



WEEK 1: *Being Human*

Over the past three decades, digital technologies have powerfully changed our lives. They are woven into the very way we understand and relate to the world around us. We are now a digital culture. We are no longer who and what we were just a few decades ago.

-- Tim Challies, *The Next Story: Life and Faith after the Digital Explosion*

These days, insecure in our relationships and anxious about intimacy, we look to technology for ways to be in relationships and protect ourselves from them at the same time.

-- Sherry Turkle, *Alone Together: Why We Expect More from Technology and Less from Each Other*

To varying degrees, every time we type in a password and hit "enter," we cross from one side of the schism to another. Doing so in a psychologically healthy way is becoming an increasingly difficult challenge, but one that we have to manage if we want to preserve those things about us that we hold dear.

-- Elias Aboujaoude, MD, *Virtually You: The Dangerous Powers of the E-Personality*

With the exception of alphabets and number systems, the NET may well be the single most powerful mind-altering technology that has ever come into general use.

-- Nicholas Carr, *The Shallows: What The Internet is Doing to our Brains*

"Needing more to be satisfied less" is one definition of addiction. According to this logic, technology is, therefore, an addiction.

-- Kevin Kelly, *What Technology Wants*

It's easy to blame all this on the tools. Too easy. These tools are fantastically useful and enrich our lives in countless ways. They can't make us busy until we make them busy first. We're the prime movers here. We're always connected because we're always connecting.

-- William Powers, *Hamlet's BlackBerry: A Practical Philosophy for building a Good Life in the Digital Age*

We are too prone to make technological instruments the scapegoats for the sins of those who wield them.

-- David Sarnoff, Pioneer of RCA and NBC, University of Notre Dame speech, 1955

We should neither try to demolish technology nor run away from it. We can restrain it and must redeem it.

-- Albert Borgmann, *Power Failure*

So the whole question comes down to this: Can the human mind master what the human mind has made?

-- Paul Valery, *Autonomous Technology*

**The beginning of wisdom is this: Get wisdom.
Though it cost all you have, get understanding.**

-- King Solomon, Proverbs 4