

Use “The Scene” to introduce “Take Charge of Your Habits” the High School Sunday school lesson for September 9, 2018. The lesson is found on page 11 of *High School Teacher* by Standard Publishing.

the SCENE

Viewing the latest news through the lens of Scripture

One kid stole his mom’s credit cards and racked up 200 dollars for it. A nine-year-old in Britain was sent to rehab after she wet herself because she wouldn’t stop doing this long enough to go to the bathroom.

What is this awful addiction? Playing Fortnite. In less than 12 months, this game has grown to have more than 125 million players. That’s right—125 million. It’s an international craze—or for some, and international obsession. More than 40 million players log in to play the game every month. Some parents complain that it’s the first thing their kids think about when they wake up and the last thing they do before they go to bed at night.

Experts debate the issue of whether excessive playing of video games actually amounts to an addiction, but most people seem to agree that teens should be spending more time interacting with actual people in real life than just their virtual “friends” online.

As students arrive, give each of them a copy of the above story to read. After all teens have had the opportunity to read the article, discuss it in this way:

Have you ever been so involved in an activity online (gaming, social media, etc.) that you didn’t want to stop? What happened? What made you stop?

Make an argument for why excessive video gaming is or is not a problem.

Why do you think parents worry when their kids get excessively involved in any one activity?

What one person might consider harmless could produce unpleasant consequences. God asks us to be mindful of our habits and refrain from doing things that might hurt ourselves, others, or our relationship with Him. Today we’ll take a look at some bad habits that can damage our relationship with God.

For youth leaders: If you want to offer parents some resources to help with gaming habits, try checking out this assessment tool, <https://gamequitters.com/gaming-addiction-quiz-for-parents/>, and this guide produced by AXIS, *A Parent’s Guide to Fortnite* (find it at <https://axis.org/guides>).



MEETING GOD FACE-TO-FACE

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