WELCOME TO THE PARENT CONNECTION!

ENJOY SOME FOOD AND VISIT WITH OTHERS

WHY DO WE NEED TO TALK ABOUT TECHNOLOGY?

WHY TALK ABOUT TECH?

- Pervasive
- Encroaching
- Rapidly changing
- Potential Dangers

WHAT POTENTIAL DANGERS COME FROM TECH?

- Addiction

ADDICTION

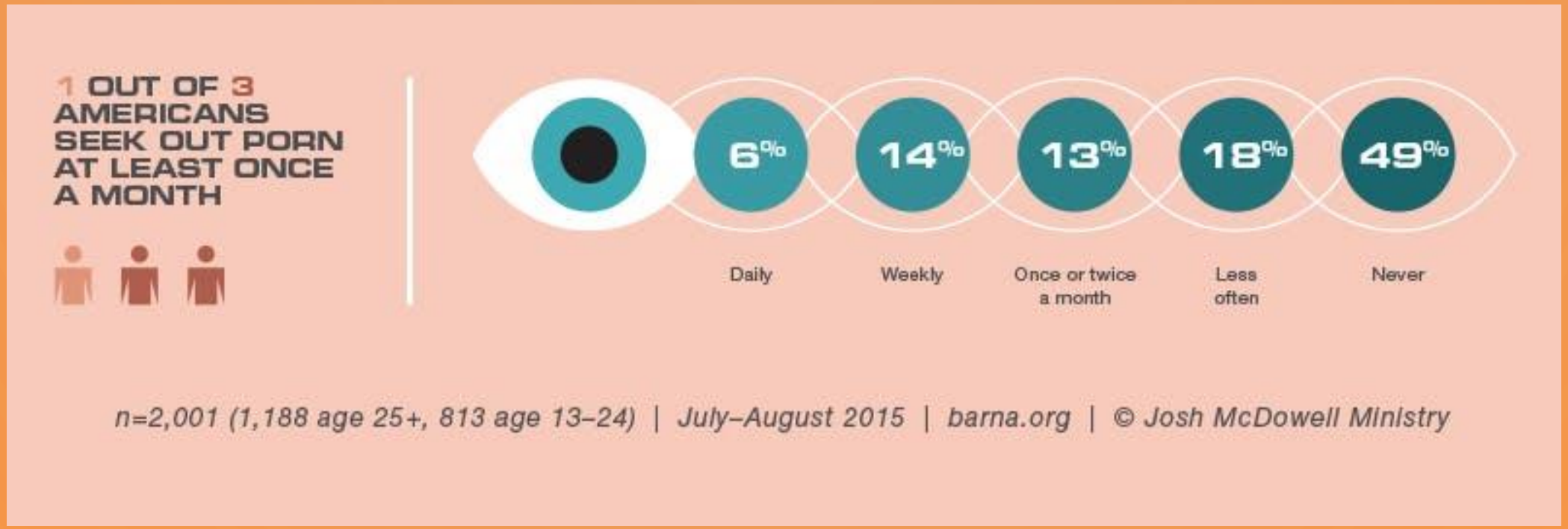
- 24% adolescents report being constantly connected to internet
- 50% feel addicted to their phones

("Children and Adolescents and Digital Media", *Technical Report*, American Academy of Pediatrics)

WHAT POTENTIAL DANGERS COME FROM TECH?

- Addiction
- Difficulty relating in-person
- Escapism
- Pornography

PORNOGRAPHY



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HOW SHOULD WE APPROACH TECHNOLOGY?

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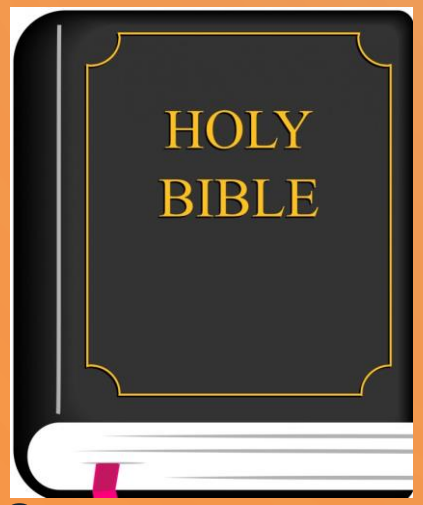

- Very Good

And

- Cursed

KEEP TECH IN ITS RIGHTFUL PLACE

- Keep technology in bounds
- Purpose determines proper use

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF TECHNOLOGY IN OUR LIVES?

PURPOSE OF TECH

- Designer's purpose?
- God's purpose?

PURPOSE OF TECH

- What is the purpose of life?
- Purpose of tech must align with this.

37 Jesus replied: “ ‘Love the Lord
your God with all your heart and
with all your soul and with all your
mind.’ 38 This is the first and
greatest commandment. 39 And the
second is like it: ‘Love your
neighbor as yourself.’

Matthew 22:37-39

PURPOSE OF TECH

Things technology is good at?

- Education
- Efficiency
- Connecting with others
- Entertainment

PURPOSE OF TECH

Technology can contribute or detract from us loving God and others.

HOW DO WE DISCERN THE RIGHT USE OF TECH?

DISCERN THE RIGHT USE

OBJECTIVE CRITERIA

- Content
- Addiction
- Not fulfilling responsibilities
- etc

SUBJECTIVE CRITERIA

- What is the motive/heart behind use?

DISCERN THE RIGHT USE

- Looking to technology to fill our needs
  - Security: Who can I trust?
  - Identity: Who am I?
  - Belonging: Who wants me?
  - Purpose: Why am I alive?
  - Competence: What do I do well?

DISCERN THE RIGHT USE

- Discover and engage motives behind use
- Help child/youth to understand his/her own motives
  - Recognize weaknesses

HOW DO WE SHEPHERD OUR FAMILIES WITH TECHNOLOGY?

THE IMPORTANCE OF RELATIONSHIP

What difference does the foundation of a loving relationship make in guiding our children?

CLEAR GUIDELINES

- Communicate!
  - Talk & listen
- Written covenant
  - Follow yourself

CLEAR GUILDELINES

- Tech free space
- Tech free times

PARENT CONNECTION