

Y00 — Welcome to the Ministry

Hey, welcome. Whatever you walked in here expecting tonight, I am pretty sure this is better.

Here is what this group is about to do, in one sentence: you are going to find a church or a small business in your town that has no website, build them one, call them up, give it to them for free, and watch something you made go live on the actual internet. Not a pretend project. Not a worksheet. A real website, for a real place, with their real name on it - built by you.

Let me tell you why this matters. Right now, somewhere near you, there is a little church where the only way to find the service time is to drive past the sign. There is a barber, or a bakery, or a repair shop that does great work, and when people search for them, nothing comes up. They are invisible online, usually because websites used to cost thousands of dollars and take months. You are going to fix that for somebody. In an afternoon. For free.

And here is the part that might surprise you: you do not need to know how to code. Not a single line. You are going to work with an AI assistant - you type to it in plain English, like texting, and it does the technical work. You say, change the colors to blue, and it changes the colors. You say, put the service times in, and the service times go in. Your job is not typing computer code. Your job is taste, and care, and courage. The AI is the hands. You are the heart.

Now, courage - let me be honest about that word, because there is one part of this that will scare you a little, and I want you to know it is coming. At some point, you are going to call a real adult at a real business or church, someone you have never

met, and offer them this gift. Your hands might sweat. Your voice might shake a tiny bit on the first one. That is completely normal, and we are going to practice until the words feel like yours, and your leader will be right there. And I will tell you something every person in this ministry learns: the moment the person on the other end realizes you are a kid from a local church calling to give them something - not sell them something - the whole call changes. You will hear it in their voice.

One more thing before we start, because it is the most important thing. This is a ministry, not a business. Nobody here is making money. When we finish a website, we give it away, completely free, no strings. If the person we bless wants to support our youth group with a donation so we can keep doing this for others - and many will - that is wonderful, and we will learn the right, honest way to have that conversation. But the gift comes first, always. We are doing this because we have been given good things, and people who have been given good things give good things away.

So here is the road ahead. Tonight we start by being detectives - finding the places near us that need this. Then we build one together, and you will see the AI do its thing, and somebody in this room is going to gasp, I promise. Then we practice the call until it is easy. Then we make the real call. Four meetings from now, your group will have a website on the internet and a story you will be telling for a long time.

Your build for tonight starts in the next lesson. For now, just do this: think of one place in town - a church, a shop, a person who fixes things - that you are pretty sure has no website. Hold that name in your head. There is a decent chance that by next month, you will have changed their life a little.