

Media has a powerful influence within cultures. The movies, books, magazines, television programs, news reports, popular music, and digital media of our society shape how we see the world in ways we barely register. They control, to a large extent, what stories we tell and how we tell them, where we focus our attention, and what we believe to be true.

Jesus was a storyteller; He rarely taught a Kingdom principle without a parable to go with it. God instructed Israel to retell and re-enact the stories of His intervention time after time. Music and dance show up at nearly every major crossroads in Israel's history. The furnishing for the Temple were works of art rich with symbolism. The book of Psalms is a collection of song lyrics. Clearly God agrees that media is a powerful way to impart truth.

Yet, like everything else, media has been corrupted in our post-Fall world. Too often, media perpetuates lies that do great harm. It can be used to oppress people groups, cover up corruption, and normalize sin. As we understand our calling to "make disciples of all nations," we cannot overlook media as a tool for both good and evil, truth and lies.

## Please pray with us...

- That God would give His Church a renewed understanding of her role in creating media that glorifies Him and brings truth. Pray for Christ-followers in every artform to have opportunities to hone their craft and understand the intersection of faith and art. Pray for deeper revelations of truth and beauty that flow naturally into the media they create.
- That God's people would be sensitive to the Holy Spirit as they
  consume media. Pray for discernment, protection over our minds
  and hearts, and a willingness to submit this area of our lives to the
  Lordship of Christ.
- For news media. Pray against censorship by those who would suppress truth and manipulate public opinion. Pray for protection over journalists, and that they will maintain integrity and truth in the face of opposition.
- For artists, actors, writers, and musicians to have a deep longing for God and for the beauty and truth that come from Him alone. Pray that many cultural influencers will come into a personal relationship with God, and that this relationship will be the spring from which their creativity flows.

Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things.

Philippians 4:8





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