

REFLECTING CHRIST

CLEANER SALT • BRIGHTER LIGHT • SWEETER-SMELLING AROMA



Compassion for the hurting

Mark 3-5

Mark chapters 3–5 describe several encounters of Jesus compassionately reaching out to hurting people.

- The man in the synagogue with a withered hand...
- Many with plaques, unclean spirit and other infirmities...
- After traveling across the sea, the man living in the cemetery possessed by demons (Legion)...
- The common woman with a 12 year blood disease...
- And finally, the ruler of the synagogue and his dying and then dead 12 year old daughter

What I love about these accounts is the broad spectrum of people Jesus encounters and helped.

The diversity of all these individuals that Jesus cared for, spent time with and met them where they were. Not with judgement or partiality.

Social media is a place where hurting people in our world live. Let's reach them in their space

And give them the message of the Gospel. The Good news that Jesus cares for them.

How can we serve Christ better in this arena?

1 Corinthians 1:23

We preach Christ

1 Corinthians 1:30-31

But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption:

That, according as it is written, He that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord.

Glory in the Lord by communicating through all tools and opportunities the Love of Christ.

Be a light in the darkness of social media and social darkness.



distraction

We know it can be a distraction. And we often talk about it in those terms.

But for a generation of young people it is, to them, simply another communication tool.

Like we would think of a box that hung on the kitchen wall with a hook and receiver together with a curly cord.

The same way we would think of email as another form of communication.

Try to think of it in the native techno young person's view...to them it is another space to express themselves, build relationships and to share thoughts and ideas.



Practical path forward

- 1. Social Media Landscape
- 2. Use it correctly
- 3. Being more effective



Social Media Landscape





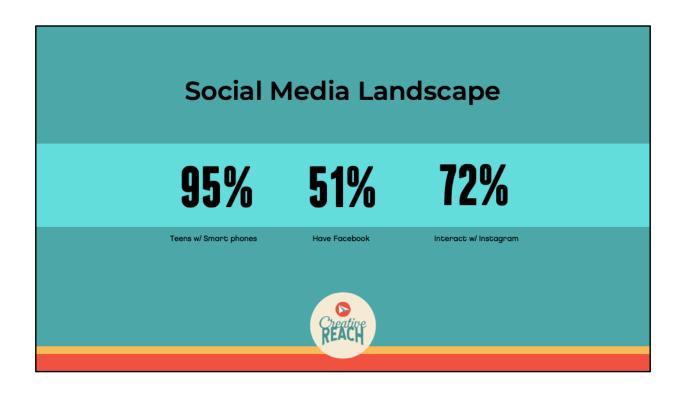
Facebook: February 4, 2004 (your 16 year olds) Harvard University, spread to ivy league schools

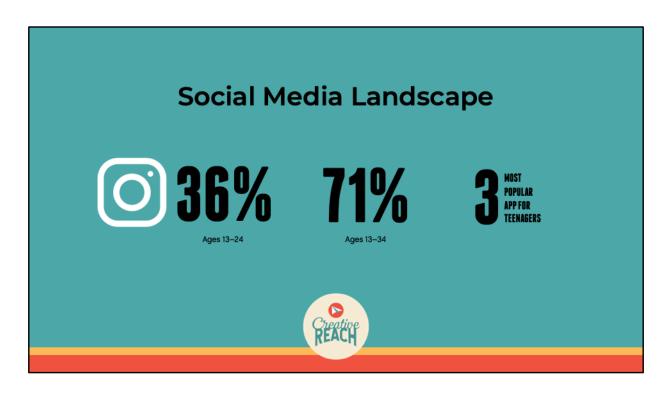
In 23 months it had 6 million users.

So everyone under 16 year old and younger in your youth group does not know life without their parents having Facebook.

2.3 billion active users

Instagram after 2 months had over a million users.





Engagement

13-24 make up 36% of Instagram users

13-34 years old make up 71% of all Instagram users

Average age of Facebook user is 40 years old

Social Media Landscape

GenZ Characteristics

Keenly aware of technology
Affinity to digital communication
Perceive information visually
Short attention span



Native users are keenly aware of technology—They thrill in it and are eager to interact with it. Intensely own it and now how to use it.

They have an affinity to communicating digitally even often over in-person face-to-face

They absorb tons of information daily but also don't want to spend time on information that does not relate to them.

Visual clutter is annoying to them. They don't waste time on things that don't matter to them.

They perceive information visually. They interpret visual information with understanding. They are more stimulated by visual queues.

