Joking & Entertainment: Questions to Consider

Recommended Videos
"Should Christians Listen to Secular Music?" Allen Parr
"How to Know if You're Playing Video Games TOO MUCH!" Allen Parr
"Discerning Appropriate Humor" Elizabeth Urbanowicz
"What is coarse joking? Is joking about sinful things a matter of freedom?" Q&A with Mike Winger

Questions to ask about your entertainment:

1. Does this promote or communicate support of an ungodly message? Does it involve sex, dressing provocatively, cursing, drugs, alcohol, degradations of women (or anyone), violence, witchcraft, or anything else unbiblical?

> **What is the message being sent to unbelievers?** Am I going to be a good witness if I dress and act the same as the world, even though I am no longer of it?

> **Is this negatively affecting Christians around me?** Is it putting my "stamp of approval" on this, leading other Christians to listen to bad things? Am I listening to and talking about it to people who it harms, who are bothered by hearing about it or shouldn't hear it?

2. Is my phone/tik tok/games/music hindering me from making or building relationships? Is it what I do in public instead of interacting with people? Am I doing it at get-togethers and such?

3. How much time am I spending on it? Am I spending more time on that then I could be on useful things? Such as spending time with people I love and improving relationships, or spending time working or in God's word? Would I be proud to say how much time I truly spend on entertainment? Am I wasting time God has provided me to do good things?

4. Do I feel like I NEED it? Do I feel like I'm going to die if I don't have it? Is it the only thing I find joy or relief in every day? Is it the only thing I look forward to doing? If I can't do it, do I get irritated or angry or depressed?

5. Is it hindering my spiritual growth? Am I replacing God and my relationship with Him with secular music? Is it causing my thoughts, words, or actions to be ungodly and sinful?

6. Is this affecting my thought life? Does the game have inappropriate images or content, and does it stay in my head? Is the violence or language affecting my thoughts or emotions? Are bad words and violent thoughts, etc coming in more regularly?

7. What is the Spirit telling me? Is my conscience convicting me? Am I feeling ashamed or concerned or doubting it? Am I feeling convicted about it? Am I uneasy or do I feel the need to be secretive about this entertainment? To avoid it around leaders or people I look up to and want to have a good opinion of me? Do I feel like it may not be good for me? Am I using discernment?

Generally, if it doesn't break one of these principles, then it's your choice.