CENTRAL UNIVERSITY

INVESTIGATING THE KEY BENEFITS OF INTEGRATING
TECHNOLOGY IN THE ACTIVITIES OF THE CHURCH
(THE CASE STUDY OF ICGC LOVE TEMPLE - SCC-WAIJA)

 \mathbf{BY}

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APPROVAL PAGE

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DECLARATION

I hereby declare that, this work is the result of my own field research, except for
specific references which have been duly acknowledged, it contains no materials

previously published either in part or whole by another person.

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Supervisor's Declaration

I hereby declare that this project work was supervised in accordance with

procedures laid down by Central University.

Supervisor's Signature Date

Name: Pastor Prince Osei-Sarfo

DEDICATION

First and foremost, this work is dedicated to the Almighty God for his love, grace and blessings which have driven me this far. Secondly, I also dedicate this work to my mother, Mrs Janet Korankyewaa, and the leadership of ICGC Love Temple.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I am very thankful to the Almighty God for seeing me through this project work. I am very grateful to Rev. Charles Aye – Addo (PhD) and Dr. Moses K Asamoah for helping me through this programme of study and motivating me to forge ahead with determination. May God richly bless them. I wish to express my heartfelt appreciation to my supervisor and lecturer, Pastor Prince Osei Sarfo, whose directions, instruction, support and corrections have made me come out triumphantly with this piece of work. My gratitude goes to all the lecturers who have taught me from level 100 to 400, your pieces of advice and suggestions have helped shaped this work. I am also thankful to the administrative staff of the Department of Theology, your support during the period of my study is highly appreciated

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ABSTRACT

Integration of technology has shown the interaction of writers with a view to elaborate on the benefits, and opportunities for the enhancing and spreading of the gospel, Technology has become the most powerful tool to shift the primitive system of evangelism to modern technological system of transmitting the gospel to the world.

The performance of integrated technology in the church, ICGC Love temple has come under barrage of criticisms. The leaders have been accused of coercing the members to give beyond expectation in the name of technology in the church and the advancement of the gospel. The system sometimes jams for certain period of time interrupting the service. Recently, research has revealed the importance of integrating technology in the church, as it has been established that it ensures that churches enjoy better ways of evangelizing and advancing the gospel. The study's general objective is to discover the extent of acceptability of technology in the church, the Love Temple and its impact on the gospel.

A sample size of twenty- five (25), comprising eleven (11) leaders and fourteen assistant leaders of the departments in the church was selected from the target population to respond to the administered questionnaire. Twenty-five (25) respondents out of the entire population of ninety- six (96) were thus selected for the research. This indicates that 44% of the respondents were leaders of the departments, while 56% of the respondents were assistant leaders of the departments. The administered questionnaires exhibited a ratio of 1:1.2 with regard to male and female distribution.

The findings of the research indicated that the current technological integration has been an instrument to help the church modify its services and to reach many people in the world and received a positive response. In the light of these findings the study recommended that Love Temple put together a well-structured technology system which could be reviewed periodically for optimum results in the area of performance. The study further recommended that, the members of the departments need to undergo training and re-training to enhance their efficiency and effectiveness.

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CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the study

Technology has done tremendously well in the activities of the church. It has helped the church in terms of physical growth, and advancement of the activities of winning souls and reaching the members of the church and world at large. According to the oxford dictionary "technology is the application of scientific knowledge for practical purposes, especially in industry". This indicates the way of changing an environment with what is not common to the situation, a way of introducing a new method of doing things, fasters and conveniently by the use of machines, devices, knowledge and creativities. From the beginning of creation God created man with scientific knowledge for practical purpose.

Apart from what God has deposited in man which is part of the make-up of man. God has also endowed man with the ability learn in-order to bring enlightenment or development to what God has given to man in creation. This is made known in the scriptures. For instance – Genesis 35:30-35 ³⁰ Moses said to the Israelites, "See, the LORD has chosen Bezalel son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah, ³¹ and he has filled him with the Spirit of God, with wisdom, with understanding, with knowledge and with all kinds of skills ³² to make artistic designs for work in gold, silver and bronze, ³³ to cut and set stones, to work in wood and to engage in all kinds of artistic crafts. ³⁴ And he has given both him and Oholiab son of Ahisamak, of the tribe of Dan, the ability to teach others. ³⁵ He

embroiderers in blue, purple and scarlet yarn and fine linen, and weavers—all of them skilled workers and designers. So, regularly investing time and other resources on the members of the church can lead to the creation of avenues and opportunities for the development of every potentials in them to build the kingdom of God. According to Church history, the church can help the members to activate what they have and also accept the integration of technology in the activities of the church in order to ensure that the gospel reaches the needed places.

There are several occurrances in the church whereby the inability of the church to strictly follow stipulated time for programmes has contributed to undesired situations. There are many instances whereby church activities and programmes have travelled beyond the set time they were to run; it's becoming difficult for the church to really work out its activities and programmes within time. Technology has been noted to help the church save time and programme its activities effectively. A study that has been by Clue. (2020) has shown that our world has become a world of mobile phones, computers satellites, videotext, and telex cable. The presence of these communication and technological tools have helped, bring about change in the manner in which things are done. We are confident to say that the advancement in technology has resulted in a change from the traditional approaches and processes, resulting in development of e-learning, e-business, e-trading, email, e-library, e-banking, e-research, and so on. In era of technology, any move of the church embrace technology will go a long way to bring

effectiveness and efficiency into the operations of the church. T-technology integration of the church may propel church to move fast in spreading the gospel. It needs to be mentioned that technology has permeated every faceted of human endeavor, and the church cannot be a left-out. The infiltration of technology into every aspect of human endeavour implies that church that appear unconcerned to accept technology into the way they run their affairs may become threatened. Technology has become so needful that the church cannot ignore technology in its activities. Technology is needed by the church for efficient and effective management of church activities and programmes, to ensure the realization of the ultimate goal of the church to win souls for Christ. This research work aims to know the key benefits of integrating technology into the activities and programmes of the church, Love Temple of ICGC in propagation of the gospel.

