16:1) **IV. Biblical Province** (John 18:36)

NEWS & NOTES

Please Pray

Leigh Owen, recovering from tonsillectomy; **Wiley & Betty Tuggle**; **Several** traveling, some daily/weekly; **Jeffrey & Kaiden Ferrell**, routine cancer screenings; **Wiley Tuggle**.

NetCasters
Fishers of Men
Far East Missions

Family & Friends

Judy Dowelling, Joe's mother, successful quad-bypass, major kidney problems; **Bill Fleming**; **Jo Smith**, Jerry's aunt, has cancer & will have hysterectomy Mar 30; **Eden Davis**, tonsil removal Mar 31; **Sue Brown**, Jared's grandmother; **Sharol Brown**, Jared's mother, to have medical procedure April 14; **Jenny Kraft**, Mischel's co-worker, recently had a heart attack; **Deborah Williams**, Betty Duke's daughter, major eye complications; **Carl Zluticky**; **Linda McDonald**, friend of Sherry; **John Simpson** and family; **Charli Kate Rhodes**, home; **Mac Owen**; **Johnny & Joy Angel**, health problems; **Lottie McMahan**; **Sheila Culbreath Tubbs**; **Rhonda Cook**; **Wanda Coats**; **Henretta Newsom**; **Tammy Powell**; **Sharon Brewer**, Chris' sister; **Lawton O'Brien**; **Pat Hardison**; **Beverly Whitecotton**; **Peggy Hunt**; **Jason Spencer**; **John Smith**; **Elizabeth Baker**; **Janie Brister**; **Amanda Cummings**; **Danielle Key**; **Frankie Burfield**; **James Cooper**; **Renee Loya**; **Eli Williams**; **Ray Maples**; **Martha Hatfield**; **Virginia Johnson**; **Bob Spurlin**.

Birthdays

3/6 Emma Wofford	3/22 Weslyn Wadsworth
3/9 Jan Daniel	3/24 Johnny Bayless
3/9 Ginger Bayless	3/29 Payton Jackson
3/18 Betty Duke	3/31 Beverly Hayes
3/21 Ella Brown	

Get Involved!

Convalescence Center Devo — Mar 23 — 10 AM

Youth Devo, Egg Hunt @ the Williams' — Mar 26
4:30, Signup sheet for items to bring; Bring chairs
Bring one dozen candy-filled plastic eggs per child

MSOP Lectures — Mar 27 – 31 — flyer in foyer

Coldwater Singing Night — Mar 30 — 7 PM

New Quarter Begins — April 3

Signup / see Jared to teach!

Southaven Girl's Day, Lock-in — Apr 22 — 7 PM

See flyer in foyer for details

Privileged to Serve

Sunday, March 20

Morning

Prayer Before Class	Timothy Wilkes, Sr.
Announcements	Jerry Davis
Song Leader	Jason Bayless
Lord's Supper:	
Preside	Marc Strickland
	Jim Jackson
Assist	Russell Wadsworth
	Geoffrey Dunn
Opening Prayer	Jared Brown
Sermon	Clifton Angel
Closing Prayer	Andy Ratliff

Afternoon

Song Leader	Jason Bayless
Opening Prayer	Billy Bland
Sermon	Clifton Angel
Lord's Supper	Jim Jackson
	Russell Wadsworth
Closing Prayer	Jeremy Moore

Wednesday, March 23

Song Leader	Jason Bayless
Prayer	Ron Johnson
Invitation	Clifton Angel
Prayer	Jerry Davis