Snapshots are published by the Gospel, Society and Culture Committee of the NSW Presbyterian Church and explore social and cultural issues from a Christian worldview. A full detailed Resource Paper is available on each Snapshot topic (and more) at www.gsandc.org.au.



Snapshot: Living in a Tech-driven world - Part 1

Facebook; Instagram; Snapchat; WeChat; Twitter...The list goes on. Should Christians embrace or resist technology?

How do Christians engage in social media in a God-glorifying way?

Technological innovation is a reflection of our magnificently creative God.

We are made in the image of our creative God (Gen 1:27-28). Our innate ability and desire to be creative reflects God's creative image. We are called to fill the earth and subdue it technology is a way of effectively doing this and interacting with God's creation.

Internet Use in Australia



13 million users
8.5hrs/week
89% watch videos

99% of Australians have internet

But technology is not immune from sin. We can use innovation & creativity for evil.

Since the Fall, people have rejected God. We "do what ought not to be done" and "invent ways of doing evil" (Rom 1:28-30). We are not immune to sin in the way we use technology: from targeting unsuspecting children and adults or indulging in casual relationships to more subtle impacts on our time management, priorities, desires, ability to develop meaningful relationships and even addiction.

With all these dangers and risks, how should Christians view technology?

Christians have been FREED from the control of sin by the death and resurrection of Jesus. We are free to use our whole self, including how we use technology to bring glory to God.



A secular perspective of technology

Technology can **solve** our problems - it can **control** nature and achieve **power**.

Technology creates a **constantly available** market (e.g. online shopping). It feeds consumerism - the need to constantly upgrade.

Technology has **changed how we communicate and live** - e.g. new vocabulary, increased access to information.

A Christian perspective of technology

Technology can both **expose** (tendencies and sins) and **enable** (our communication and relationships).

We need to be cautious of technology drawing us away from God and others whilst seeking opportunity to use it for God's kingdom.

The internet does not discern between right and wrong. We can be exposed to inappropriate and harmful content