1.2 Statement of the problem

The availability and appropriate use of technology in the Love Temple branch of the International Central Gospel Church (ICGC) has become a barrier to smooth running of the church, and an impediment to the achievement of effectiveness, efficiency in the organization of the church programmes and activities. Leaders of the church have been accused of unprofessionalism in the performance of their duties. Regrettably, it was until recently, that the leaders of the departments have discovered that unworthy technological conditions under which their work is responsible for the majority of the undesired circumstances they experience in the course of discharging their duties. It has been observed that poor technological infrastructure, poor configuration of equipment, insufficient logistics and

apparatus have place the church at a disadvantageous position. Additionally low salaries and lack of appreciation for workers have also been noted as contributing factors of the problems the church encounters these days. The contributing effects of these challenges on the church include low level of confidence among members and failure of members to show courtesy in to the leaders.

1.3 The purpose of the study

The main goal of the study is to understand the benefits of technology in the churches. This will allow the church to make decision concerning its acquisition and use to allow the church employ technology in sharing services with people who may not physically present in the church auditorium during church services. The advancement of social media communication has resulted in online fellowships and social media worship centres, which have made it possible for the churches to extend their membership beyond regular church attendants in the physical auditorium, to worshipers who afar in space. With the appropriate incorporation of technology into the manner in which the church goes about its functions is believed to enhance fellowship among members and make it possible for the church to reach out to the public. With technology, personal interaction between leaders of the church and members would be enhanced. With the appropriate technology integrated into the functions of the church, the church would be able to effectively conduct virtual evangelism to reach out to unbelievers and provide counselling services for members.

Technology should go beyond the office and home. Religion is typically tied to different cultures and values, investigating the key benefits of technology makes it an attractive entry-point for the church to reach the world.

1.4 Research objectives

- i. The general objective of the study is to discover the extent of acceptability of technology by the church" ICGC Love Temple and its impact on the gospel. Specific this research seeks to.
- ii. Determine whether the church's integration of technology has a positive connection with outcome (i.e. delivery of service).
- iii. Find out if the church's integration of technology is able to link with the spread of the gospel".
- iv. Provide the required recommendations that would aid Love Temple to improve the work of the leaders and technological structures.

1.5 Research question

In order for the above stated objectives of the study to be achieved, this research is guided by the under listed research questions.

- i. What are the main points that were observed in the solution of integrating technology?
- ii. What are the assumptions of the church leaders and the members on integration of technology?
- iii. Does the integration of technology enable the leaders to perform extraordinarily?

iv. How best can the church improve the technological integration at ICGC Love Temple?

1.6 Research hypothesis

The benefit of technology is regarded as the balance between the traditional way of evangelism and technological approach to the transmission of the gospel to the world. There is significant gain in performance of technology, which could impact the growth of the church. A suitable technological strategy can help the church to improve its performance and actions.

3.7 The significant of the study

In this world of technological advancement, organizations and establishments have found ways of integrating technology into their operations, which has gone a long way of shaping their mode of operation and bringing effectiveness and efficiency. Concerning this, the current study which seeks to investigate the advantages of integrating technology into the operations of the church, would enable the church to streamline its operations and functions, and embrace technology to improve the mode of propagation of the gospel. The recommendations of the study will serve as a guide for the church on appropriate implementation of technology for the realization of the gospel without geographical limitations. With appropriate implementation of technology and recommendation for training of leaders to operate the technology, the church will benefit from the study by adopting technology for record keeping in the church. Finally the findings of the study would contribute to the discussion of the use of

technology in social organizations and provide literature for future studies of the use of technology in the operations of the church.

1.8 Scope of the study

The scope is on the key benefits of integrating technology on the activities of the church, identify problem and solve it. To reach the remote villages and the world at large with the gospel through technology.

1.9 Limitation of the study

- i. Availability of the interviewee
- ii. Financial factor
- iii. Delay by some respondents

1.10 Definition of terms

These are the terms used

- i. Integrating the process of uniting two or more equipment or gadgets together for transmission
- ii. Benefit profit gain from integrating technology, or using technology to win soul
- iii. Technology scientific knowledge use in practical way to win souls for Christ

1.11 Organization/ outline of the study

The study consists of five chapters. In chapter one, the study provides the general introduction to the study. As the general introduction, chapter one consists of background of the study, problem statement, objectives of the study, research questions, significant of the study and limitation of the study. In chapter two, the

extant literature on the topic is discussed. The discussion focused on literatures from scholars of how to integrate technology for the advancement of the gospel. In chapter three, the study provides a discussion on the methodology employed in conducting. The chapter comprises study's design and the steps that were followed by the researcher in undertaking the study. It deals with data collection procedure, data collection instrument and how the data is analyzed. Chapter four consist of the presentation of the data and analysis of the findings. The last chapter provides the summary, conclusions and recommendations of the study

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Introduction

Chapter two reviews the literature on the key benefits of integrating technology as revealed in the findings of the various researchers in their studies.

2.2 Definition of technology.

Many authorities on the subject have come out with a number of definitions. The primary objective of this paper is to contribute to the existing literature by comprehensively reviewing the development, definitions of technology integration and the key benefits if offers based on a literature review of the studies that have been done in this area. The technology is the study and transformation of tools, techniques, and machines created by humans. It allows humans to study and evolve the physical elements that are present in the world. Webster's Ninth Collegiate Dictionary defines technology as 1: technical language, 2 a: applied science b: a scientific method of achieving a practical purpose, 3: the totality of the means employed to provide objects necessary for human sustenance and comfort.

