

SPIRITUAL NETWORKING

4/28/14

I finally joined the real world; the world of the smart phone! You can tell I'm a novice because I can't decide whether smartphone should be written as one word or two! The really confusing thing is that spellcheck either doesn't know or doesn't care!

I remember seeing my first iPhone in 2007. I was working in the library at a Christian college and a young man had one. I stood in awe as he navigated its interface with masterful dexterity. It was about the coolest thing I'd ever seen.

Things have come a long way since then. Just pop in to your local phone store and see what's on display. There are more smartphones on the shelf than twirly-birds on a maple tree (those of you with maple trees know what I'm saying)!

Smartphones are everywhere. Not only are they everywhere, but everybody's doing it and they're doing it all the time! Everywhere you look, people have their faces buried in their smartphones. Go to a restaurant and look at the group at the next table. You're likely to see all of them with a familiar glow on their faces. Oh, it's not the glow of health, joy, or happiness, but a reflection of the captivating smartphone in hand. So much for table-talk! Got to check email, keep up with Facebook, send out a tweet, and get back in the game!

I've discovered that if you want to talk to a teenager, you'd better get with the program. Leave a voicemail and you might as well not even exist; text them and get an immediate response. Voicemail is so... *démodé* (I can't say nineties because they probably weren't born then).

Smartphones put us in constant contact with one another. We can communicate with others at will. We can speak (if we have to), text, and even "facetime." This convenience drives us to immerse ourselves in it.

Wouldn't it be something if we were as hooked on communicating with our heavenly Father as we are in communicating with others through our smartphones! What if, instead of catching up on what so-and-so had for breakfast, we were catching up on the living words of the living God through a Bible app? What if, instead of playing mind-numbing games which suck our time away, we spent some of that time communicating, through prayer, our praise and adoration for the One in whom we live, move and have our being.

The psalmist says in Psalm 104:32-34, "He looks at the earth, and it trembles; He touches the mountains, and they smoke. I will sing to the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have my being. Let my meditation be pleasing to Him. As for me, I shall be glad in the LORD."

Immerse yourself in the God who created you for Himself and His glory; who provides for your every need and who loves you enough to have given His only Son for you.