

Opening Prayer

Begin by reading Jeremiah 29:11-13

Pray: Heavenly Father, we thank You for the gift of our lives. May we never forget that every moment of our existence is made possible by Your love. Lord Jesus, thank You for giving Your life for every human being that has ever lived and will live so that we might have new life in You. Holy Spirit, be with us now and give us understanding and the conviction to grow in holiness. All Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, and forever shall be, world without end.

Hail Holy Queen

Hail, holy Queen, Mother of mercy:

Hail, our life, our sweetness and our hope.

To you do we cry, poor banished children of Eve.

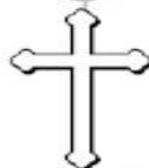
To you do we send up our sighs,
mourning and weeping in this valley of tears.

Turn then, most gracious advocate
your eyes of mercy towards us;
and after this our exile,
show unto us the blessed fruit of your womb, Jesus.

O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.



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Instructions: Choose three of the following scenarios and answer the questions.
Use extra paper as necessary.

Online Case Study/ Scenario 1: Emily is friends with a lot of people online. She's constantly posting to try and get more friends added to her social media accounts and loves it when people "like" her posts or comment on them-even if she doesn't know them. She's assured her family that she never posts any super personal information, but as her friend, you've noticed that her posts are becoming less guarded, and she's sharing a lot about her life and feelings regarding specific big life changes that have been occurring at home. She's also posting images that identify who she is, where she lives and where she hangs out. For example, she's posting pictures and videos that she has taken in front of your school, with the school mascot and in front of her home and tagged people who don't have any privacy settings on their accounts. When you talked to her about it and warned her to stop "oversharing," she became very defensive and told you that it's none of your business, and to keep your thoughts to yourself and no one else. It's ironic because you were recently together at the mall and had someone approach you and ask personal questions and Emily quickly shut down the conversation and moved on, yet she seems to be unable to limit giving the same type of information when online. You don't like the fact that she's constantly posting images of you on her account with so many people following whom you don't know. You also know that she has had some people troll her accounts and post bullying messages to her, but she doesn't want to block them or report them because she's fearful of losing her online friends.

Questions for Scenario 1:

1. What's problematic about this scenario?
2. What is causing or increasing vulnerability? What's the issue (or, what are the issues) with what Emily is doing?
3. Is this a safe situation? What *could* go wrong?
4. Should you keep this information a secret? Why/ why not? Can you do anything to help?
5. What should be done now?

Online Case Study/ Scenario 2: Jose is into gaming. He's really good at it and has lots of different accounts online with alias names. Gaming is a way for him to relax with a tough school load. His alias names are usually very similar, and typically involve some variation of his name and interests. He also uses the same password for everything to make it easier to quickly access his accounts. He has an online friend whom he games with often, and they talk frequently through the gaming apps. The friend says that he's the same age as Jose and has shown Jose pictures of himself and a girlfriend. The online friend has started to share personal information, like issues that are happening with his parents, and girlfriend, etc. Jose is beginning to feel safe with telling him personal and private information, too. They ended up sharing phone numbers so they could message even when they weren't gaming. In a new game, Jose's friend offered to help him win a level, but Jose would need to give him the password for the account. Jose knows his friend is the better gamer and really wants to win. He doesn't know if he should share his password or not.

Questions for Scenario 2:

1. What's problematic about this scenario?
2. What information about the "friend" in this scenario can you absolutely, 100% know to be true?
3. What could happen? What is causing or increasing vulnerability? What's the issue (or, what are the issues) with what Jose is doing?
4. What should he do now and moving forward?

Online Case Study/ Scenario 3: Mackenzie began to spend more time online after a family member died. Through her social media accounts and pages that she visited to learn more about grief, she started talking with a new friend, John, who said he was "just a couple of years older." John said he also was also going through a death in the family when Mackenzie opened up, and had lots of good advice about how to cope. Mackenzie felt like she didn't know what she would have done without John's help and support, and truly felt like she had found someone who understood her and supported her better than her own family. Mackenzie and John started to call each other boyfriend and girlfriend and have said they love each other, even though they have never met. Mackenzie told you that the only thing that bothered her is that John would become very upset when Mackenzie didn't answer his texts right away. And, he also got jealous when she hung out with friends-but then she said, "oh that's normal, all guys do that!" Mackenzie quickly deletes the messages from John in case her mom looks on her phone, because she told you her mom "wouldn't understand her feelings." And, she hides her phone from you, too, when John texts. John now wants Mackenzie to sneak out and meet him at his house for some "fun". Mackenzie wants him to know how she really feels and has agreed to meet up with him at his house for the first time by herself.

