

# Hot Topics

## Music, Movies & TV

### Leader Guide

**Theme:** Choose wisely when it comes to what you fill your mind, ears, and eyes with. Ask yourself, “What would Jesus do?” when you choose apps, movies, TV shows, and music. Your actions and choices reveal your heart. Because you love the Lord, follow His ways. You won’t be missing out but you will be gaining a life of wisdom and rewards. Plus, there are **PLENTY** of fun, entertaining, and pure options to choose from without compromising your standards.

**Note to Leaders:** Music, movies, and TV can also include video games, Web sites, magazines, books, etc. Girls will probably be pretty opinionated about what they watch and listen to, so be ready to diffuse conflict if needed. Try to avoid making the discussion about specific artists, movies, or shows. Instead, focus on the principles of choosing godly media.

Music, movies, and TV are an important part of our lives. Who doesn’t love jamming out to a favorite song, watching a chick flick with friends, or vegging out in front of the TV every once in a while? Music, movies, and TV are also a big part of our culture. Even if you’re not really listening to the lyrics, you can probably sing along with most of your favorite songs, and movie and TV quotes are a big part of our vocabulary. As Christians, it’s important to fill our minds with things that help us focus on our relationship with Jesus. It’s important to guard our hearts against ungodly thoughts, images, and mental pictures. This can be especially tricky when it comes to choosing music, movies, and TV.

Use these Scriptures in your discussion.

#### Read Philippians 4:8.

- Why is it important to choose things that guard your heart and mind?
- In our culture, what are things that are true? Noble? Right? Pure? Lovely? Admirable?

### Guidelines for Choosing Music, Movies, and TV Shows

1. If the world says you shouldn’t, don’t. If music has a Parental Advisory notice on the front, a movie is R-rated, or a TV show is rated for MA (Mature Audiences), it’s been put there for a reason. If worldly standards say you’re too young to view something, listen. They’re probably right.
2. Listen to your parents. I know, it seems like your parents just don’t understand, but the Lord has put them in your life for a reason. Like it or not, for now, listen to them. They’ve lived longer than you and know stuff you don’t know yet. They love you and want to protect you, so take their advice.
3. Ask around. If you’re still not sure if you should see something, ask trusted (a.k.a. older and wiser) friends if they’d recommend it. Don’t get caught in the trap of watching or listening to something just because your friends are. Eventually (if not immediately) your friends will respect you for standing firm for what you believe.
4. Don’t be afraid to change your mind. If you start watching a TV show that gets a little iffy, turn the channel. If you’re listening to something with yucky lyrics, turn it off or listen to something different. If you’re in a movie that you know isn’t going to get any cleaner, walk out (most theaters will reimburse you or give you a voucher for another movie if you walk out in the first 20 minutes).



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## *Leader Guide*

### **Read Psalm 24:3–6.**

- When you listen to music, see movies, or watch TV shows you know you probably shouldn't, how does it affect your relationship with Jesus?
- What does it mean to have clean hands and a pure heart?
- Why is it important to have clean hands and a pure heart?
- How can you keep your hands clean and your heart pure?

### **Read Colossians 2:20–23.**

- Is it ever okay to listen to “secular” music, see movies, or watch TV?
- Why do we avoid movies, music, and TV shows that have questionable content?
- Why is it important to understand the reasoning behind avoiding these things?
- How do you decide which ones are okay?

**Prayer:** Lord Jesus, I love You. Because I love You, I trust You will give me wisdom when I choose how I spend my time with entertainment. Give me courage to take a stand for righteousness when my friends may not. Give me courage to follow Your still, small voice in my heart when I know what I need to do.

For more topical Bible studies for teen girls, visit [www.myhealthychurch.com/teengirls](http://www.myhealthychurch.com/teengirls)

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### *For Student*

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