Their 8-second filter (filter-sorting through enormous amounts of information, not necessarily attention span) is helping them to curate their feeds and focus on what matters to them,

and although you must work to become a part of it - once you have grabbed their attention they tend to remain loyal.

The Instagram and facebook audience
They can identify counterfeits
They can turn you off by hiding you, unfriending you, unfollowing you
And the social media companies like FB and Instagram are doing everything possible to avoid things that people don't want.

Social Media Landscape



"This quest we're on (is) to deliver all of the things that truly matter to you, and none of the stuff you think is lame or boring or isn't important to you"



They (Facebook/Instagram) spend their lives feeding you what you want and eliminating all you don't.

Have you ever thought... that because social media and especially Instagram want to feed you everything you are interested in (they don't care what the content is). They will deliver it. Even negative things like cutting, depression, suicide, porn, and on and on.

It's a business...but you are here to minister.

Reflecting Christ better. For His glory. Is there a way to interact through Instagram. To communicate the love of God?

Could something like Instagram be another avenue of speaking Biblical truth into kids lives? Yes?

Social Media Landscape

How does Instagram determine feed

Interest Timeliness Relationship Frequency Following Usage



Left column is primary Right column is secondary

2. Use it correctly



Set yourself up for success

Identify your audience
List your goals
Build a content plan
Analyze the results and adjust



Best Practices

Most active in the evening Posts only last 24-36 hours Use the business account



Studies show that people are most active on social media in the evenings This gives you an idea of when you should be posting... mid to late afternoon.

Posts don't last long, so don't get caught posting timely content between optimum viewing windows

Using the business account will give you access to analytics.

Audience, content, activity.

See who's viewing, age groups, gender, followers, etc.

This can give you a much better view of what is working and what isn't.

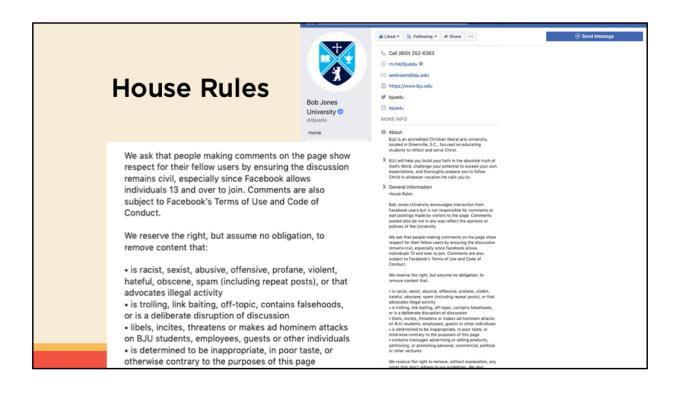


House Rules

Describe behavior you expect Behavior resulting in removal Baseline for conduct



Facebook.com accounts go to Account>About>General Information
Describe the behavior you expect from guests, including the kinds of behavior that
will result in the removal of posts or blocking of guest from posting.



"Social" Media

Proactive rather than reactive A calm reasoned response Don't argue



"Social" Media

Measure Respond Recover Prevent



Attempt to measure the real (not perceived) size of the problem. Don't freak out because of one loud person.

Don't wait to address. The internet is real-time so after a day or two it may be too late.

Address immediately, simply, directly, honestly and with transparency.

Move the conversation on to other happier topics as soon as possible without appearing dismissive

Identify root causes and take any steps to so it will not happen again.

Facebook & Instagram etiquette

Interact with your audience
Respond to comments fast
DON'T WRITE IN ALL CAPS
#Don'toverusehashtags
Don't beg for likes
Use photos rather than words

Hashtag

hashtags are used to categorize social media content

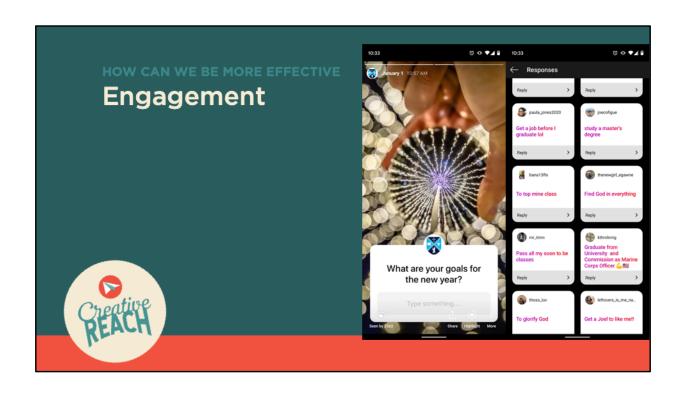
How can we be more effective?



