



FUN!



Praising God Is Fun!

WHAT IS FUN??

❑ ***FUN = any source of enjoyment, amusement or pleasure!!***

❑ **TYPES OF FUN:**

Activities which are clean and pure and do not hurt anyone OR the Christian conscience! (eg. sports and electronic games)

Activities which are acceptable to society although does not match our values as Orthodox Christians (eg. Night Clubs, Watching inappropriate movies/images, Sharing Sexual and inappropriate jokes)

Activities which are not acceptable to society
(eg. drugs, crimes, antisocial behaviours)

CAN I BE A CHRISTIAN AND STILL HAVE FUN???

➤ **THE GOOD NEWS IS... THAT GOD MEANT FOR US TO HAVE FUN AND CELEBRATE BECAUSE CELEBRATION LIFTS THE SPIRIT!!**

EXAMPLES IN THE BIBLE:

-DAVID DANCED BEFORE THE LORD (2 Samuel 6:14)

-THE JEWS CELEBRATED UPON THEIR EXODUS FROM EGYPT!

Miriam the prophetess, Aaron's sister, took the timbrel in her hand and went out with dancing and praise (Exodus 15:20)

**-JESUS TURNED WATER INTO WINE AT A WEDDING CELEBRATION.
(John 2:1-5)**

CAN I BE A CHRISTIAN AND STILL HAVE FUN???

➤ **THE GOOD NEWS IS... THAT GOD MEANT FOR US TO HAVE FUN AND CELEBRATE BECAUSE CELEBRATION LIFTS THE SPIRIT!!**

▪ **VERSES IN THE BIBLE (examples):**

[ECCLESIASTES 2:24:](#)

“There is nothing better for a man, that he should eat and drink, and find satisfaction in his work. This too, I see, is from the hand of God”

[MATTHEW 25:21:](#)

“His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness”



ACCEPTABLE VS UNACCEPTABLE FUN!

CHRISTIANITY'S VIEW (ON FUN):

While God wants us to have fun, there are some limits to what kind of fun we can have. Some activities may seem fun but have long-term 'Physical and Spiritual' consequences! We don't need sinful activity to have fun! There is plenty of JOY AVAILABLE WITHOUT SIN!

ST PAUL tells us in 1 Corinthians 14:40 that only what is done: "DECENTLY AND IN ORDER" is acceptable to us as Christians!

Proverbs 13:9 - "The light of the righteous shines brightly, but the lamp of the wicked is snuffed out."





ACCEPTABLE VS UNACCEPTABLE FUN!

SOCIETY'S VIEWS (ON FUN):

Society has a different view on what it considers to be acceptable fun!

Based on the philosophy of: "EAT, DRINK AND BE MERRY" "

This is a philosophy on life that is based on doing whatever makes you feel good, Without regard to anything else!

The problem with this philosophy is that it doesn't lead to happiness, it results in a feeling of emptiness and despair.



(CLASS EXERCISE) EXPLORING DIFFERENT TYPES OF FUN?

<i>TYPE OF ACTIVITY</i>	WHAT MAKES IT GOOD?	WHAT MAKES IT BAD??
DRINKING ALCOHOL		

“And don’t be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit! (Ephesians 5:18)

DRINKING ALCOHOL - THE FACTS:

(2004 National Drug Strategy Household Survey) (NDSHS)

- Approx 90% of the alcohol consumed by youth under the age of 21 in AUS in the form of binge drinking!
- About 75% of the alcohol consumed by adults in AUS is in the form of binge drinking!
- Drinking alcohol can affect your liver, cause brain damage, heart disease, high blood pressure and increases your risk of many cancers!
- Alcohol is the second largest cause of drug-related deaths and hospitalizations in Australia (after tobacco)
- Alcohol is the main cause of deaths on Australian roads. Over 10,000 deaths are alcohol related every year!

DRINKING ALCOHOL – Summary!

- 90% of young people who drink alcohol, binge!
- Many people drink to forget their problems, However alcohol accounts for over 6.5% of all anxiety and depression!

Alcohol itself is not a sin, however getting drunk is, & can lead to many worse sins.
So why approach sin when we can easily avoid it!!

(CLASS EXERCISE) EXPLORING DIFFERENT TYPES OF FUN?

<i>TYPE OF ACTIVITY</i>	WHAT MAKES IT GOOD?	WHAT MAKES IT BAD??
GOING TO PARTIES/ NIGHTCLUBS		

“We should be decent and true in everything we do, so that everyone can approve of our behavior. Don’t participate in wild parties and getting drunk, or adultery and immoral living, or in fighting and jealousy” (ROMANS 13:13)



PARTIES/ NIGHT-CLUBS!

- Drugs and alcohol are widely accepted and distributed in all clubs.
- People dress and behave in a manner which is immoral and promiscuous!
- Majority of music in parties is based on lust and ideas that are sinful!

(CLASS EXERCISE) EXPLORING DIFFERENT TYPES OF FUN?

