

Teen Topics Media (Part 4)

Our first three lessons have shown that media can influence our perspective on things, the desires we have, and how we want to portray ourselves. Because of this, the need for critiquing the media is obvious. In this lesson, let's take a close look at main stream music and determine how we as believers should respond to its influences.

Music can influence:	List a few examples:
Our beliefs	Our personal happiness is the most important thing in life. Love = sex. We don't need to respect authority. We can solve all of our problems apart from God. Etc.
Our desires	Living a carefree lifestyle. Money and earthly treasures (cars, houses, clothes) are emphasized, as is sexual intimacy outside of marriage. Etc.
How we should portray ourselves	Makes girls feel they need to dress provocatively. Makes men feel they need to be a rebel, arrogant, etc.

> With the influence that music can have on us, how important is it that we be wise in our choice of music? Very much so, since the music we listen to can have such a big impact on us.

> What advise can we get from these verses when deciding if certain music is appropriate to listen to:

- **Ps. 19:14** – Consider if the lyrics are acceptable to God.
- **Phil. 4:8** – Be sure the music focuses on what is true, pure, etc.
- **I Cor. 10:31** – Be sure the music is truly glorifying to God.

As we select music to listen to and as we select certain musical artists to follow, we must be sure that those choices please God. What we allow into our minds and hearts will either encourage or discourage our walk with Lord. Let us be sure that the music we listen to keeps our affections on Christ, rather than on the things of the world (**Col. 3:2**).