

Youth & Entertainment

Introduction: There are Bible principles which must be applied to every form of entertainment if we are to remain pleasing to God. One such passage reads: "Test all things; hold fast what is good. Abstain from every form of evil" - I Thessalonians 5:21-22. We must be sure we are only engaged in entertainment that is pleasing to God.

I) Questions to ask yourself when determining whether or not to engage in a certain entertainment.

1. Does it hurt my body? I Cor. 6:19
2. Is it within my financial ability? Am I wisely using the money God has given me?
Would He be pleased?
3. Does it better me or pull me down spiritually?
4. Does it identify me with evil companions? I Cor. 15:33
5. Does it hurt my influence for good?
6. Would I ask Jesus to go with me and participate in this?
7. Will this take up too much of my time?
8. Others?

II) Questionable Entertainment (Explain why)

1. Sensual dancing
2. Vulgar Music
3. Some "PG", many "PG-13", most "R" and NC-17 rated movies
4. Certain music videos
5. Certain T.V. shows
6. Others?

III) Good Entertainment (Discuss)

1. Sports
2. Outdoor activities (camping, cycling, hiking, etc.)
3. Games
4. Clean movies, T.V., music, etc.
5. Others?

IV) Always Remember

1. Keep God first - Matthew 6:33
2. Do not conform to the world - Romans 12:1-2
3. Keep a clear conscience - Rom. 14:23
4. Do not violate any of God's laws
5. Think only on good things - Philippians 4:8

Conclusion: All people need entertainment...but the person concerned with God's approval, will think, ask questions and pray, before engaging in questionable entertainment. If any disapproval of God is evident, then he will refrain from such. Let us all enjoy the fun and recreations of this life, but remember that God sees and we will have to give an account to Him one day for all these things. - Ecclesiastes 11:9