<i>TYPE OF ACTIVITY</i>	WHAT MAKES IT GOOD?	WHAT MAKES IT BAD??
ENJOYING WEALTH AND LIVING A LAVISH LIFE!		

“Do not worry then, saying, ‘What will we eat?’ or ‘What will we drink?’ or ‘What will we wear for clothing?’ “For the Gentiles eagerly seek all these things; for your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. “But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. (**Matthew 6:31-33**)

FOCUS ON WEALTH AND LAVISH LIVING!

- There's nothing wrong with being wealthy or eating good food--even eating lots of good food!
- The problem occurs when these things become the focus of our lives.
- *"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. (MATTHEW 6:28-33)"*
- WHEN YOU DIE, ALL THE WEALTH YOU ACCUMULATED ON EARTH WON'T BE TAKEN WITH YOU, SO WATS THE POINT OF FOCUSING ON THEM!
-

(CLASS EXERCISE) EXPLORING DIFFERENT TYPES OF FUN?

<i>TYPE OF ACTIVITY</i>	WHAT MAKES IT GOOD?	WHAT MAKES IT BAD??
INTERNET/FACEBOOK		

“We should be decent and true in everything we do, so that everyone can approve of our behavior. Don’t participate in wild parties and getting drunk, or adultery and immoral living, or in fighting and jealousy” (ROMANS 13:13)



INTERNET/FACEBOOK

- INTERNET IS A VERY USEFUL TOOL WHEN BEING USED FOR THE RIGHT PURPOSES!
- ULTIMATELY EVRYTHING WE DO

(CLASS EXERCISE) EXPLORING DIFFERENT TYPES OF FUN?

<i>TYPE OF ACTIVITY</i>	<i>WHAT MAKES IT GOOD?</i>	<i>WHAT MAKES IT BAD??</i>
FORMING SOCIAL NETWORKS WITH NON-CHRISTIANS		


“Do not be yoked together with unbelievers. For what do righteousness and wickedness have in common? Or what fellowship can light have with darkness? 15 What harmony is there between Christ and Belial? Or what does a believer have in common with an unbeliever?”

(2 Corinthians 6:14-15)

DANGERS OF FUN THAT ISNT ACCEPTABLE TO US!

What do all these DISCUSSED so called FUN'S have in common?

- God tells us that we are not to participate in those things that will control us. If we do, we lose our freedom and become slaves to those things that control us.
- "Jesus answered them, 'Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is the slave of sin.'" (John 8:34)
- God created us in His image. He knows more about how we can be happy than we do. So it's not so amazing that if we obey God, we will have fun and find happiness.
- Christians should segregate themselves from ungodly pleasures. God created us for His glory. We were created to worship Him and to glorify Him. But that doesn't mean that we're robots who can't enjoy life. We have fun being Christians because we're doing what we were made to do – LOVE GOD. When you think about it, our fun (as Christians) is the normal kind of fun, because it is the "God-approved" kind.



So which types of fun are acceptable for me???

- SPORT
- GYM
- OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES
- READING
- CHURH CAMPS & OUTINGS
- SUNDAY SCHOOL!!! =]

So which types of fun are acceptable for me???

It's fun when:

- We spend time alone with God.
- We spend time together worshipping God.
- We help lead others to Christ.
- We help those who need our help.

But the fun does not stop there:

- It's not fun when our loved ones will spend eternity separated from God.
- It's not fun when we become selfish of God's love and keep the Good News to ourselves.

The saying "The more the merrier" is also true with Christianity. The more people we lead to Christ, the more we have fun – we feel fulfilled, we are one with the angels in rejoicing for that single soul who is restored to God.

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SPIRITUALITY, TIME AND FUN

HOWEVER WE NEED A BALANCE IN OUR LIFE!
TIME NEEDS TO BE ALLOCATED FOR EACH ITEM IN YOUR LIFE: CHURCH, STUDY/WORK, FAMILY, PHYSICL AND PERSONAL RELAXATION; AND OFCOURSE FUN!

.....UNLIMITED TIME FOR FUN IS CATASTROPHIC AND DAMAGING TO YOUR LIFE AND FUTURE!!!

“TO EVERYTHING THERE IS A SEASON, A TIME FOR EVERY PURPOSE UNDER HEAVEN; A TIME TO BE BORN, AND A TIME TO DIE; A TIME TO PLANT, AND A TIME TO PLUCK WHAT IS PLANTED (ECC: 3: 1-2)

The background features a white background with decorative elements on the left side, including a light green balloon at the top, a light blue balloon in the middle, and a light purple balloon at the bottom. Yellow streamers and small yellow triangles are scattered around the balloons.

FINALLY, REMEMBER.... STRUGGLE FOR THE KINGDOM OF GOD IN EVERYTHING YOU DO!!

- **OUR PURPOSE ON EARTH IS TO STRUGGLE TO RECEIVE THE CROWN OF THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN!**
- **(1 Cor 3:8)**
- **According to our struggle on earth, we will receive a crown of our own!**
- **Those who struggle more will be rewarded greatly!!**