Ken Funk of Oregon State University uses the term "technology" in five different senses. First, technology is the rational process of creating means to order and transform matter, energy, and information to realize certain valued ends. Second, technology is the objects (devices, systems, and methods) resulting from this process. Third, technology is the knowledge that is created by and drives the

technological process. Fourth, a technology is a subset of related technological objects and knowledge (for example, computer technology). Fifth, technology is all of the above plus the developers and users of technological objects and the worldview that has emerged from and drives the technological process (Funk, 2007; Nye, 2006). The second empirical feature about technology is that during this period its meaning changes, technologies use to mean a classification system for the arts or systematic study of an art.

According to Nightingale. (2014). the tacit nature of technology can lead to a pathology where we mistakenly take a particular way of looking at the world as natural. When developing technology, we look at our subject in instrumental terms as something to change, recognize and modify to generate benefits. If this becomes second nature we can mistakenly think it's natural. So while seeing technology as gadgets, we mistakenly assigns the properties of technology to artifacts, and they are mistakenly assigned in the world. Again this misses all the thinking that is needed to get technology to function and again it can be subject to a bogus sense of being "scientific". While self-image is one of the bravely seeing through the messy complexity of the world to an underlying scientific reality just waiting to be improved. It instead, imposes a framework of controllable mechanisms on top of the reality that doesn't necessarily match it. Such a view of the world is often proposed to reflect scientific rationality of an engineering viewpoint. But it is deeply unscientific and the anti-thesis of good engineering design which elicits users' normative framings of requirements and comes up with creative solutions that address them.

Techne as the word's root is traditionally understood to refer to "art" or "skill" (Skrbina 2015). The contemporary usage of words incorporating this root implies that a certain amount of skillfulness or artistry must be involved in what they refer. Nevertheless, what is often overlooked is the fact that, while skill or art undoubtedly are involved, implicit in them is a common conceptual precursor, integral to that which the word may refer to, as well as the skill and artistry that are requisite themselves the notion of creation. One way to understand technology is through the schematic definition presented in the text entitled "Society and Technological Change" (Volti, 2009). In it, technology is defined as "a system created by humans that uses knowledge and organization to produce objects and techniques for the attainment of specific goals" (Volti, 2009, p. 6).

2.3 Concept of technology

Technology can be described as both material and immaterial, produced by the exercising of mental and physical effort to attain some value. Technology refers to tools and machines that may be used to solve real-world difficulties. The technological-ification of the church is a huge business, and every congregation and every church needs to take advantage of technology in order to enable the realization of the church's mission. I believe technology is a resource that can be used for God's glory in this era. Here are three ways technology enhances the church's mission a-. According to (Stetzer 2014). 1. Technology enables communication through Facebook and Twitter or through a church blog. With these media, the church leaders can easily communicate directly with the people in the congregation, throughout the day and week. For example, a pastor of a

church can preach, meet with the staff, and lead a small group in the church. That's all a pastor can physically do. But can also pastor the church all throughout the week through social media and digital technology. Technology allows a greater sense of community that doesn't demand proximity. Proximity isn't required for community. For example, you can sit next to each other week after week and never talk. But through technology, people in our church are praying for each other and others are receiving sermons. Sometimes they already know each other, but at other times they meet one another through Facebook. Social media is where younger generations are interacting. It's the new marketplace.

It may be unnatural for past generations, but it is how community for younger people is now started and developed. Through social media, a new attendee can connect to other church members before he or she ever has a chance to meet at a church gathering or a small group. Of course, true community requires feet and faces and not just electrons and avatars. But those electrons and avatars can be tools to bring people into closer community with feet and faces. This is a big shift in how we interact, but we have to use it if we want to enable the creation of communities for the sake of the mission of the church. (Stetzer 2014). The number one goal of integrating technology in the church is to win souls for Christ not necessarily bringing them to our local churches. Proximity is not always considered when integrating technology. Though it is good to win a soul to your local church, the inception of technology has made this not often the case. The youth of today are so interested of using technology and since the gadgets and tools are available the church should change the traditional way of interacting

with the congregation and move to technological aspect of sending the gospel out to the world.

2.4 Objectives of integrating technology

Technological integration is ideally designed to meet the needs of the church and the members. Integrating technology supply information with the chance to develop expertise that are essential for lifelong learners. Technology provides a variety of technological information and ideas. Plans are designed to meet the needs of the church and also benefit the church by integrating technology. It is increasingly viewed as central to the church's communication to the world and could stimulate self-confidence through the knowledge and application of technology. The objectives of the integrating technology include;

- To find out which ICT based management system that is in use in ICGC love temple.
- 2. To determine the ICT resources that are been applied in love temple.
- To ascertain if love temple pastor use computer for personal study, teaching and preaching.
- 4. To find out the key benefits of integrating technology in love temple.

CTT staff. (2012) provided a list of objectives in relation to the subject matter of technology as elucidated below. Update the church's Facebook and Twitter accounts on a daily basis. Update the church website daily or weekly. Send regular email newsletters to the congregation (include video if you can). Make better use of church management software to track involvement. Make sure to follow up with visitors as quickly as possible through email, a phone call, or a

visit. Add fresh images and video to your church website homepage. Interview a new believer on video and share their testimony during service. Use email, video, and all other communication tools to encourage your members to get involved in a small group.

- Have each small group leader identify one potential new leader to train.
- Use your church software to post possible volunteer openings.
- Set your own personal and church goals.
- Keep them simple.
- Use Ever note to keep track of your progress.

2.5 Definition of technology integration

Technology integration is defined as the use of technology to enhance and support the church services. Unfortunately, our experience is that individual often have a different understanding of the meaning of the word, loosely speaking there is a general consensus that integration concerns making application work together that were never intended to work together by passing information through some form of interface. Integration implies that all relevant data for a particular bounded and closed set of business processes is processed in the same software application. Updates in one application module or component are reflected throughout the business process logic, with no complex external interfacing. Integration implies that all relevant data for a particular bounded and closed set of business processes is processed in the same software application. (Gulledge 2006).