Build Trust

Allow yourself to be vulnerable Make it about them not you Play in their playground Let them know you care Provide value for them





Don't cheapen Trust



Sharing someone's account
Calling out individuals
Don't post survey results by name
Always wanting something
Not so flattering picture of someone

General Content Ideas

Occasional inspirational quotes
Human face (38% more likely)
Food, Animals
Nostalgia
Behind the scenes

Cautions

Don't tag thoughtlessly.

Don't post videos with music

Don't overshare

Don't post lame content

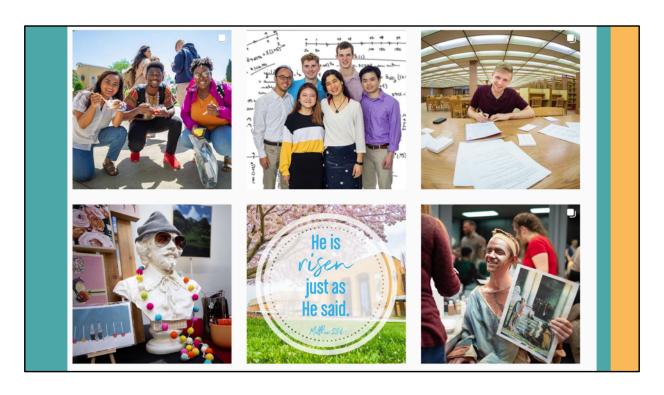


Visual Best Practices

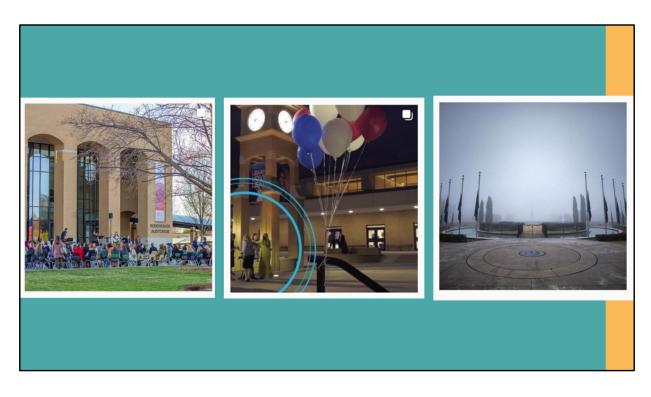


VISUAL BEST PRACTICES

Photos should have a main focal point



Social media images should be easily consumable, conveying an emotionally impactful and simple message quickly.

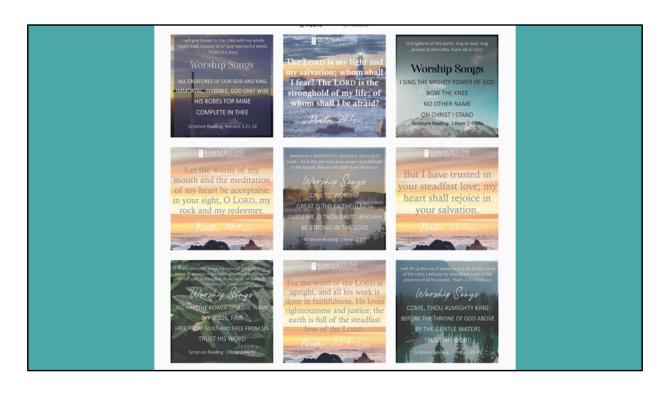


Bad examples



Don't use as a bulletin board. That does not mean you can't post relevant announcements

But do it strategically and mix up the way you announce. Images, videos, stories.



Inspirational quotes can be effective but not as a steady diet.



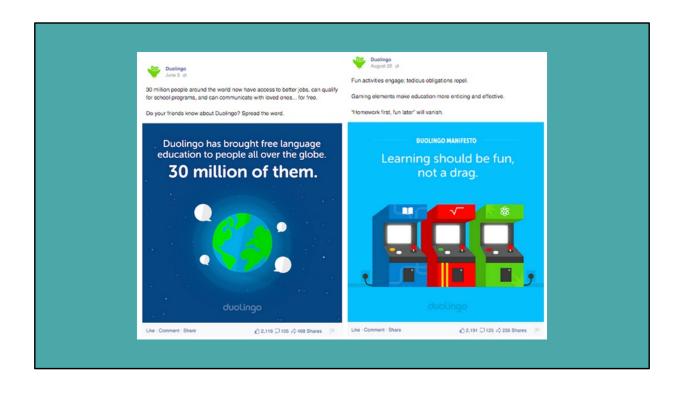
Square images get 10-20% better open rates

