# FROM UR OF CALDEA TO BETHLEHEM OF JUDAH

## Mission 4. Kings, prophets and slaves

### Challenge 3. Let us talk about God



#### Social Networking sites



Human beings live in society and get along with each other, with friends, acquaintances or people who in a particular moment share something with us.

Social networking sites cause this relationship to take place in a virtual space where we are connected thanks to new technology. In the present moment a high percentage of the population uses them.

### But, are there only advantages or are there any dangers we should avoid?

**-Cyberbullying.** Cyberbullying (bullying on the internet) is a big problem, and has worsened with the appearance of social netwworking and the increasing time children and teenagers are online. Intimidation, exclusion and abuse are all different





sides of the same problem. Many teenagers receive abusing, intimidatory and humilliating messages which are sent incesantly, causing fear and pain in the victims and entertainment for the bullies. They are usually revealed secrets or fake rumours, and suppose a constant harassment.

- **Incitement to hatred**. Prejudices, messages of hatred, intolerance and violence against a person or a group of people because of their race, religion, origin or political ideas keep increasing in social networking taking advantage of their viral features. Messages of hatred are often used for spreading racist ideology or discriminatory expressions for those who are different.

# Do we control our digital identity?

**Digital identity** are the different pieces of information published on the internet about you that form the image that the rest have about you. They are: personal information, pictures, news, comments, likes, friends, hobbies, etc. All this information describe you on the internet and determine your digital reputation, that is, the opinion people form

on you on the net. This identity can be formed without any connection to your reality. However, what is done on the net can have consecuences in your real life, and viceversa.

#### **SOME TIPS**

- When you create your profile, configure your privacy so that only your friends can have access to your contents.
- Friends you meet on the internet are unknown in real life, **THEY ARE NOT YOUR FRIENDS**.
- Don't share information such as your phone number or your address on the internet.
- When a picture is shared on the net, you lose control over its spreading, even if you erase it, it does not disappear from the net.
- On the internet you have to behave with respect and education. **NEVER DO WHAT YOU DON'T WANT TO BE DONE TO YOU.**
- Report people or actions with harm others. If you know someone who is being bullied, report it.
- If you buy a smartphone, switch off the geolocation, so when you share something on your wall nobody will know where you are.
- SAVE your chats, in case you need them when you have a problem.
- If there is anything that makes you feel uncomfortable on the internet, **TELL YOUR PARENTS OR TUTORS ABOUT IT**. I have to learn to say **NO** to those things I don't want to do.

Define what is Digital Identity and explain briefly how you should behave to avoid having problems using social networking sites and Whatsapp application.

Spreading Gospel through the media means new opportunities to testify in the digital profile. If prophets had had Twitter, maybe history wouldn't have been written the same way.

Visit the Pope Francisco's Twitter, choose one of his last tweets and reflect on it.