2.6 Key benefits

We are in the days when communication travels faster than ever and is immediately available. We have the opportunity as followers of Christ to take advantage of new tools for sharing the Gospel. Whether you are creating an app, starting a podcast, or leveraging another communication tool powered by modern technology, you can reach more people with Gospel content than any other time in history. Cultural Relevance - Our reception or rejection of technology sends a strong message to the culture around us. The best way to reach people with the good news of Jesus is to meet them where they are found in a way that is convenient to them. Reaching people through technology, specifically mobile technology, is one of the most effective ways to help people see how much you care to see them engage with life changing contents. Increased Productivity - Streamlined processes and efficiency are much more common place with smartphones that act as a calendars, phone books, and communication tools all in one. Leveraging mobile technology to get more done in less time can help church staff focus on more initiatives and love more people.

Better Stewardship - The costs associated with older ways of doing things can be a major budget drain for many churches and ministries. For example, by making certain resources digital, churches can avoid costs associated with printing out bulletins, song lyrics, or event flyers, providing an opportunity for better stewardship. Greater Engagement - Nothing can replace the value in face-to-face interactions with real people. However the truth is that we live in

a mobile world, and being more technologically savvy helps organizations stay more connected and more engaged with their people. (Thechurchapp.org 2016). This has been done as a great engagement in the way of; Publicizing the purposes of the church, Selling out the church to the world, Spreading the gospel beyond proximity, Keeping record of church activities and events, Maximizing the trend of evangelism.

Increasing of membership.

2.7 Tools or Equipment of integrating technology

Some of the tools of integrating technology into the church include the use of Telecommunications products (such as telephones), Information kiosks and transaction machines, World Wide Web sites, Multimedia and office equipment such as copiers and fax machines.

Lifewayresearch.com (2018) explains, Church websites as the front door of the church. Therefore the inclusion of a church website should not be a surprise. Social media involvement: The people you will reach and disciple online and social media are many. If your people are on social media, your church should be on social media. It's a great way to promote and inform members and guests alike. Church management software. Most members will never interface with this technology, but it will keep things orderly for those who work in the church. Constantly checking addresses, attendance, and involvement in church's membership database. You will be able to note attendance patterns and organize events and classes accordingly because you have organized records in the church management software. Online giving. I have yet to hear of a case where a church

saw a decline in giving after implementing online giving. There may be an outlier or two, but every church I know of that has added an online giving method, which has seen an upward bump in giving.

Computerized check-in: The church has to implement computerized check-in for the children. This small act will make a massive difference to members and guests alike. It immediately communicates to parents that the church is serious about safety. And one of the most important factors for guests joining a church is that they feel their children are safe and secure in the kids' area. Digital projection. This technology is last even though it's not the least important. The church can give up digital projection in the worship centre. We don't have to have words on a screen. Bulletins and hymnals can suffice. That being said, digital projection offers numerous advantages in the form of showing announcements, using videos, projecting song lyrics, and much more

2.8 Process of integrating technology

A simple process of spreading the gospel with technology: Sms the gospel, email the gospel, share the gospel, speak the gospel, and read the gospel. Screen and projector sizes: Keep the room size and seating layout in mind. The Society of Motion Picture and Television Engineers recommends standard screen viewing angle of 30 degrees. Youth and children's rooms: Avoid the temptation to use leftover/hand-me-down technology in the rooms used by youth and children. Invest in the children and youth areas before improving the adult Sunday school areas. Wi-Fi: People expect it in every community space, including the church. Get expert help or your local internet company to assess

your needs and provide a plan. Consumer Wi-Fi routers will be insufficient for a network load, so plan to upgrade.

Meeting spaces: Turn your fellowship hall into a multi-use space by adding a projector, retractable screen, wireless microphone and speaker system. It may cost more in the short term but can pay huge dividends in flexibility when it's being used by the church. Printer and copiers: In this instance, we are referring to the major workhorses of the church and not necessarily the desktop printer on the pastor's desk. This can be a major expense for the church and should be specifically sent out for bid to multiple suppliers. Take your time and do the research before committing to a buy or lease strategy (Seiberling 2020)

2.9 Challenges of technology integration

Technology can cause communication issues, both inside and outside of the church. But when it comes to church services, incorrect usage can seriously distract from service aspects like prayer, and cause attention levels to wane. (Conrad 2017). According to Conrad - (2017) technology itself is not bad? Not at all! But extravagant uses of technology during a church service and transmission can be detrimental, and turn worship acts like prayer into something resembling entertainment. (Conrad 2017).

2.10 Pre-requisites for Effective & Successful integration of technology

The following are some fundamentals for effective and successful integration of technology in the church;

The IT team should have clearly defined tasks and roles.

- The team needs commitment to objectives and strategies.
- The team requires internal organization and coordination.
- The team needs to be able to communicate.
- The team requires cooperation and mutual understanding.

Newhouse (2002) pointed out essential conditions for the effective implementation of ICT. Some of the most significant conditions are proactive leadership, technical assistance, financial support, culture, policies and procedures, training and support, and provision of hardware and software infrastructure.

2.11 Linking technology to spirituality

Technology, particularly in the history of Christianity has been a means of spreading the "Good News" to every part of the globe. According to (Nicole 2019), the internet's open forum for spiritual discussion has had a number of effects on the way people practice spirituality. First of all, it appears to have diminished devotion to traditional spiritual paths. Nonetheless, many spiritual practitioners see the internet and technology as a force for good, a tool that can unite humanity spiritually in a way that will make a better world. Spirituality will likely be present alongside technology for a long time, perhaps because technology makes the need for spirituality even greater.

CHAPTER THREE

METHODOLOGY OF THE STUDY

3.1 Introduction

This chapter narrates in detail the procedure used, the instrument employed in the collection of the data, the mechanisms employed to investigate the data needed to address the research problems and specific steps taken in analyzing the data. The chapter centres on the research design, sample size, sampling technique, population, source of data, administration of the questionnaires, and data analysis procedure. Methodologies is the theory of how the investigation should be organized and carry out. It includes the theoretical and philosophical assumptions upon which research is based for the methods adopted. The methods refer to the techniques and procedures used to obtain and analyse data.