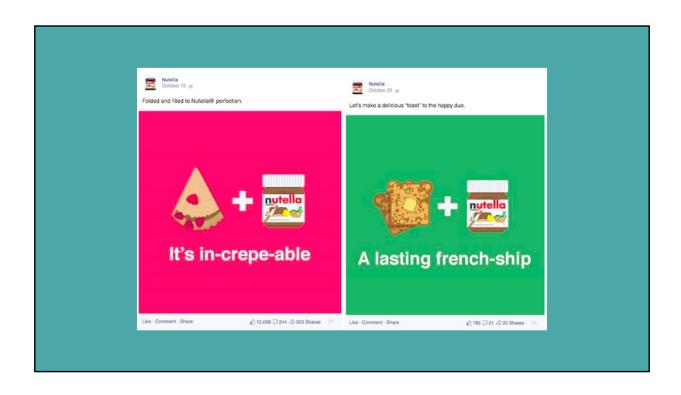


Use bright, bold colors.



Use brand colors consistent.





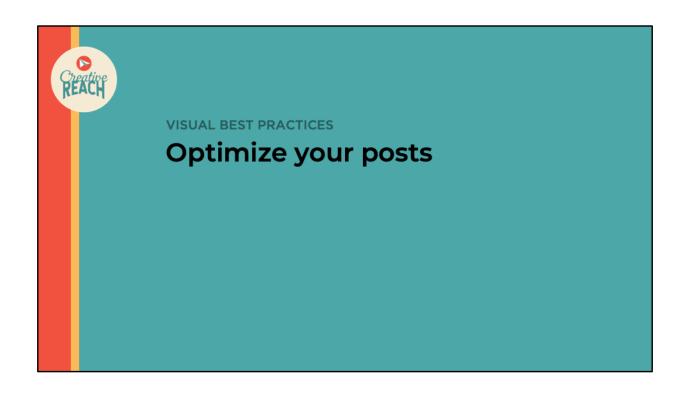


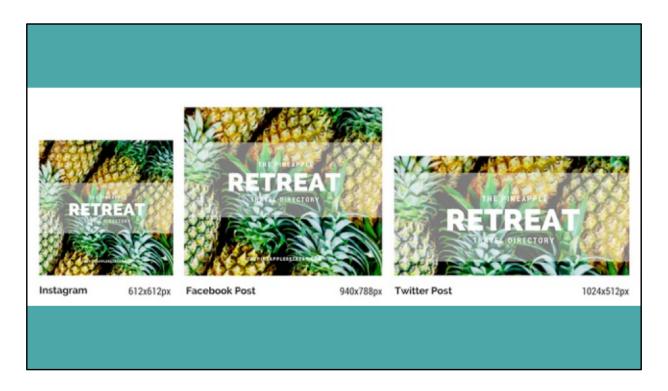
Keep captions short and concise.



What gets shared?

Emotion
Relevance
Colors
Typography
Adding Stickers





Give the message you are serious about making your posts easy to consume.





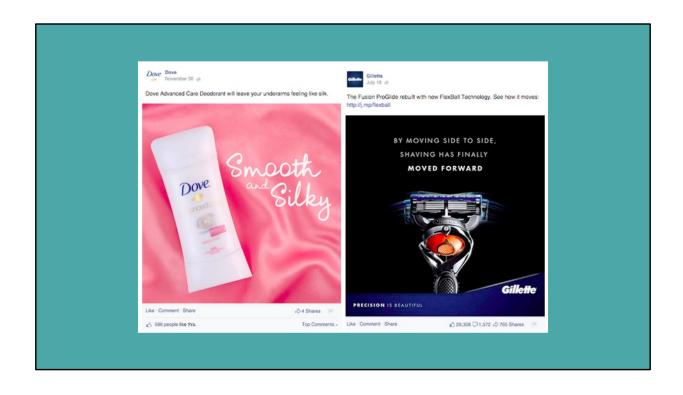
Videos that start with black screen are less likely to be watched.

Square video takes up 78% more screen real estate then horizontal

30-35% high viewed with square video

Use fonts that resonate with your brand style.







A large portion of mobile users do not listen to the audio.



socialmediatoday.com

Subscribe to newsletter

buffer.com

Social media resources

Are websites still important?

Website is information delivery and driving actionable instances

Social media is relationship building: loyalty and trust

