

Being a Pre-Modern Parent: A Guide to Blessing Our Homes

Part One: What Is “Pre-Modern”? What Is “Tech”?

➤ Definition of Terms

a “Pre-Modern” is *before* modernity, *rejects* radical post-modernity, and *seeks to reclaim* what has been lost

“Tech” refers to screens, algorithms, and the internet

Part Two: The Pitfalls and Dangers of Tech

➤ First Article and First Use Issues Regarding Tech

the *removal of friction*

the *emphasis on immediacy*

the endless supply of “juice” (amplification feedback)

Part Three: The Family Table

➤ The Family That Eats Together *Thrives*

➤ The Hallmarks of “Table Fellowship”

a sharing of presence

engaged in ritual acts together

a place of conversation leading to catechesis

➤ The Endless Possibilities of the Family Table

Part Four: The Less-Tech Home

➤ Purging Out the Old Leaven

➤ “Chase the Slow”

the fallacy of “early use”

teach first, tech last

➤ Practical Approach—*Community Spaces and No-Tech Zones*

➤ Practical Approach—*Avoid Going Mobile*

➤ Practical Approach—*Restrict, Then Permit (After Training!)*

➤ The Parent as the Gatekeeper

➤ Technology for Good

necessary but not exhaustive!

Part Five: Parenting as a Pre-Modern

➤ *Active Vocational Parenting* as the *Given-To* in Christ

➤ A Home Adorned with Beauty (and Not Screens)

➤ A Pre-Modern Home *Is Not* Modern

➤ The Call to Holiness in the Home

Resources for Further Learning

On Technology and Stuff:

- Alter, Adam.** 2018. *Irresistible: The Rise of Addictive Technology and the Business of Keeping Us Hooked.* Penguin.
- Black, Sam.** 2021. *The Porn Circuit: Understand Your Brain and Break Your Porn Habit in 90 Days.* Covenant Eyes.
- Carr, Nicholas.** 2020. *The Shallows: What the Internet Is Doing to Our Brains.* Norton.
- Kardaras, Nicholas.** 2022. *Digital Madness: How Social Media Is Driving Our Mental Health Crisis—and How to Restore Our Sanity.* St. Martins.
- Kardaras, Nicholas.** 2016. *Glow Kids: How Screen Addiction Is Hijacking Our Kids—And How to Break the Trance.* St. Martins.

On Creation, Sin, Redemption, Holiness:

- Biermann, Joel.** 2014. *A Case for Character: Towards a Lutheran Virtue Ethics.* Fortress.
- Biermann, Joel.** 2024. *Day 7: For Work, Rest, or Play.* Concordia.
- Curtis, Rebekah and Adle, Rose.** 2015. *Lady Like: Living Biblically.* Concordia.
- Heaton, Chris.** 2023. *Mentioning the Unmentionables: Naming the Corrosive Threat to Our Live Together and Our Faithful Response in the Body of Christ.* Wipf and Stock.
- Hemmer, Jeffrey.** 2017. *Man Up! The Quest for Masculinity.* Concordia.
- Raabe, Paul R.; Voelz, James W.** 1996. "Why Exhort a Good Tree? Exhortation and Paraenesis in Romans," Concordia Journal 22.2.
- Rueger, Matthew.** 2016. *Sexual Morality in a Christless World.* Concordia.
- Smith, James K.A.** 2016. *You Are What You Love: The Spiritual Power of Habit.* Baker.

On the (Tech-Less) Family Home:

- Crouch, Andy.** 2017. *The Tech-Wise Family: Everyday Steps for Putting Technology in Its Proper Place.* Baker.
- Lawler, Leila Marie.** 2021. *The Summa Domestica: Order and Wonder in Family Life. Three Volumes.* Sophia Institute.
- Loechner, Erin.** 2024. *The Opt-Out Family: How to Give Your Kids What Technology Can't.* Zondervan.

Culture Concerns:

- Esolen, Anthony.** 2022. *No Apologies: Why Civilization Depends on the Strength of Men.* Regnery.
- Esolen, Anthony.** 2017. *Out of the Ashes: Rebuilding American Culture.* Regnery.
- Esolen, Anthoy.** 2010. *Ten Ways to Destroy the Imagination of Your Child.* Intercollegiate Studies Institute.
- Fradd, Matt.** 2017. *The Porn Myth: Exposing the Reality Behind the Fantasy of Pornography.* Ignatius.
- Shalit, Wendy.** 1999. *A Return to Modesty: Discovering the Lost Virtue.* Simon & Schuster.