3.2 Research Design

The current research has been done in a particular way, research design. The researcher used a case study to put a limit on the study to ICGC Love Temple. A longitudinal study design was used in the study.

3.3 Population

The population of the study refers to a set of cases from which a sample is selected whether it describes human beings or not. Wikipedia notes that it is a group of individuals or items that share one or more common characteristics from which data can be gathered or analysed. For the purposes of this research the population of the study comprised the leadership and staff of Love Temple's

Departments of SCC in the Waija District of Greater Accra. The population of the study numbers a total of ninety six (96); covering all the areas of the eleven (11) different departments in the church, namely: Administration department, IT department, Ushering department, Children's department, Youth department, Women's department, Men's department, Host and Hostesses, Visiting team, Musical department, and the Pastor.

3.4 Sample and Sampling Procedure

A sample is a sub-group selected to examine and obtain statistical data about the whole population. (Encarta Dictionary). Sampling on the other hand is the process of selecting a group of people, items or cases to be used as a representative of the population. A sample size of twenty five (25) respondents out of the entire population of ninety six (96) was selected for the research, indicating 26.04%. The number was considered adequate, and enough to give informed answers to the research problem. A sampling technique was used at the first stage of the selection exercise. Sampling ensures the selection of respondents from all the identifiable subgroups because of their various knowledge in their areas. However in selecting the Heads of the Departments for this study, purposive sampling was used because they have adequate information on overall work. Convenience sampling method was used to select the workers and the volunteers. Simple random sampling technique was used to select respondents from the Departments for the research topic.

3.5 Source of Data

Both secondary and primary data were collected for this research. For clarity, opinions and statistic information that have been collected and recorded are organized for the analysis.

3.5.1 Secondary data source

Secondary data is a data that is used for a purpose other than for which it was originally obtained. It may be descriptive or explanatory, raw or summarized. It can be categorized into documentary, multi-source or survey- based. Secondary data for the research was collected by reviewing journals, articles, publications, and history of ICGC. This helped the researcher gather historical perspectives of the research data from renowned authors and researchers. (Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia, en.wikipedia.org/wiki)

3.5.2 Primary data source

Primary data is for a specific purpose for which it was gathered, by administering questions to respondents with the help of field assistants due to time constraints and the geographical area of coverage. The respondents provided answers to the questions on the questionnaire, which were returned to the researcher for organization and processing

3.6 Data collection method

More are the methods by which both secondary and primary data are obtained. These methods include, list of questions, interviews and methods that are usable. For this research the method employed was survey. The instrument used for collection of relevant data for the study was an interviews schedule, which was guided by an interview guide. (Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia, en.wikipedia.org/wiki)

3.6.1 Research instrument (questionnaire)

This research instrument used in the collection of the data for the study is a compilation of unstructured questions which were asking to respondents for their responses and answers. The questions were open-ended, which were answered from respondents' point of view, not just simple answers, but some required of the respondent to elaborate on their points. This was to ensure that the choice of answers directly addressed issues at stake and made collation and analysis of the data simple. It helps the researcher to see things from the interviewee's perspective. Prior to administering the questionnaire the importance of the research was to ask questions for the respondents to answer from their perspective, and they were encouraged to be truthful and diligent with their responses to make the research trust worthy.

3.7 Administration of questionnaire

The questionnaires were administered personally to the leaders of the departments. Again, formal interactions on the subject matter were conducted with leaders of the Departments. This exercise enabled the researcher to further pry into sensitive areas of the Departments to have more data. The concept of personally administering the questionnaires is from the idea of minimizing data collection errors, so that authentic and accurate findings would be given.

According to findings the department leaders are almost on the same line with the answers.

3.8 Data and information processing

Quantitative

Data collected (via questionnaires and interactions with leaders and stuff of the Departments) both primary and secondary data were collated and analysed quantitatively.

Qualitative

Information, such as specific comments and issues raised by respondents were also analysed and summarized qualitatively.

3.9 Organization of ICGC

Administratively ICGC is organized at 3 levels; these are National level, Regional level and District level.

3.10 ICGC Love Temple

Love Temple is an ICGC branch assembly of Ga West Municipal of Weija District of Greater Accra Region (SCC). The church was establish in 2011, with a few numbers under a canopy. At the time of its inception, the church had ten numbers with a leader known as Pastor Seth Atupra which God had used him mightily. The church now has a congregation of seven hundred and twenty (720) members excluding children.

ICGC (International Central Gospel Church)

Mission statement

The mission statements of the church are

- Raising Leaders
- Shaping Vision
- Influencing Society through Christ

Vision statement

To establish the house of God, through the development of Model New Testament Christians and churches.' That is, we have the commitment to train and equip God's people who come to our church to develop and grow into maturity in Christ so they will manifest the character of Christ.

Brief history

The International Central Gospel Church was founded by a Ghanaian theologian, Pastor Dr. Mensa Otabil. The church was officially inaugurated on 26 February 1984, in Accra. It was the second Charismatic church in Ghana, after the Action Chapel International founded in 1979.

The International Central Gospel Church (ICGC) is an evangelical, Charismatic Christian church in Accra, Ghana. It is considered to be one of the fastest growing Charismatic churches in Ghana, having a church attendance close to 50,000. The headquarters is Christ Temple and is located in Abossey Okai, Accra Ghana. The church has made significant socially responsible contribution to Ghana. The Central University College, a privately owned co-ed tertiary educational institution, is owned by the church. It is currently the biggest private university in Ghana. In 1988, the church started a scholarship scheme called Central Aid to finance the education of selected needy students in pre-tertiary educational

institutions. Central Aid is one of the largest non-governmental educational scholarship schemes in Ghana. Every year through an annual charity event called 'Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh' the church donates to the Children's Cancer Unit at Korle Bu and since 2011, over 1500 children have benefitted from the annual donations made by the church, ICGC. (Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia).

