All Those Glowing Rectangles

by Andy Crouch

Christian parents know they need to think carefully about kids and screens — but why? And how?

In the blink of an eye, humanity has collectively made one of the biggest changes to family life in history, introducing what our family calls “glowing rectangles” into every part of the home. Barely three decades after the invention of the internet, laptops, tablets and smartphones now fill our lives. I love the way technology makes some parts of life easier and more productive. But after 20 years of raising two children in the midst of the screen revolution,

I’m convinced that parents need to pay much more attention to how, when and where our families use screens.

Here’s why...

We are meant for reflection, but our screens glow.

Before technology, only two things in creation glowed by themselves — the sun, which was too bright to look at directly, and fire. (Actually, three
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