

Teen Topics Media (Part 2)

As we look at the media today, we see all sorts of messages telling us what we “need” in order to be happy. From songs about being rich and having exotic cars, to ads that make plastic surgery appear to be a necessity, we can easily be tempted to believe that these things are the “keys to happiness.” Explain in the boxes below the different views concerning the perspectives of the three following issues:

Issue	Worldly View	Biblical View
Money	Need a lot of money to buy expensive things. Money = happiness	The love of money is the root of all evil, we should seek treasure in heaven (Matt. 6:19-21; I Tim. 6:10)
Beauty	Must have perfect skin, hair, nails, teeth, body, in order to be happy. Must have the best beauty products.	Our main focus should not be looking good on the outside, but on the inside (I Sam. 16:7)
Fashion	Wearing the newest fashions make you feel good about yourself. Expensive clothes = happiness.	Our effort/time shouldn't go toward keeping up with newest styles, but on becoming Christ-like (I Peter 3:3-4)

> Do you think the media encourages people to become discontent? Explain. **Yes. People never think they have enough & always want more, media often makes ‘getting more’ the solution.**

> What danger do you see in someone focusing all of their attention on these worldly desires? **It consumes their time and money; it is a false hope; it causes them to forget about God; etc.**

It may appear in the media that satisfaction and happiness can be found in “stuff,” but our Creator makes it clear that only lasting satisfaction and true happiness can be found in Him. As Psalm 37:4 says, “Delight yourself in the Lord, and He will give you the desires of your heart.”

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