

**MOVIE: “Enemy of the State”****Sub Topic theme:**

Plugged In &amp; Fried

**Lesson Objective:**

*To help kids understand that technology is a tool and it is up to us to decide how we use it. By asking them to take a step back and evaluate, we can help bring about a deeper understanding of the way the brokenness of the world creeps into our lives in a multitude of ways through technology. In order to prevent students from being overwhelmed by the social media and tech in their lives, we need to dialogue about the temptations of instant gratification and the option to experience transformation by God through a commitment to Jesus Christ.*

**Intro to the Movie:***Enemy of the State*Trailer: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AoNT6u3mQew>

According to imdb.com:

Robert Clayton Dean is a successful labor lawyer based in Washington DC. He has a beautiful wife and adorable son with a nice house located in Georgetown. But things take a turn for the surreal, when a chance encounter with an old friend leaves him evidence of a politically-motivated murder. On the run from a treacherous NSA official and his men, he comes into contact with a former government operative and surveillance expert, who is his only way out.

*The 3D Lenses*

Pay attention to all the ways the people use technology in this film. And while you're laughing at the outdated equipment, consider if the way they are utilizing the tech is for good or evil.

**Discussion Group Questions:**

1. What are 3 good ways you saw tech being used?
2. What are 3 bad ways?
3. Which character best represents your attitude/interaction with technology?

**Group Input:**

Leader-solicited responses from the large group on reactions to some of the questions. Gathering of ideas and themes recognized in the discussion groups with a focus on guiding the audience toward the main objective:

*To help kids understand that **technology is a tool** and it is up to us to decide how we use it. By asking them to take a **step back** and **evaluate**, we can help bring about a **deeper understanding** of the way the brokenness of the world creeps into our lives in a multitude of ways through technology. In order to prevent students from being overwhelmed by the social media and tech in their lives, we need to **dialogue** about the temptations of instant gratification and the option to experience **transformation** by God through a **commitment** to Jesus Christ.*

**Bullet Objective:**

While I'm sure you notice the very out-of-date technology, I hope you also noticed how each character interacted with it. From the little kid to the techie (Jack Black!) in the van, every person in the movie interacted with technology.

People used technology to cope, to vent, get information, have fun, influence people, make decisions, find someone, record evidence, communicate, and more.

So how do we know when we've crossed the line? How can we tell when we've gone too far, especially in a world that is even more saturated with technology now than it was over a decade ago when this movie was made?

What we have to realize is that all of this stuff was designed to be a tool. We have the freedom to do with it what we want. But we forget that and we fall into believing the lies the rest of the world does - This is important! Your self-worth is determined here! Without this in your life it would be sad and pathetic. You can only be happy if you have this!

Those are all lies, people. Such lies. There is so much more to life, to our existence, than angry birds and Mindy Lahiri's latest tweet. Enjoy tech. Utilize it. But don't ever let it overwhelm your life. God has so much more in store for us if we would just live our lives for his glory! That is where we will find absolute fulfilment, acceptance, and purpose.

Listen to how Romans 12:1&2 describes how we are to live:

"So then, my friends, because of God's great mercy to us I appeal to you: Offer yourselves as a living sacrifice to God, dedicated to his service and pleasing to him. This is the true worship that you should offer. <sup>2</sup> Do not conform yourselves to the standards of this world, but let God transform you inwardly by a complete change of

your mind. Then you will be able to know the will of God—what is good and is pleasing to him and is perfect.”

**Challenge:**

1. Pick a day this week and as an entire youth group fast for 12-24 hours from any leisurely use of social media and tech (including music, TV, phone, and games) Use the time to focus on God-honoring activities like quality time with friends and family, creative pursuits, exercise, or quiet time.

*Pray for God's purpose and love to put it into action and transform lives. Remind them of the online personal journey at ReZilient Life for further involvement with this topic of Plugged In & Fried!*