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**Techno Woes**

Even Youth Feel Dizzying Pace of Technology

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Posted: April 27, 2010

**What Happened:**

Is technology making us *all* feel old? Some people think so. Even younger folks, long on technology's leading edge, are having a harder time keeping up, some experts say.

It wasn't always so. For thousands of years, children didn't live markedly different from their parents or grandparents. For generations, the newest, hippest gizmo might've been a sharper plow, a lighter harness or a more durable, splinter-free bowl for soup.

No more. Youth are likely far ahead of their parents when it comes to being familiar with the newest technology, but experts say youth themselves will be outpaced by their younger siblings.

"People two, three or four years apart are having completely different experiences with technology," says Lee Rainie of the Pew Research Center. "College students scratch their heads at what their high school siblings are doing, and they scratch their heads at their younger siblings. It has sped up generational differences."

Source: *The New York Times*

We can see those changes manifesting already. Teens are more likely to send text messages than youth just a couple of years older, and they're far more likely to play games online. Folks in their 20s spend significantly more time talking on the phone than those in their teens. While 16-year-olds are multitasking pros, performing up to seven tasks at once, people in their early 20s can manage only six. Those older? Don't even ask.

According to Larry Rosen, a professor of psychology at California State University, teens will "want their teachers and professors to respond to them immediately; and they will expect instantaneous access to everyone, because after all, that is the experience they have had growing up. They should be just like their older brothers and sisters, but they are not."

Source: *The New York Times*

Teens shouldn't get too cocky. As technology continues to fly forward, they in turn will be left in the dust by children who now are in elementary school. *They* might feel like techno-dinosaurs when today's babies learn to use a computer.

Assuming they'll still be using computers.

**Talk About It:**

When it comes to technology, do you think you know more or less than your parents? Do you use different methods to communicate with your friends than they do? Do you spend more or less time online? Do you play more video games? Communicate more through social networking sites?

How has technology changed since you were born? Do you remember when you first heard about YouTube? Facebook? The iPhone? What's the biggest technological change you've lived through?

How do you think things will be different in 10 years? How will people communicate? Will they still be watching television? Will they still be reading books? What'll be the cool new gadget in 2020?

**What the Bible Says:**

“No one tears a patch from a new garment and sews it on an old one. If he does, he will have torn the new garment, and the patch from the new will not match the old. And no one pours new wine into old wineskins. If he does, the new wine will burst the skins, the wine will run out and the wineskins will be ruined. No, new wine must be poured into new wineskins” (Luke 5:36-39).