

In case you hadn't noticed, geek is chic, tech is cool and 'apps' are very much in. Most of the excitement is to do with smartphones like Apple's iPhone and phones running the Android operating system.

So why are people frothing over apps? Because they're so useful! With all kinds of sound, motion and light sensors built in as well as cameras, GPS location and 3G data, the smartphone is the ultimate gizmo. It's the 21st Century electronic Swiss Army knife.

Apps can help you check out train timetables and plan your journey or scan a bar code and instantly find the cheapest price anywhere in the world. You can use GPS to find out where you are and how long it will take to get where you're going. You can even see what your destination will look like. Or why not point your phone at a public building and let it tell you what you're looking at. Or point it to the night sky and name a constellation.

One app will even monitor your movements while you sleep then wake you when it knows you're sleeping lightly.

But the best app has always been the Bible. It's the app that shows the way to eternal life. One passage written by the Apostle Paul to a young minister called Timothy makes it clear why it's got the best functions. He writes:

But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, and how from infancy you have known the holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. (2Timothy 2:14-15 NIV)

Notice how the 'holy Scriptures' can make a person 'wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus'. What this means is that trusting in Jesus is key to being friends with God. That's some functionality. Really, it trumps any smartphone.

But if you just have to look at pixels then why not download the bible to your smartphone?

Prayer: Dear Lord, please help me read the Bible for all it's worth and remember that it's more valuable than any gadget. Amen

Bible verse: "...the holy Scriptures ... are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus." (2Timothy 3:15)