Questions for Scenario 3:

1. What's problematic about this scenario? Is this a safe situation?
2. What is causing or increasing vulnerability? What's the issue (or, issues) with what Mackenzie is doing? What *could* go wrong?
3. What information about the "John" in this scenario can you absolutely, 100% know to be true?
4. Should you keep this information a secret? Why/ why not? Can you do anything to help? Should you intervene? How?
5. What should be done now?

Online Case Study/ Scenario 4: Olivia sent Casey a naked picture of herself. She asked Casey to keep it a secret, but his friends convinced him to text the image to them. His friends then ended up sending the image to others, too. One of the guys who received the photo was from a different school in another city. He searched for Olivia on the Internet, found her on social media and told her that if she didn't send him more naked photos, he would distribute the one he has all over the Internet and to everyone at the school. The girl didn't know what to do, so she eventually sent him more, and found out that he put them on his blog. He then told her she had to send him videos, too, or he would send her photo to a pornography site for millions of people to see and ruin her reputation completely. Olivia thought briefly about calling the police but didn't feel like it would make a difference-especially because she was the one who sent the first naked photo. Plus, it seems easier to deal with the shame and embarrassment rather than getting into trouble with her parents and the police. She asked herself, "what could the cops really do to help anyway?" Even so, she doesn't know what to do and is becoming depressed and feeling completely alone. She's considering sending the videos and "being done with it."

Questions for Scenario 4:

1. What's problematic about this scenario?
2. What is causing or increasing vulnerability? What's the issue (or, issues) with what either Olivia or Casey are doing?
3. Is this a safe situation? What *could* go wrong?
4. If you had received the image, what should have happened?
5. Should you keep this information a secret? Why/ why not? Can you do anything to help? Should you intervene? How?
6. What should be done now?

Online Case Study/ Scenario 5: Your friend, Jimmy, recently told you that he's been talking to an older woman online who reached out to one of his social media accounts. He said they flirt and talk about sex a lot. According to Jimmy, she's out of college, a teacher, really nice and fun, and "understands" him, so the fact that she's an adult and at least 10 years older than Jimmy isn't a big deal. Jimmy feels proud of himself to be in a relationship with an older woman and has asked you to cover for him with his parents before, so they think that he's going to be at your house when he's actually spending time with her. She told him that he could only tell you, as long as you kept the information secret and confidential. You don't really know how far they've gone together, but you suspect that they are pretty serious and that sexual behavior has occurred. Regardless of whether it's a male or female, you know that it's weird for an older person to be dating a teen, but she seems to be treating Jimmy really well, and gives him gifts, too.

Questions for Scenario 5:

1. What's problematic about this scenario?
2. What is causing or increasing vulnerability? What's the issue (or, issues) with what Jimmy is doing?
3. Is this a safe situation? What *could* go wrong?
4. Should you keep this information a secret? Why/ why not? Can you do anything to help? Should you intervene? How?
5. What should be done now?

Small Group Questions

1. What are some of the most common ways you use the internet on a weekly basis?
2. What does "dignity" mean?
3. Where does our dignity come from?
4. Can a person lose their dignity? Why or Why not?
5. In what ways are dignity and love related?
6. What are some ways we can respect and protect our own dignity and the dignity of others online?

Closing Prayer



A PRAYER FOR HEALING VICTIMS OF ABUSE

Father of endless love,
ever caring, ever strong,
always present, always just:
You gave your only Son
to save us by the blood of his cross.

Gentle Jesus, shepherd of peace,
join to your own suffering
the pain of all who have been hurt
in body, mind, and spirit
by those who betrayed the trust placed in them.

Hear our cries as we agonize
over the harm done to our brothers and sisters.
Breathe the spirit of wisdom into our prayers,
soothe restless hearts with hope,
steady shaken spirits with faith:
Show us the way to justice and wholeness,
enlightened by truth and enfolded in your mercy.

Holy Spirit, comforter of hearts,
heal your people's wounds
and transform our brokenness.
Grant us courage and wisdom, humility and grace,
so that we may act with justice
and find peace in you.
We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.



***Prayer to St. Michael
the Archangel***

St. Michael the Archangel,
defend us in battle.

Be our defense against
the wickedness and snares of the Devil.
May God rebuke him, we humbly pray,
and do thou,

O Prince of heavenly hosts,
by the power of God,
thrust into hell Satan,
and all evil spirits,
who prowl about the world
seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.