

# AI Discernment: A Quick Start for Pastors

Orienting ministry leaders to AI without rushing adoption

**Start with formation.** Ask how a tool shapes attention, authority, and trust before asking what it can do.

**Name the red lines.** Pastoral conversations, counseling notes, and prayer requests should never be entered into AI systems.

**Keep humans in the loop.** AI may assist preparation, but shepherding requires presence, prayer, and accountability.

Use this guide as a starting point for conversation—not a substitute for prayerful discernment.

Halo Heuristic · Ethical Tech & AI for the Church

These resources support discernment and do not replace pastoral judgment, Scripture, or prayer.