#### WE ARE FAMILY

### SMART PARENTING IN THE AGE OF SMARTPHONES

Ephesians 5:11-16 Jeff Schreve

### What does it take to be a smart parent and raise godly kids?

- 1. Smart parents start early.
  - A. From the womb, we model a genuine walk with Christ.

    Be imitators of me, just as I also am of Christ.

    1 Corinthians 11:1
  - B. From the womb, we teach our kids that <u>God is good</u>.

    "Truly He is good, truly His lovingkindness is everlasting."

    2 Chronicles 7:3
  - C. From the womb, we make the most of our opportunity.
- 2. Smart parents recognize the <u>danger in smartphones</u>.
  - A. Smartphones are powerful things.
  - B. Smartphones can get you into terrible trouble.
    - 1. They can open the door to evil and addictions.
    - 2. They can distract you and harden your heart.

"The only thing that consoles us from our miseries is distraction, and yet this is the greatest of our miseries. For it is this which principally hinders us from reflecting upon ourselves. Distraction amuses us, and leads us unconsciously to death." Blaise Pascal

3. They can <u>hurt your development and self-esteem</u>.

IT ROTS THE SENSES IN THE HEAD!
IT KILLS IMAGINATION DEAD!
IT CLOGS AND CLUTTERS UP THE MIND!
IT MAKES A CHILD SO DULL AND BLIND
HE CAN NO LONGER UNDERSTAND
A FANTASY, A FAIRYLAND!
HIS BRAIN BECOMES AS SOFT AS CHEESE!

# HIS POWERS OF THINKING RUST AND FREEZE! HE CANNOT THINK – HE ONLY SEES!

- -- The Oompa Loompas, Roald Dahl, Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, 1964
- 4. They can <u>derail your family communication</u>.

# 3. Smart parents need to implement smartphone rules.

- A. We will operate our phones in the light.
  - ... for you were formerly darkness, but now you are light in the Lord; walk as children of light. Ephesians 5:8
- B. We will have no smartphones at the table.
- C. We will have a smartphone curfew.
- D. We will hold each other <u>accountable</u> so we can please God.

If you will do family God's way, you will see Him bless you!