ICGC Philosophy

- Practical Christianity
- Human Dignity
- Excellence

We believe Christianity is not a myth. God's word preached must bring truths that can produce results when applied to one's life. Every human being is created in the image and likeness of God and must be treated with respect and honour. Also, everything a Christian or a human being will do must be in excellent shape to the glory of God. (Daniel 5:12)

CHAPTER FOUR

PRESENTATION OF RESULT AND FINDING

4.1 Introduction

This chapter presents the gathered data from the field. The data were represented by charts and tables. Data were also presented in relation to the literature review, with a comparison made between the data collected from the field and what pertains to the literature.

4.2 Data Presentation and Analysis

Data's were selected based on all the departmental units using the non-probability sampling method of stratified random sampling, specifically the purposive sampling technique. This method ensured that representative samples of all the known elements of the population were covered in the sample. A sample size of twenty five (25), comprising eleven (11) leaders of the departments and fourteen (14) assistant leaders of the departments of the target population. Break down shown in Table 1. Table 1 shows the distribution of respondents for the study

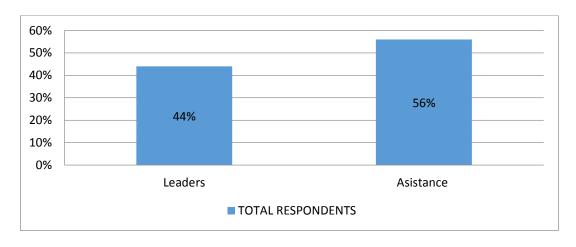
Table.4. 1: Respondents Distribution

	Respon	dent Distr	ribution	
	Male	Female	Total	(%)
Leaders of the departments	8	3	11	44%
Assistant leaders of the departments	8	6	14	56%
Total	16	9	25	100.00%
(%)	64%	36%	100.00%	

Source: Field Survey, 2021

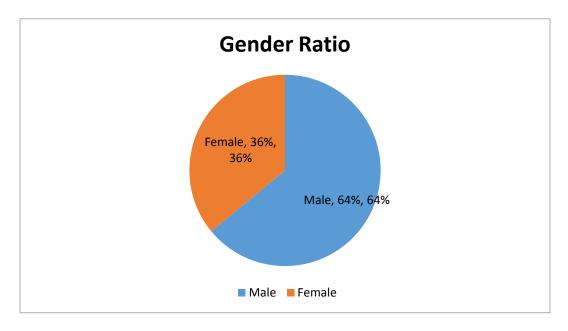
As indicated in Table 1, 44% of the respondents were the leaders of the departments, while the assistant leaders of the departments registered the remaining 56%. The research further revealed that the administered questionnaires exhibited a ratio of 1:1.2 with regard to male and female distribution respectively as illustrated in Figure 1 below.

Figure.4. 1: Respondents



Source; Fields Survey 2021

Figure.4. 2: Gender Ratio



Source: Field Survey, 2021

The ratio is an indication of accurate evidence of gender of both men and women (i.e. distribution was gender fairly represented).

4.3 Departmental Distribution of the workers

The study showed that there are eleven major departments namely, Administration department, IT department, Ushering department, Children's department, Youth department, Women's department, music department, Men's department, Host and Hostesses department, Visitation department and the Pastor. Host and Hostesses department had the highest representation in terms of response (16%); followed by IT Department with 12%; 12% for the Music department; 12% for Men's department; 8% for Ushering department; 8% for Administration department; 8% for Youth department; 8% for Women

department; 8% for Visitation department; and the least being Children's department and Pastor with 4% each.

Departmental REpresentation Visitatio Rastor 4% 8% IT 12% Host & Hostesses **Administration** 16% 8% Ushering Men 8% Children 12% 4% Youth Music Women 12% 8%

Figure.4. 3: Departmental Representation

Source: Field Survey, 2021

The departmental distribution was a true reflection of the population of departments of the ICGC Love Temple.

4.4 Is integration of technology helpful to the church?

Yes, integrating technology is helpful to the church, because (1) it helps the church to reach their members, (2) it helps the church to reach the unchurch members, (3) it helps the pastor to preach to masses of people in a meeting, (4) it also helps the members or the congregants to access information from other sources, (5) if a member is unable to attend church he/she can access the church service with technology, (6) with the helping of technology the gospel is going

viral according dictate or fulfilment of the great commission. (7) Technology helps the church with good orchestration, (8) technology helps the church to know the number of the people who attend the church by using smart system biometric fingerprint control system, (9) in covid-19 pandemic, technology helps the church to wash and sanitize hands by using automatic hand sanitizer and automatic water dispensable machine. (10) It also helps the church leaders to reach the departmental members. (11) Technology helps to contact the converts and the visitors of the church. No, integrating technology is not helpful to the church, because (12) some members feel at ease to stay home because they can access the church through internet, (13) the church has been drifted to be money conscious, because all the technological gadgets needs to be bought with money.

Table.4. 2. Is Integration of Technology Helpful to the Church?

Response															
Interviewee	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	Total	%
I T Dpt.	1		1			1	1							4	11.76%
3 members															
Adm. Dpt.	1	1				1								3	8.82%
2 members															
Usher Dpt.					1				1			1		3	8.82%
2 members															
Child Dpt.						1								1	2.94%
1 member															
Youth Dpt.						1				1				2	5.88%
2 members															
Women's						1				1				2	5.88%
Dpt.															
2 members															
Music Dpt.						1	1						1	3	8.82%
3 members															
Men's Dpt.						1				1				2	5.88%

3 members															
Host &						1		1					1	3	8.82%
hostesses															
4 members															
Visitation					1	1		1			1			4	11.76%
2 members															
Pastor	1	1	1	1		1	1			1				7	20.58%
1 member															
Total	3	2	2	1	2	10	3	2	1	4	1	1	2	34	100%

Source: Field Survey, 2021

Generally, the research revealed affirmation to all the eleven departments with their job knowledge, according to Table two (2) above, two and more departments answered the questions with exact answers.

