

What You Can Learn From The Old Days: By Erica Jermanus

In this short ebook, I would like to talk about what it was like in the 90s before the twenty-first century. I would also like to talk about what it is like now in this day and age and how we could learn from the old days before there was advanced technology. There is so much we can learn from the old days that we can apply to our lives today. Some of the things that happened in the old days do not happen today. The times have changed over the years. Our generations have changed and the things in our lives have been modernized.

First, in the 1990s, I grew up with old computers and televisions. I remember when the Microsoft software just came out, and it was on an old box computer. I would also play games on the computer, such as The Sims and Roller Coaster Tycoon. Those games were so addicting. I would idolize those games because I did not yet know Christ until I got older. The televisions were boxed too. But the televisions were not high definition like they are today. Today, the televisions are flat-screened and have so many options and features. I don't watch much television today unless it is a sermon or something. Watching television is a waste of time, and it is a distraction from the presence of God and from serving Him and doing His will.

In the 90's they also had VCRS and tapes. You could put the tape in the VCR and watch a movie. But you would need to rewind the tape to watch it again. There were also stereos for radios. In the stereos, they had cassette tapes that you could put in the stereos. You could record a song on the radio to the tape and listen to it over and over if you rewind the tape. I also remember as technology progressed, there were CDs and CD players. These may still be today, but they are starting to become obsolete. The CDs would sometimes get scratched to where the songs on the CD would skip. Everything is now online and through a screen. A lot of technology is now streamed live and through a touchscreen.

Back then, when I was a child, I mostly played outside with friends in the neighborhood. We would play sports outside or ride bikes. Nowadays, children play on their phones or watch movies on television. Many children do not play outside like in the old days. In the old days, children rode their bikes, ran around, played jump rope, and played hide and seek. I remember going to a birthday party in the 90s and one of the presents that we gave the girl was a big bouncy ball that you can sit on and play with. I think it was yellow from what I can

remember. Nowadays, I don't think children would appreciate that. Most children today want the latest and newest gadgets and devices. Many children today are not thankful and grateful for what they have.

Also, back in the 90's, family members and friends would communicate more. They would get together and talk and share meals. Nowadays, people are on their phones when they are at gatherings. That can be disrespectful. I have a cell phone, but when I am in public, I try not to be on it. I do not want to be rude to people I am with by being on my phone while they are in the same room with me. Unless you need to use your phone for something, such as a GPS or to find a number or an address, then that is fine. But if you are in the room with someone, and you want to spend time with them, and you are scrolling through your social media news feed. I believe that is not good to do.

Actually, back then, they did not have GPS for locations. People used paper maps. People would look at a map or a compass to find out where to go and how to get to a destination. There would be compasses in cars, and now they have GPS and screens in cars with all these features and phones attached to them. I don't

think it is a good idea to have a phone attached to a radio. People should not be on their phone while they are driving because that is distracting and can cause a car accident. Also, people should not be on these touch screens in their cars while they're driving or have their radios playing in the background while they are driving. I think it is a distraction and gets eyes off the road and on to something else.

Actually, when you have a relationship with Jesus Christ, you can ask Him how to get somewhere or to lead and guide you to your destination, and He will get you there safely even without a GPS. That is walking by faith and not by sight. One day, I was in the car with my dad, and we were going to a person's house that we did not know to pick up something that was free. The free thing was in their driveway. And my dad forgot the address at home. But he had an idea of the location. I prayed and asked God to lead us there and help us find the right house on the right street. We pulled right into the driveway to turn around and sure enough that was the house. See how good God is and how He answers prayers.

My point of the story is that God is our moral compass, and you can talk to Him at any time. You can ask Him to lead and guide you, and He will get you to where you need to be on time. He knows how to help us when we are willing to ask Him for help and guidance.

Nowadays, people use GPS to help them. I am not saying we shouldn't use technology, but we can also ask God to help us, and He is more than willing.

I wanted to write this book because God has led me to share these things as reminders for today. I know we should not be focused on the past and the things of the past, but I believe there are some things from the past that we can learn and apply to our lives today. There are some things from the past that can help us in our day to day lives. We can learn to practice the presence of God more often and practice quiet and stillness. We can also practice taking breaks from technology to focus more on important things. Lastly, we can learn to communicate more effectively by not being on our devices while having conversations. We can learn to respect those who are in authority just like they did in the olden days.