

Technology Tools For Ministry

A Practical Guide to Equipping Churches in the Digital Age

By

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Course 9024

Presented by Reverend Robert Johnson, MSW

Why Technology Matters in Ministry

Theme Scripture

Exodus 31:3-5

And I have filled him with the Spirit of God, in wisdom, and in understanding, and in knowledge, and in all manner of workmanship, 4) To devise cunning works, to work in gold, and in silver, and in brass, 5) And in cutting of stones, to set them, and in carving of timber, to work in all manner of workmanship.

Class Schedule

Day 1 Foundation of Ministry Technology & Communication Chapters 1-3

Day 2 Computer Security, Worship , Administration & AI Chapters 4-5, 8

Day 3 Case Studies, Tech Challenges, Action Plan & Resources Chapters 6, 9-10

Students may access and download class handouts at www.matureword.com.

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Chapter 6 – Case Study A Mid-sized Church Gets Organized (300 members)



Scenario: This congregation had strong in-person worship and vibrant ministries, but their administration was disorganized. Volunteer scheduling was done via text threads. Giving was mostly in-person and untracked. Follow-up for guests was hit or miss.



The Shift: Adopted Planning Center for services, check-in, and groups. Set up Tithe.ly for online and mobile giving. Used Text In Church to follow up with guests and send reminders.



Results: Giving became more consistent, especially through recurring donations. Volunteer no-shows dropped by 60% due to clear scheduling. Guest retention increased because follow-up was timely and personal. Testimony: “Once we had systems in place, we could finally focus on people instead of paperwork.”



Jones , Myron. Technology Tools For Ministry: A Practical Guide To Equipping Churches In the Digital Age (pp. 43-44). Kindle Edition.

Chapter 6 – Case Study

A Rural Church Reaches the Unreachable (75 members)



Scenario: Located in a rural area with spotty internet, this church wondered if digital tools could even help. But their heart for outreach led them to try.



The Shift: Used Zoom for weekly Bible study so elderly members didn't have to drive long distances. Started sending sermon summaries and prayer requests via email and text. Recorded Sunday sermons using a phone and uploaded them to YouTube via a local coffee shop's Wi-Fi.



Results: Several unchurched residents began watching the sermons from home. A former member from another state reconnected and began supporting the ministry. The pastor said, "Our church got smaller physically, but bigger spiritually."



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Chapter 6 – Case Study

A Rural Church Reaches the Unreachable (75 members)

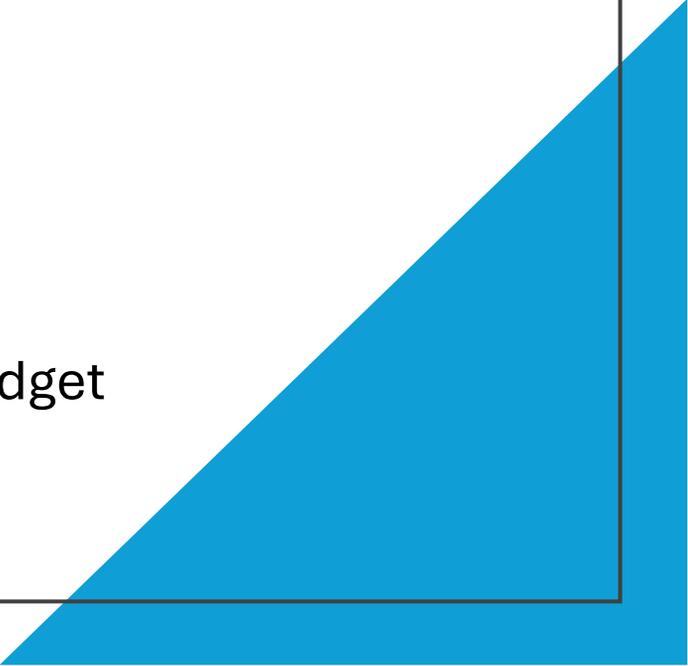
Common Threads: What These Churches Share

Regardless of their size, budget, or location, each church experienced breakthroughs because they:

1. Started where they were – No one waited to be perfect.
 2. Empowered others – Younger and older members worked together.
 3. Aligned tools with mission – They didn't adopt tech just to be trendy, but to serve their people better.
 4. Stayed flexible – They adjusted based on what worked and what didn't.
- Jones , Myron. Technology Tools For Ministry: A Practical Guide To Equipping Churches In the Digital Age (pp. 46-47). Kindle Edition.

