

Blogging for the Glory of God

Some simple tips:

1. We can do nothing apart from God. If we want to be a blessing to Him and to others, we have to have a yielded heart. Start by making sure you're right with God.
2. Ask God to lead your thinking as to what to write about. God can lead our thinking if we plan ahead or spur of the moment. Either way, He can lead us to write about the things that will please Him.
3. His Word is so much more valuable than our opinion, seeing as though it doesn't return void and our opinion so often does. Bring what you write back to God's Word as often as possible.
4. Have a purpose statement for yourself. It will be easy to get off track as to what you really want your blog to be about when you see others that are so _____ and so _____. There are other blogs that I wish I could be like, but that is not what God has called me to or gifted me in. I need to stay focused on giving by the power of the Holy Spirit what I have, not what I wish I had.
5. Don't be afraid to make your blog known. This is so hard!! It feels so much like you are promoting yourself and feels very uncomfortable. If you have Scripture to stand on, it will help you when it gets tough. Making an effort to get your blog in front of readers is not in and of its self bad. If your motives are to build your own kingdom, that is obviously not pleasing to God and is something to turn to Jesus with. But if your motives are to bring glory to God, then He delights in your stewardship of what you have. This is evidenced in Matthew 25:14-30. God is pleased with our effort in making things grow. Work as though it's all up to you, knowing and trusting it's really all up to Him.
6. Here are some ways that help grow readership. (I am not speaking as an expert... I just started getting more serious about using blogging as a ministry in Feb. so I have a ton to learn. But I can share what little I have learned.)
 - a. Use a blog button. There is a tool that does it all for you. Yay! Design the picture you would like to use as the button (picnik.com is super helpful) and save it to a photo saving site like photobucket.com Then go to: <http://www.mycolorrealm.com/sandbox/gbgen/> and fill in all the questions. Wa-la. You have a button.
 - b. I have found **facebook** to bring a lot of readers. Put each post you write in your status. If you sign up for networked blogs it will automatically pull the feed for you.
 - c. Share your post on twitter.
 - d. Make a fan page or group of your site on facebook and invite your facebook friends. When you post things on facebook, post them at time when most of your friends are online. I have found it is evenings. The more people that comment or like your post, the longer it will stay at the top of your friends newsfeeds (which their friends will also see). You can tag certain friends in your status when you post your blog link, and encourage them to let you know what they think.

- e. Be real, vulnerable. Be careful to not try to present yourself as more _____ than you are. We are all broken people in this life, just as desperate for God as the next person. When people see our failures, it helps them God's grace is sufficient.
 - f. Persevere. Keep giving by the strength of His might. When your discouraged, turn to Jesus and ask Him to remind you what's true. Large reader base wont happen over night. That's not how God designed the universe to work. Things take time to grow.
7. Don't waste your blog's opportunity to share the gospel. There are some really great gospel widgets out there. My favorite is **The Story**. All you do is put the html code in your side bar. www.viewthestory.com Even if most of your readers are believers, don't assume they all are. Most of the students who come to Christ through our ministry are students that grew up going to church.
8. Share what God is doing. Use it as an opportunity to brag about Him.

That's all I can think of for now. Wish I had more to offer you. But I'm sure I will 2-3 years from now. 😊