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Procedural Programming

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Ethical Considerations in Hacking from a Christian Worldview

In this digital age, the term “hacker” carries a double meaning, both technical and cultural. By definition, a hacker is an individual skilled in computer programming and system manipulation. Hacking is having unauthorized access to data in a system. The term itself has acquired both positive and negative connotations. From a Christian worldview ethical concerns surrounding hacking are grounded in biblical principles of love, honesty, and respect.

When the word hacker is used culturally the word is compared to negative connotations to associations with unauthorized access, theft, and vandalism. It is a difference between ethical hackers. "white hat" are hackers, who use their skills for positive purposes. And others who engage in illegal and harmful activities.

Christian worldview, system cracking is judged unethical as it often involves trespassing into others' digital information. Even if undertaken for fun and without causing harm. This raises concerns about the importance of respecting others' boundaries. Christian perspective has a clear line between good and bad hacking, in line with legal and moral guidelines. However, we shouldn't judge people as it's emphasized in 1 Corinthians 5:12-13.

If a hacker discovers a vulnerability in a system, the Christian ethic calls for responsible action. Following the principles of Christianity in Matthew 5:13-16 and Luke 6:31, the hacker

should proceed with honesty and treat people how they would want to be treated. The responsibility goes further than just informing the hacker should actively cooperate with the company, and love and service as emphasized in 1 Peter 4:8-10.

Many may argue that hacking for fun, without harming intent is harmless to the examination of technology, however, may not necessarily be unethical. Others might declare unauthorized access to systems or computers, regardless of intent. It Violates the biblical principle of respecting others' property. Regarding the aspect of responsibility, there may be different opinions on the responsibility assigned to a hacker after reporting to a company. Others argue that fulfilling the ethical duty requires report.

In the Christian context, ethical hacking is in harmony with values such as love, honesty, and responsibility. The references in the scriptures highlight the importance of retaining someone's skills for the improvement of others and refraining from actions that could cause harm. Analyzing the CNBC story from this perspective reveals that a collaboration effort between the hacker and the company is necessary. Stated on CNBC that a young 19-year-old found a bug in the system and acted by reporting a mistake. The company told the person who was trying to help them, "I was trying to hack or get into their system." Kharpal, Arjun. "Ethical Hacking: Are Companies Ready?" 2015. This perspective supports with the guidance found in 1 Corinthians 5:12-13.

The skill of a hacker should be guided by a commitment to love, honesty, and responsibility. The biblical teaching provides a foundation for ethical decision-making, the importance of respecting others' boundaries, collaborating for the common good, and using their skills to serve others.

Reference page

<https://www.cnbc.com/2015/06/17/are-companies-still-scared-of-white-hat-hackers.html>

<https://onlineethics.org/cases/ethics-and-professional-responsibility-computing>

<https://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc1983#page-23>

Bible scriptures