



HANDOUT

# AI & the Church: Using today's tools with eternal wisdom

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# Workshop 1 Summary – "What AI Is (and Isn't)"

AI is a digital assistant, not a spiritual authority.

AI is helpful, but it is not holy.

AI is a tool, not a teacher.

AI can organize thoughts, but not sanctify hearts.

Only you—through prayer and discernment—can lead your ministry with integrity.

AI becomes most effective when guided by your heart, your calling, and the Holy Spirit.

## Biblical Analogy: *Balaam's Donkey*

God used a donkey to deliver a message, but the message belonged to God. Likewise, AI may help us *express* something, but it cannot *originate* divine insight.

## Examples of AI Use

- Search Scriptures by topic (e.g., anxiety, forgiveness)
- Summarize Bible chapters
- Draft letters, devotionals, and lesson plans

## AI Guardrails

- Always test what AI says against Scripture.
- Don't use AI for prophecy, theology, or decision-making without prayer.
- AI is biased—always fact-check.

Invite the Holy Spirit into your AI collaboration. The results are shaped by the clarity of your words and the discernment of your spirit.



# Using AI to Serve Smarter

**Begin With This:** ✓ Pray first. ✓ Write out your heart and intention. ✓ Consider your audience and purpose. ✓ Use AI as a tool to serve—not to lead.



## Pastors

Sermon outlines, visitor letters, vision casting

*Example:* Clarify a sermon idea before asking AI to help structure it.



## Admins

Bulletins, calendars, donor updates

*Example:* Create a rough draft of announcements, then use AI to polish.



## Ministry Leaders

Curriculum, outreach ideas

*Example:* Plan your outreach goals, then ask AI to help with messaging.



## Seniors & New Believers

Topical Bible studies, travel planning, testimony writing

*Example:* Choose a topic or Scripture you're meditating on, then use AI to deepen understanding—not define it.

# Using AI to Serve Smarter - Prompts

## 📌 Prompt Refinement Tip:

*Let your soul speak first. Let AI serve after. - Always add your context first. Before writing the prompt into the AI, you can add a paragraph of your goal, what it is you want to achieve, what is on your heart, and anything else you think is important to achieving your goal.*

## Prompt Examples to Try (Using RTCF)

- "Act as a Bible teacher. Provide 5 Scriptures on healing, each with a 1-sentence explanation, to use in a small group study."
- "Act as a church administrator. Create a welcome letter for church visitors that expresses love, hospitality, and explains next steps in our church."
- "Act as a youth leader. Plan a 3-day youth retreat agenda with devotionals and activities for high school students, themed around hope and identity in Christ."

**Key Insight:** You are the interpreter. Your words shape the result. AI collaborates with you—but the wisdom must come from your heart and spiritual lens.



# Prompting with Purpose – Using the RTCF Formula

AI is most useful when you first define:

**1** Who you are

**2** What you are trying to accomplish

**3** Why it matters

**4** How you want the output to be shaped

**i** **RTCF = Role · Task · Context · Format**

Here's a breakdown of each element:

Element	What It Does	Example
Role	Guides the tone	"Act as a spiritual coach..."
Task	Sets the action	"...write a devotional thought..."
Context	Adds clarity	"...for a small group about overcoming fear..."
Format	Shapes delivery	"...as a 1-paragraph message with a Scripture and prayer."

# RTCF Prompts from Spirit-Led Input

"After praying about our outreach to youth, I feel led to create something hopeful. This is what was on my heart..."

*Prompt: "Act as a youth pastor. Draft 3 outreach ideas for teens that reflect God's love and use Scripture to support each one. Present as a bullet list for planning."*

"I want to write a devotion that comforts grieving members."

*Prompt: "Act as a pastoral writer. Create a devotion on John 14:1–3 that comforts those grieving. Use plain, heartfelt language in 2 short paragraphs."*

## RTCF Sample Prompts for Ministry

- "Act as a Bible teacher. I've been meditating on Matthew 5:14–16 and I feel...It means.... Create a 3-point sermon outline pulling from my meditations, for a Sunday message focused on [being the light of the world/evangelism/glorifying our father in heaven.]"
- "Act as a church assistant. Draft a weekly email with events, encouragement, and a Scripture thought for the week."
- "Act as a faith mentor. Explain Psalm 91 to a new believer in simple language with 3 key promises."

### Prompting Tips:

- Pray before you prompt.
- Be specific about the audience and your heart behind the message.
- Refine the response with your own voice.
- Test it spiritually. Edit it prayerfully.

# Final Reflection

*AI can help you write—but only you can hear from God. Begin with prayer. Speak from the heart. Then collaborate with AI to serve with clarity, efficiency, and love.*



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