

# FIRST MOBILE PHONE CONVERSATION



1 of 2 Pages

## What is the purpose for having a mobile phone?

- Develop your own plan and boundaries.
  - Set boundaries for when your student can and can't use their device.
    - 1. Can they only use it 1 hour a day?
    - 2. Can they only use their device on certain days of the week?
    - 3. Should you set a week of the year where they don't use devices at all?
  - What do you use your mobile phone for and why?
- Develop a plan for your family.
  - Tech Family or Non-tech family? Either way can be honoring to God.
  - Mobile phone contract.

### Teach your children about purity.

- Sexual Purity.
  - Have this conversation! If your child is in grade 5 and you haven't talked about sex, stop and make a plan for that first.
  - Sex is designed for marriage. Anything outside of that is sinful and harmful
  - Run from sexual sin! No other sin so clearly affects the body as this one does. For sexual immorality is a sin against your own body. 1 Corinthians 6:18 (NLT)

- Emotional Purity.
  - Having a device with an internet connection opens your student up to the world.
  - Cyberbullying Be aware and be encouraging to your student.
  - Key question to ask your student, Are you the same person in real life that you portray to others on social media?
- · Mental Purity.
  - Is this device sharpening your child's mind or dulling it?

\*A mobile phone is like a chainsaw. It's an incredibly useful tool, but if used improperly it could cause serious if not fatal injury.

#### Take it slow.

- You don't have to give your child the newest device. Give them a device with training wheels to help them learn and grow.
- The goal is for your child to use technology responsibly when you're not around.
- Help your student on the front end rather than having to clean up a mess on the back end. Front end work is much easier and more beneficial than back end work.





#### THOUGHTS TO CONSIDER

- Would I give my child a chainsaw or a car without training or guidance? Why would a mobile phone be any different?
- Boundaries = Safety + Freedom.
- What am I modeling to my children and family with the way that I use my mobile phone?

#### **ACTION STEPS**

- 1. Have a conversation with your student about electronic devices. Share your own experience. Be transparent.
- 2. Parents should draw up a mobile phone contract that's agreeable to both of them.
- 3. Review the contract with your child asking for feedback. Have them agree and sign.
- 4. Every year or semester of school revisit the contract and make appropriate changes.

#### **RESOURCES**

- Parent Chat by Matt Mckee
- The Tech Wise Family by Andy Crouch

