

Technology Tools for Ministry

A Practical Guide to Equipping Churches in the Digital Age

Outline

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.

Why Technology Matters in Ministry

Mark 16:15 - “Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.”

- Technology empowers people!
- Technology allows the ministry to go beyond the walls!

Technology and Discipleship

- Bible reading plans are provided through apps.
- Group chats help build accountability and connection.
- Devotionals are available online.
- Sermon clips are shared exponentially.

Tips for Tech Integration

- Start small. Learn one tool at a time. Do not overwhelm yourself.
- Create small teams. Learn what skills members provide.
- Document simple instructions to inform others how they can help!
- There is a place for you in this digital mission.

Foundations of Ministry Technology

Technology matters because people matter!

What is a Technology Tool

A **technology tool** is defined as anything, whether it is a device, software, or system, which helps you perform a task more efficiently.

A **technology tool** is a helper that makes ministry more effective, not more complicated.

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Church Tools of the Past
Technology matters because people matter!

- Noah used wood and measurements to build the ark – Genesis 6:8-17.
- Moses used a staff or rod through which miracles occurred - Exodus 4:1-9.
- David used a sling to defeat Goliath - 1 Samuel 17:45-51.
- Jesus used a boat as His pulpit – Mark 4:1.
- Paul used letters and roads built by the Roman Empire to reach the Gentile world.

Church Tools - Part 2

- Put on the whole armor of God - Ephesians 6:11-18.
- Gifts unto men – Ephesians 4:8-13
- Gifts of the Spirit – 1 Corinthians 12:11
- Functional Gifts (of Grace) – Romans 12:3-8

Three Steps for Tech Integration

- Mindset – The Heart to Try
- Mission – Technology should always serve your mission, not the other way around.
- Method – Plan to sustain the mission or technology!

Identifying Your Ministry's Digital Readiness

- Do you have a church website? Is it up to date?
- Are you using text to communicate with members?
- Is your Sunday service streamed or recorded!
- Do you post on social media regularly?
- Do you track attendance or giving digitally?

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The People Side of Technology

- A teen who loves editing
- A retiree who is great with data entry
- A parent who already manages group chats and communication

Avoid Mistakes!

- Trying to do too much at once
- Not talking to your team before making changes
- Focusing on technology rather than people
- Being afraid to fail

Avoid Mistakes – Part 2!

- Do not be inconsistent
- Do not overload or overwork your people
- Avoid lack of purpose by having a clear goal or word of encouragement
- Do not neglect the follow-up

Encouragement – Start Where You are!

- Update your Facebook page
- Start sending weekly text updates
- Ask your youth group for help with a task or project
- Record the sermon audio using a phone or recording device

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Google Workspace - Free Tool

Communication - Tools that Connect

- Emails and Newsletters
- Text messaging and group chats
- Social Media Platforms – Post consistently 2-5 time per week.
- Church Websites and Mobile Apps
- Live Chat and Connection Tools

Building a Communication Strategy

- Identify your goals
- Know your audience
- Create a rhythm
- Delegate wisely
- Measure engagement
- Communicate like Jesus

Avoiding Common Pitfalls

- Inconsistency – keep the project or task active
- Overload – Do not flood people with messages. Quality over quantity.
- Lack of Purpose – every message should have a clear goal or encouragement.
- Neglecting Follow-Up – If someone responds, follow-up.

Encouragement

- Communicate like Jesus. He was timely. He used stories, graphics, questions, and silence!
- Be faithful and persistent.
- Be edifying.
- Show God's love, organization, and dedication.