

# THE BELLEVILLE MESSENGER

October 9

2022

## Some Tips Concerning Social Media

Personally, I am not a fan of social media (i.e. Facebook, Twitter, etc.) However, like it or not, it seems social media is here to stay. So, since social media has become a part of the lives of so many, especially during the current times that we live in today, let's examine a few helpful tips to keep in mind while engaging in the use of social media. Beginning with...

### **Think Before You Post.**

Although I choose not to actively engage in social media, I know many of who do, and they even from time to time share their post or the post of others with me. Now, with that said, I have to say that I am often shocked to see some of the post (even some of the brethren's) that are sometimes shared with me. However, this could be eliminated if one would just "think before they posted." You see, before you hit send, you need to ask yourself, "could this post be taken the wrong way? Could this post unnecessarily offend someone? Could this post affect the influence that I have on others?" So, think before you post, and always, "Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good" (Romans 12:9).

### **Abstain From Venting Your Personal Offenses.**

Sadly, many use social media as a way to vent their anger or frustrations concerning someone, or to be better put, as a way to blast someone behind their back. However, shame on any one who cowardly does this. You see, if one has a problem with another, one

needs to go and personally speak to that individual and tell them to their face one on one (Matthew 18:15). Therefore, keep in mind if you have a personal problem with someone, do not post it all over social media for everyone to see, but rather go to that person, and keep it between you and them alone.

### **Beware of Gossip.**

Unfortunately, the use of social media can often provide a great opportunity to entangle one in the sin of gossip. Therefore, beware of the social media "rumor mills," avoid gossip, and always keep in mind these words of wisdom from Proverbs 26:20, "*Where there is no wood, the fire goes out; And where there is no talebearer, (i.e. gossiper or whisperer) strife ceases.*"

### **Watch Out For Ungodly Influences.**

One of the great dangers of social media is there are many who often post dirty jokes, use filthy language, and fill their page with all kinds of ungodly photos. Therefore, one needs to remember to choose their friends carefully (Proverbs 12:26). Remember to always deny ungodliness and worldly lust (Titus 2:12), and always keep in mind the fact that evil associations corrupt good habits (1 Corinthians 15:33).

### **Do Not Let Social Media Become An Addiction.**

The amount of time that people are spending on social media is constantly increasing, and a recent poll revealed that the average person now spends about two hours per day on social media. You see, the point is, one needs to be careful lest they become addicted to social media. So, hold onto these words of the apostle Paul, "*All things are lawful for me, but not all things are helpful. All things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any*" (1 Corinthians 6:12).

I hope that you find these tips concerning social media to be helpful to you, and that you will practice them when engaging in the use of social media. So, once more, beware of the dangers concerning social media, and be careful how you use it!

✍️ Brad Phillips

## **‘It Doesn’t Say Not To’**

Imagine this: you walk into a fast food restaurant and order a hamburger, fries, and a coke - the all-American meal! But then, you notice that it seems to take an unusually long time to get your food. Finally, the gal at the counter brings up your order - piles of food on three separate trays! "What's all of this?" you ask. "Well", answers the waitress, "it's one of every item on our menu. Your bill comes to \$85.68". You protest: "I didn't tell you to bring me all of that food!" "But", she replies, "you didn't tell me not to".

Could this happen? Of course not! We all know that when you specify what you want, you automatically eliminate other options. We operate with this understanding every day. In fact, this logic is so standard, that we don't even think about it. When you order something from a catalog, or call in a pizza, or write a grocery list, you naturally assume that it is understood that you want only what is specified, and nothing else.

What's the point of all this? Simply that in religious matters we ought to employ the same logic. God has perfectly revealed through His word what He wants us to do in His service. We should naturally assume that since He has told us what He wants, other things ought to be left out.

For instance: What about music in worship? The New Testament specifies singing - there is no mention of instrumental music in New Testament worship. Since God has told us to sing, and nothing else, we ought to do just that. Someone answers, "But it doesn't say not to play instruments". The Scriptures don't have to say not to - that's the whole point!

*✍ Greg Gwin*

## **What Must I Do To Be Saved?**

**Hear The Word of God.** (Romans 10:17)

**Believe In Jesus Christ.** (John 8:24)

**Repent of Your Sins.** (Acts 17:30)

**Confess Jesus Christ.** (Matthew 10:32)

**Be Baptized For The Remission of Sins.**  
(Acts 2:38)

**Remain Faithful To The Lord Unto Death.**  
(Revelation 2:10)

### **Belleville church of Christ**

*5635 S County Rd 200E - Belleville, IN - (317) 539-5258*

**[www.bellevillechurch.net](http://www.bellevillechurch.net)**

#### **Schedule of Services**

Sunday Bible Study .....	9:30 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship .....	10:30 a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship .....	5:00 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study .....	7:00 p.m.

#### **Evangelist**

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