

Communication  
October 2018  
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I think there has never been a time in history in which the technology of communicating has been so expansive. The evolution of computer technology has brought us a huge increase in our communications media. We have computers, Facebook, e-mail, cell phones, I pads, satellite phones and computer wrist watches just to name a few methods in which we can communicate. It has gotten to the point where we feel we cannot live without these things although, not so long ago, they did not exist.

The speed of this evolution of technology has been startling. As with all things, there is some good being done with these advances and some not so good also. We are sometimes so bedazzled by these new tools thinking that they are all benevolent but we are coming to realize that this is not the case.

Identities have been stolen causing great problems for innocent people. Credit card information has been stolen on a massive scale. There are people out there who have nothing better to do but develop viruses to confound us as well as important systems. We must become aware of the good and not so good of technology so as not to be fooled into thinking that all is good.

I believe these advances have, for the most part have been beneficial to our society but I am troubled by some of the things I see.

Face book has become internationally popular. The gathering of “friends” seems to be a major undertaking which in most cases is the gathering of “acquaintances”. There is no real substance to these so called “friends”. In some cases you may not even know the person involved. Some dangerous situations have come about through media like Facebook and others, tragedies even.

We should not use the word “friend” so flippantly. It is a sad truth that, during our lives, we have many, many acquaintances while we can usually count the number of our true friends on one hand.

A real friend is a precious thing. There are people with whom you share your life, face to face. A friend is a person who will encourage or inspire you to do better,

who will stand by you through the good times and the bad times. A friend will complement you when you have done good and be caring enough to tell when you have made a mistake. A friend, male or female, will be there when needed.

So, perhaps it is not the quantity of communications that is important but the quality of communication.