INTERVIEWEE'S RESPONSES ■ IT Dpt. IT Dpt., 11.76%, Adm. Dpt. Pastor, 20.58%. 11% 20% ■ Usher. Dpt. Adm. Dpt., 8.82%, 9% Child Dpt. Youth Dpt. Usher. Dpt., Visit Dpt., 8.82%, 9% ■ Women Dpt. 11.76%, 12% Child Dpt., 2.94%, Music Dpt.

Men Dpt.

■ Visit Dpt.

■ Host & Hostess

Figure .4.4: Interviewees Responses

Host & Hostess,

8.87% h Dpt., 5,88% Dp.88%, 65

6% 8.82%, 9%

Source: Field Survey, 2021

4.5.1 Are there key benefits of integrating technology in the church?

As many as 11 leaders and 14 assistants in all the departments were used interviewed. These are the groups of the department of ICGC love temple and their answers to the question above.

Interviewee (1) IT Department.

- i) "One of the greatest benefits of technology in the church is its capacity to enhance access. Prior to the inception of technology, people were limited in accessing information and the messages of the church. However, today, people can access quality information and messages of the church from any part of the world without travelling. All one needs is a good internet connection and a computer".
- ii) "Technology has become the most second crucial factor behind the success and the growth of every church. Although it requires money and

knowledge, the value it provides ultimately outweighs the high cost. The use of the technology gives the church a competitive edge, the church is marketing Christ to the world, which makes it a better religion than the rest of the competitors in the field".

Interviewee (2) Administration Department

- i) "21st century is an era of technology, the World Wide Web (www) has made the worlds information connected from all around the globe widely available on the internet. You can get to read an e-book in the comfort of your home or office written at any part of the world or can learn online from tutors across the globe"
- ii) "The capacity to communicate and store information increases with technology"
- iii) "Technology integration helps the administrator to use church management software, and to work on various administrative tasks"
- iv) Offerings, tithes and departmental contributions are done through E-Banking, Momo's and also help members of the church through the same medium".

Interviewee (3) Ushering Department

i) "One of the benefits of technology integration in the church is a way in which the church is able to accomplish a task by minimizing the length of time and to reach a length of space without much efforts"

Interviewee (4) Children's Department

i) "The Internet allows the gospel to virtually travel into different countries without the cost of an airplane or the risk of being beaten and killed by agents who doesn't want the spreading of the gospel."

Interviewee (5) Women's Department

i) "In today's church environment, it is necessary for the church leaders to interact with members more quickly through technology."

Interviewee (6) Men's Department

i) "Technology has been good for Christianity in many ways. It enhance and respect the voice of those preaching the gospel. A pastor now has a possible audience of a millions".

Interviewee (7) Youth Department

i) "When technology mixes with the Gospel, it enables communication to flow. It makes the Gospel to be communicated throughout the whole world. Many are the people who do not attend church physically and not being able to watch it on the computer but they can watch it on television".

Interviewee (8) Music Department

- i) "Music ministration which is mostly done in our churches, has a unique way of unifying people despite their tribes, races, and religious affiliations".
- ii) "Technology help the church to transmit programs to the world which is the technological way of fulfilling the great commission".

Interviewee (9) Host & Hostesses

i) "The benefit of integrating technology is that technology helps the church to have brochures, placards and forms that helps the church to record and also have access to trace information."

Interviewee (10) Visitation Department

i) "Technology enables the church to reach more convert in less time than usual. This means they will be able to serve more coverts than before".

Interviewee (11). The Pastor

- i) "With online resources, technology can help to improve sermons.

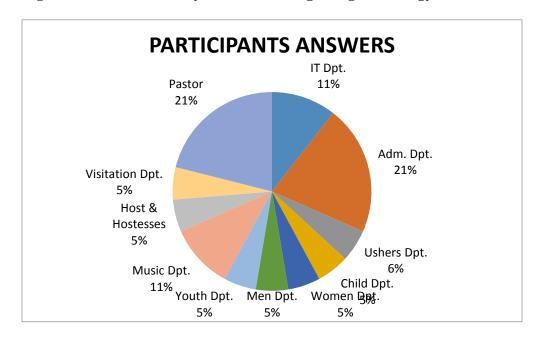
 Preachers can use different apps and online resources to enhance the traditional ways of preaching and to also reach the members".
- ii) "Technology enables the church to reach more convert in less time than usual. This means they will be able to serve more coverts than before".
- iii) "Websites, phone calls and other platforms allow the church members to find answers to their questions".
- iv) "Offerings, tithes and departmental contributions are done through E-Banking, Momo's and help members through the same medium".

Table.4.3: Interviewees

Are the	re key benefits	of integrating t	technology in the	e church?
Participants	Answers	Similar	Total	%
IT Dpt.	2		2	10.53%
Adm. Dpt.	3	1	4	21.05%
Ushers Dpt.	1		1	5.26%
Child Dpt.	1		1	5.26%
Women Dpt.	1		1	5.26%
Men Dpt.	1		1	5.26%
Youth Dpt.	1		1	5.26%
Music Dpt.	2		2	10.53%
Host & Hostess	1		1	5.26%
Visitation Dpt.		1	1	5.26%
Pastor	2	2	4	21.05%
Total	15	4	19	100%

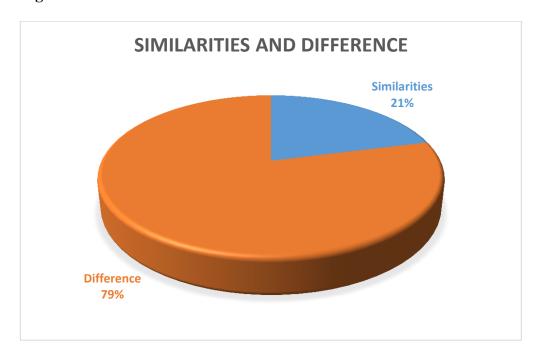
Source; Field Survey, 2021

Figure.4. 5: Are there Key benefits of integrating technology in the church?



