

TECHNOLOGY VALUES AND PRACTICES AT FAITH BUILDERS

What we value:	What we do about it:
<p>1. We prioritize face-to-face communication. We encourage in-person interaction and avoid the overuse of electronic communication. We use direct approaches whenever possible, even when they are not as quick and easy as electronic methods.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For public programs, we limit live-streaming to rare occasions. • Our classes are not normally filmed or offered remotely (virtually). • We encourage people to walk around campus and interact face to face where possible instead of emailing, calling, messaging, etc.
<p>2. We want our people to stay focused on work while at work and be fully engaged with family and community while away from work. Technology enables us to easily mix work with personal interests and vice versa. We want to enable our people to stay present and undistracted in both realms.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We do not provide WIFI in the dorms. • We offer only limited WIFI in classrooms, when necessary. • Staff are not expected to check and respond to work email outside normal work hours.
<p>3. We believe that technology tends to control our lives in negative ways. We value practices that help us actively resist technology's control of our lives. We want to cast a positive vision for mastering the effective use of technology, rather than inadvertently allowing it to become our master.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We use a need-driven model for purchasing new technologies. We don't implement new technologies until a justifiable need is demonstrated. • We schedule an annual chapel talk which is intended to address various topics related to responsible use of technology, and to encourage appropriate and godly ways to interact with it. • We expect people to silence device notifications during chapel services, classes, and meetings.
<p>4. We want our technology to serve us well and understand the need to frequently upgrade our systems. But we also value resourcefulness and are not afraid to use old technologies where they serve us sufficiently. We resist the pressure to continually buy the latest and greatest tech tools and are satisfied with basic technologies that get the job done.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We create an annual tech budget that limits spending to essentials. • Our departments take responsibility for funding new technologies they need or want. • We encourage regular use of chalk/white boards for classroom instruction. • We choose communication methods based on effectiveness rather than trendiness.
<p>5. We see electronic technologies as tools to distribute valuable information. We want the focus to remain on the information and not on the tool. We intend to minimize the visibility and "show factor" of the electronic tools we use and avoid using them in ways that distract or draw excessive attention.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We allow instructors to determine whether electronic devices are the best tools for classroom learning and give them freedom to omit or prevent their use when deemed appropriate. • We use PowerPoint as a supplemental teaching tool, and not a primary or exclusive classroom communication method. • When taking photos or videos of presentations or events, we do so as discreetly as possible.
<p>6. We believe that people benefit from functional accountability for their use of the internet. Although modern technology users value privacy, we value transparency—especially within the organization.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We encourage the use of internet accountability apps for staff personal devices and provide financial assistance for such use. • We maintain a filter/blocker on our internet service and have persons responsible to manage it and respond to problems.
<p>7. We value data storage and a network that is safe and secure from outside threats. We want to use reasonable effort to keep our electronic information from being compromised, stolen, or lost.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have a data backup plan and annual audit to review its effectiveness. • We maintain a firewall and web filter on our network, and we keep them operative and updated. • We provide staff training to raise awareness about viruses, scams, phishing, and other similar electronic threats.