**Christian “umbrella” principles:**

* Our actions regard our bodies as temples of the Holy Ghost *(1 Corinthians 3:16-17*, *1 Corinthians 6:18-20)*
* Our actions are above accusation *(1 Peter 2:11-12)*
* Our actions impact others *(Romans 14:12-13*, *1 Corinthians 8:9)*
* Our actions don’t give place to the devil *(Ephesians 4:25-27*, *1 Peter 5:8-9)*
* Our actions don’t give place to sinful humanity *(1 John 2:16)* 
  1. Christians guard what they see. *(Luke 11:34-35**, Psalms 101:3, Psalms 119:37**)*
  2. Christians guard against fleshly temptations. *(Romans 13:11-14, Gal. 5:16-17**, 2 Peter 2:7-11**)*
  3. Christians accept that pride is dangerous. *(Mark 7:20-23**, 1 Timothy 3:6**)*
* Christians deny ungodliness and worldly lusts. *(Titus 2:11-12**)*
* Christians live carefully. *(Ephesians 5:15-17)*

**Applying these principles to everyday life:**

**Content: What is entertaining me?** *(Romans 1:28-32)*

* Does the content appeal to sinful humanity in ways contrary to Christ? Is it of the world?
* How much negative content will I tolerate? Less is better. None is best.

**Participants: Who is involved?** *(2 Corinthians 6:14-18)*

* Does my participation create bonds/closeness with those contrary to Christ?
* Authority figures: teachers, coaches, managers, etc.
* Peers: classmates, teammates, coworkers, etc.
* Who will I be interacting with? Who will I be agreeing with? Who am I associating with?

**Environment:** **Is the overall atmosphere positive, neutral, or negative?**

* As a Christian, are you outnumbered? How badly? Will you be able to influence that environment, or will it influence you?
* Remember Lot? The combined wickedness of the people and the place caused oppression and torment.

**General entertainment questions**:

* Would it offend the Holy Ghost?
* Would it invite accusation?
* How would it affect those watching me?
* Would it give the enemy an advantage?
* Would it give the world an advantage? *(lust of eyes/flesh, pride)*
* Does this activity promote unbiblical actions? *(Romans 1:28-32)*

As you mature, some bigger questions to ask:

* Is this the best use of my time?
* Is this the best use of my money?
* Is this the best use of my talent?

**How will we consider content, participants, and environment in actual situations?**

1. **Listening**:

* Delivery methods: Records, 8-tracks, cassette tapes, CD’s, digital files, radio, satellite, internet, phone, etc. There’s nothing inherently good/bad about delivery methods.
* Environments: Live events (concerts, coffee shops), friends (parties, car, homes), alone (car, headphones).
* Genre: Music (numerous styles), news, sports, talk/commentary, comedy, etc.

*A Note to Parents*: Children and teens aren’t good at leaving when in a group, whether large or small. The tendency is nearly always to go along with the group. As parents, we usually want to think our children are exceptions to the rule; they’re different, special. But the safest belief is that our children our human just like other children.

1. **Seeing**:

* Delivery methods: IMAX, 70” flat screens, computer screens, tablets, video game consoles, smart phones, books, magazines, newspapers, websites, billboards, etc.
* Environments: Large groups, small groups, individuals.
* Genre: movies (numerous styles: documentaries, dramas, children’s, action, comedy, etc.), television, Broadway productions (musicals, plays), webcasts, YouTube clips, Apps (photo, video), etc.

1. **Sports: Events & Participation**

* Content: Is the activity itself contrary to my Christian values? What about related activities? How are the athletes/performers dressed?
* Participants: What is the character of the coach and athletes? Who are the people you are joining in the audience?
* Environment: What is the alcohol use like? What is the language like? Will there be yelling at refs/coaches? Will violence be promoted?
* Time: Is participation in this activity going to limit my time for Christianity?