

Questions for Leaders on Tech & Formation

A guided conversation for elder boards to evaluate how technology is shaping the spiritual formation of the congregation.

Technology is never spiritually neutral. While tools can serve the church in faithful ways, they also shape habits, attention, authority, and formation. These questions help leaders slow down, reflect together, and discern whether technology is forming people toward Christlikeness.

1. Formation Before Efficiency

- What kinds of people are our current technologies forming?
- Where might efficiency be crowding out patience, presence, or prayer?
- Are we adopting tools because they are helpful—or because they are expected?

2. Authority and Trust

- How does technology shape who is trusted as an authority in our congregation?
- Do digital tools strengthen pastoral responsibility—or weaken it?
- Are we clear about where wisdom and discernment ultimately come from?

3. Attention and Presence

- How do screens shape attention during worship and discipleship?
- Are we encouraging embodied presence or fragmented engagement?
- What practices help resist distraction and cultivate attentiveness to God?

4. Discipleship and Depth

- Do our technologies encourage deep learning or surface-level consumption?
- Where might convenience be replacing discipline?
- Are we forming people who know Scripture—or people who know how to look things up?

5. Community and Care

- How does technology affect how people are known and shepherded?
- What pastoral information should never be mediated through digital tools?
- Are there ways technology isolates while appearing to connect?

6. Discernment and Limits

- What practices help us say no to certain technologies or uses?
- Do we revisit tech decisions prayerfully—or only react when problems arise?
- Who carries responsibility for ongoing theological discernment?

Closing Prayer: Lord, teach us to use tools without being shaped by them. Form us into a people attentive to Your Word, present to one another, and faithful in the quiet work of discipleship. Amen.