Chapter 7

Overcoming Challenges in the Shift to Tech

- ✓ Resistance to Change - Honor the past, but lead toward the future.
 - ✓ Limited Technical Skills - Host Tech Sundays
 - ✓ Budget Constraints – Start with free tools, set a phased budget
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Chapter 7

Overcoming Challenges in the Shift to Tech

01

Lack of Volunteers or Team Support –
Publicly invite people into tech ministry

02

Tech Glitches and Sunday Surprises
– Test everything in advance and invest in stability

03

Fear of losing the Personal touch -
Reframe the obstacles

Chapter 9

Step-by-Step Action Plan

1. Pray and Clarify the Vision
2. Choose Your First Tech Tool
3. Build a Core Team
4. Train and Onboard Volunteers
5. Launch and Test the Tool
6. Evaluate and Adjust
7. Celebrate the Wins
8. Plan for Growth

Chapter 9

Next-Level Ideas

1. Build a full digital volunteer team
2. Launch a podcast or devotion series
3. Implement a church app or more advanced ChMS – Church Management Software
4. Expand livestream to multiple platforms

Chapter 9

Encouragement



Start small, grow
steady



Equip people, don't
just install tools



Celebrate progress,
not perfection

Chapter 10

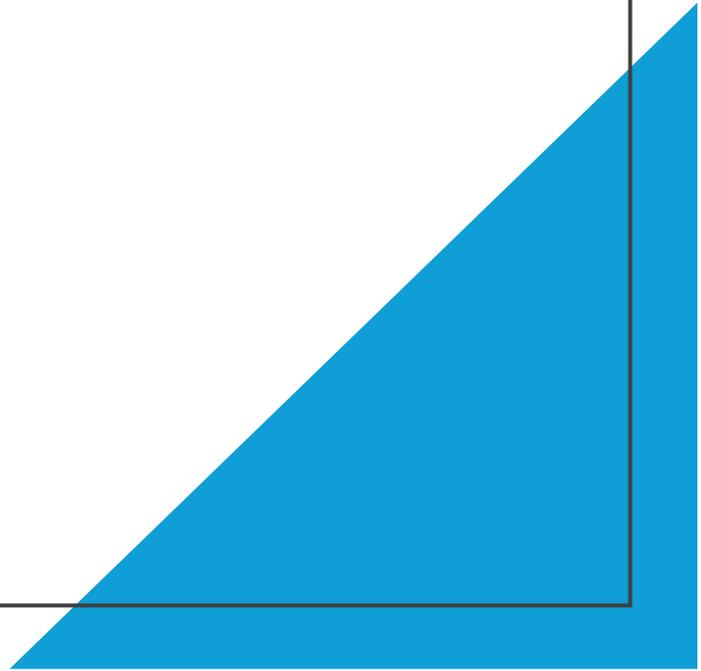
Resource and Tool Directory

Email & Text Messaging: Mailchimp: <https://www.mailchimp.com>

Messaging Apps: GroupMe: www.groupme.com

Graphics & Design: Canva: <https://www.canva.com>

Adobe Express: <https://www.adobe.com/express>



Chapter 10 Resource and Tool Directory

Church Management Software:

<https://www.planningcenter.com/>

Forms & Surveys: Google Forms:

<https://www.google.com/forms>

Team Collaboration: Slack:

<https://www.slack.com>

Microsoft Teams:

<https://www.microsoft.com/microsoft-teams>

Google Workspace:

<https://workspace.google.com>

References

- What is AI? Emmanuel Henri, O'Reilly Media, Inc.
- Jones , Myron. Technology Tools For Ministry: A Practical Guide To Equipping Churches In the Digital Age. Kindle Edition.