

GAP 11: AI AND TRANSHUMANISM

Driving Question for Collaborative Design

How might Christians in the church, parachurch, and workplace collaborate to reach and disciple others in the era of AI, as many look to technology as a new means of salvation and redemption, replacing the image of God in man?

Description

This is an unprecedented age of technological development. From Artificial Intelligence to gene editing; from bio-tech to disembodied digital worlds: what it means to be human is being questioned and the dynamics of everyday life are in flux. These technological tools present extraordinary gospel advancement opportunities from Bible translation to personalized engagement. Yet, as these developments emerge into broader culture, they present new alternative paths for hope, salvation, and redemption, effectively altering the plausibility of the gospel.

Acknowledging these emerging realities, this conversation prayerfully explores:

Collaboration Questions

- How can Great Commission efforts utilize Artificial Intelligence wisely?
- What does it mean to be human, when our hope is increasingly in technology to remake our existence and bodies?
- How might technological developments be used to shape work and everyday life to better follow Christ?
- In what way will these developments affect the plausibility of the gospel, and how individuals share it?
- How should mission/church organizations/workers reshape their discipling and evangelistic efforts?
- How can organizations partner with the secular sphere to influence the effects of these developments?

Sub-Topics

- Apologetic and evangelistic tactics for reaching individuals in a transhumanist age
- Organizational collaboration for digital evangelism
- Kingdom impact and technological developments

Preparation before Seoul 2024

Please read these sections of the State of the Great Commission Report:

- Introduction from the Theology Working Group
- Part I, on the State of the Great Commission globally, captured by text and graphics
- Part II, with the articles on 'Artificial Intelligence' and 'Transhumanism'
- Part III for your particular region in which you primarily work or serve in church or parachurch