Rejoice

Pray

GIVE THANKS

GATEWAY LECTURES 2013
UNION UNIVERSITY
Anxiety is the product of . . . a future vision that is too small, a present life that is neglected, and a past history that is forgotten.
Joy is a form of expectant longing.
Seriously though... we need the Twitter password.
45 Million Photos per day
1 Billion Likes per day
Most Engaged Digital Platform

New Devices during Christmas
50 Million*

Christmas Week
30 Million Angry Birds Downloads

1 Angry Birds Download for every other New Device

Monthly Active Users
263 Million

*Statistics courtesy of Flurry
A recent study found that U.S. teenagers (12-17 yrs. old) send an average of 60 texts per day.

Another study found that U.S. teenagers send and receive an average of over 3,400 texts per month.

• That is 7 texts per waking hour!
SOCIAL MEDIA EXPLAINED

TWITTER  I'm eating a #donut
FACEBOOK  I like donuts
FOURSQUARE  This is where I eat donuts
INSTAGRAM  Here's a vintage photo of my donut
YOUTUBE  Here I am eating a donut
LINKED IN  My skills include donut eating
PINTEREST  Here's a donut recipe
LAST FM  Now listening to "donuts"
G+  I'm a Google employee who eats donuts.
Students’ ‘addiction’ to media may not be clinically diagnosed, but the cravings sure seem real – as does the anxiety and the depression.

Students reported that media – especially their mobile phones – have literally become an extension of themselves.

For many students, going without media for 24 hours ripped back the curtain on their hidden loneliness.

Many students, from all continents, literally couldn’t imagine how to fill up their empty hours without media.

Source:
theworldunplugged.wordpress.com/
We are living in an age that increasingly cannot pay attention.
“The number of prescriptions for A.D.H.D. medications dispensed for young people ages 10 to 19 has risen 26 percent since 2007, to almost 21 million yearly, according to IMS Health, a health care information company — a number that experts estimate corresponds to more than two million individuals.”

NYT: “Risky Rise of the Good Grade Pill” (Jun 9, 2012)
If we cannot pay attention, we cannot pray.
How do we pray?

“Lord, teach us to pray . . .”

Luke 11:1

Cultivate Attentiveness to the Present
Anxiety is the product of . . . a future vision that is too small, a present life that is neglected, and a past history that is forgotten.
Prayer is not merely an occasion; it is a manner of life.
Behold, what I have seen to be good and fitting is to eat and drink and find enjoyment in all the toil with which one toils under the sun the few days of his life that God has given him, for this is his lot.
“The key to a Christian conception of studies is the realization that prayer consists of attention... Students must therefore work without any wish to gain good marks, to pass examinations, to win school successes... applying themselves equally to all their tasks, with the idea that each one will help to form them in the habit of attention which is the substance of prayer.”

Simone Weil: Reflections on the Right Use of School Studies with a View to the Love of God (c. 1942)
Prayer is the persistent practice of attentive preparation in and for the presence of Jesus Christ.
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Give Thanks

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