Pitfall #2: Entertainment (2001 Apr 15)

David Banning · Proverbs 4:20–27 · Series: **Family**

INTRODUCTION

- I'm convinced that Americans must surely be the most entertained society of people that have ever existed.
- We need to be careful about the choices we make when it comes to our entertainment.
- One of the grave and serious tasks that we have as a parent is to train our children how to entertain themselves without at the same time corrupting their minds.

1 Entertainment Is More Than Just Entertainment

Proverbs 4:23; Philippians 4:8

- Whenever I turn on the television or the radio or log onto the internet, what I'm doing is I'm feeding my mind.
- I think one of the great evils of our entertainment is the way that it desensitizes us to evil.
- Watch over your heart with all diligence, for from it flow the springs of life.
- For the mouth speaks out of that which fills the heart.

2 There's Just a Lot of Trash Out There

Ephesians 4:29; Hebrews 13:4; Romans 12:17–21

- There is in our entertainment today a lot of trash.
- Let no unwholesome word proceed out of your mouth, but only that which is good for edifying.
- Let marriage be held in honor and the marriage bed undefiled.
- There's a lot of junk food out there that our kids don't need to be feeding on, and for that matter, we don't need to be feeding on it either.

3 Entertainment Is Stealing Our Time With Our Children

Ephesians 5:15–16

- Our entertainment is stealing our time with our children.
- The average child between the ages of two and eleven spends 1,200 minutes a week watching television, but only 39 minutes a week in meaningful conversation with their parents.
- The television is robbing us of precious golden moments with our children.
- Therefore be careful how you walk. Not as unwise men, but as wise, making the most of your time. Because the days are evil.

4 We Need to Be Raising Our Standards

Philippians 4:8

- All of us need to be raising our standards about the kind of things we watch and let entertain us.
- I think the problem is that we've begun to measure ourselves by the wrong standard.

- How would movies like Titanic and Saving Private Ryan measure up to Philippians 4 and verse 8?
- Some of us need to begin helping our kids by first raising our standards.

5 Things We Need to Do for Our Kids

2 Timothy 3:14

- Number one, talk to your kids about their heart.
- Our kids need to be equipped, not with the rules that we gave them, but with the convictions to make wise choices.
- Help them guard their hearts, number one, by limiting their time with entertainment.
- Number three, know what your kids are seeing and hearing.

6 Take Special Precautions With the Internet

- You need to take special precautions with the internet.
- Number one, don't be in a rush to get your kids on the internet.
- You need to strictly limit when and where your children use it.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **I want you to join me starting tomorrow morning in a television fast.**

MY NOTES