**Silent Intruder**

When I had small children, almost nothing evoked fear more than when it was too quiet. Every parent knows that fear! It's usually because there is something that has captured their full attention...like painting on the wall or giving their brother a haircut.

As they grow up, a little quiet time can actually be helpful. The child learns what is right and wrong and the consequences. They hopefully then turn to more constructive things like playing with Legos and reading books.

Unfortunately, as they grow up even more, that silence can now become an intruder that comes through the devices. We now have to make parental decisions about technology that our parents never had to. I notice that when parents talk to other parents about their child’s technology use there is that same familiar look of fear. Ironically, that all familiar sound of being “too quiet” is coming from their rooms again!

The truth is that both we ourselves and our children are constantly being bombarded with pictures, videos, text that can be harmful. I'm reminded of a verse in Psalm 119:11 that my son memorized as a small child and has always claimed as him favorite verse. The passage from verse 9-16 is perfect for just this:

9How can a young person stay on the path of purity?
    By living according to your word.
10I seek you with all my heart;
    do not let me stray from your commands.
11I have hidden your word in my heart
    that I might not sin against you.
12Praise be to you, Lord;
    teach me your decrees.
13With my lips I recount
    all the laws that come from your mouth.
14I rejoice in following your statutes
    as one rejoices in great riches.
15I meditate on your precepts
    and consider your ways.
16I delight in your decrees;
    I will not neglect your word.

Technology is here to stay and it’s a hard reality of the culture we live in. That’s why we invited Tony Bianco, Middle School Minister, from our HUB Student Ministry to our last Life Bible Study Rally. He introduced the Family Technology Plan and presented some solid truth that we can land on! He has done a video for us to answer the questions we had from our time together with him (click the picture of Tony below to see the video). If you have any further questions, feel free to contact Tony at Tony.Bianco@HoustonsFirst.org or myself at Holly.Crain@HoustonsFirst.org.

Tony Bianco, Middle School Minister, came and spoke at our Life Bible Study Rally on Sunday, January 14th. The topic? Family Tech Plan! Here is the link hear Tony's answers to our questions that day, [https://youtu.be/qbMmxs-hylg](https://youtu.be/qbMmxs-hylg%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank). Want more information about a Family Tech Plan? Head to his website, [www.FamilyTechnologyPlan.com](http://www.familytechnologyplan.com/%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank)

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