Source: Field Survey, 2021.

Figure.4. 6: Similar and Differences



Source: Field Survey, 2021

11 leaders and 14 assistants in all the departments contributed to the discussion. These are the groups of the departments of ICGC Love Temple and their answers to the question, 79% answered differently and 21% gives similar answers.

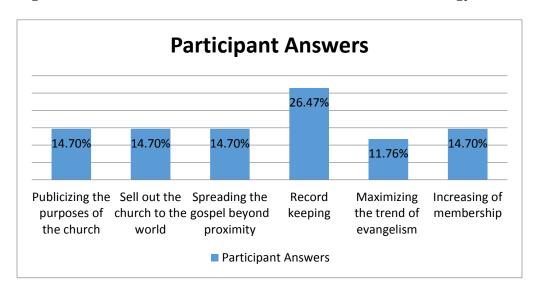
4.5.2 Are there benefits the church receives from technology?

- 1. It is publicizing the purposes of the church.
- 2. Selling out the church to the world.
- 3. Spreading the gospel beyond proximity
- 4. Record keeping
- 5. Maximizing the trend of evangelism
- 6. Increasing membership

Table.4. 4. Are there benefits the church receives from technology?

IT Dpt.	1			1		1	3	
Adm. Dpt.	1		1	1	1		4	_
Usher Dpt.		1	1	1			3	_
Child Dpt.			1			1	2	_
Youth Dpt.	1		1		1		3	_
Women Dpt.		1		1		1	3	_
Music Dpt.		1		1		1	3	
Host Dpt.				1		1	2	-
Men Dpt.	1			1	1		3	-
Visitation Dpt.		1		1			2	5.88%
Pastor.	1	1	1	1	1	1	6	17.64%
Total	5	5	5	9	4	6	34	100%

Figure.4. 7. Are there benefits the church receives from technology?



Source: Field Survey, 2021

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, RECOMMENDATION AND CONCLUSION

5.1 Introduction

The chapter provides intent of summary of the research findings, conclusions picked from the study and recommendations.

5.2 Summary of Findings

The key benefits which is the way of reviewing and assessing the importance of integrating technology in the church, during the period of planning of selling the gospel. Technology has become the most powerful tool in transmitting, and refine way of preaching the gospel to the world. In the absence of a carefully structured system of integrating technology, people will tend to judge and say that technology is not helping the church, but rather destroying the youth. The performance of integrated technology in the church, ICGC Love Temple at times has come under barrage of criticisms. Leaders have been accused of coercing the members to give beyond expectation all in the name of technology in the church for the advancement of the gospel. The system can also jam for certain period of time to interrupt the service. It was until recently, that research had revealed the importance of integrating technology in the church, ensuring that churches are enjoying better way of evangelizing and advancing of the gospel. The general objective of the study is to ascertain the extent the technology integration within the church and its impact on the gospel in the world.

5.2.2 Representation

A sample size of twenty five (25), eleven (11) leaders and fourteen (14) assistants of the target population responded to the administered questionnaire. Scheduled administered questionnaires exhibited a ratio of 1:1.8 with regard to male and female respondent respectively, which shows no evidence of gender balance in both men and women but haven accurate information on the field. The Host and Hostesses department had the highest representation in terms of response (16%); followed by. IT department, Music department and Men's department with 12% each; 8% each for Ushering department, Administration department, Youth department, Women's department, and Visitation department; 4% each for Children's department and the pastor.

5.3.2 Measurement and Results Attained

The study revealed that respondents indicated a 92% for positive answers and 8% for negative answers when the question sought to find out whether integration of technology helps the church. It was observed that there was a response of 64% for male and 36% for female in respondent's distribution. The question of availability of resources for integration of technology resulted in both negative and affirmative responses. The negative response show 8%, which the affirmative response that it has helped the church was 92% of the respondents believe that the church is able to get benefits through technology integration.

5.3 Conclusion

In conclusion, there was no evidence of gender balance in both male and female respondents in the church, ICGC Love Temple. The church can boast of a highly

competent and experienced staffs and volunteers. Professionalism, discipline and respect are found to be the highest traits that are noticed in the departments. The departmental contribution was the way to know the key benefits of integrating technology in ICGC Love Temple. The various departments are able to give substantial data for the key benefits of integrating technology in ICGC Love Temple. Good attitude with adequate planning procedures are part of the factors that build the technology setup in the church domain.

Respondents are of the view that integrating technology is helpful to the church as a whole. Integrating technology is a tool to enhance the normal way of handling the activities of the church. Finally the pastor contributed and was very committed at the time of data collection. "Technology" the name behind the fastest transmission of the gospel to the world.

5.4 Recommendation

In the findings of the research, the following were recommended:

5.4.1 Assessment

Independence performance were seen within the departments which allows the members to flow in their profession, though things are orderly. The departments should arrange for workshops in other to enhance their efficiency and effectiveness in their areas in which they used technology. Departments of ICGC Love Temple should not wait for the church cabinet's opinion to push the members to learn more about technology in order to deliver expected services. The departments should inspire the members to know that, members are not

upgrading themselves for the church but we are in a technological world and technology is evolving.

5.4.2 Motivation

There is a reward system whereby leaders are rewarded with a significant amount of money during departmental leaders appreciation days are held every year for the church to give them gifts for their good work done. This inspired the leaders to work hard and also motivate others to dedicate themselves to help the church.

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APPENDIX

SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRE ON INVESTIGATING THE KEY BENEFITS OF INTEGRATING TECHNOLOGY IN THE ACTIVITIES OF THE CHURCH IN.

(ICGC)

(A CASE STUDY OF LOVE TEMPLE – SCC, WAIJA-ACCRA)

The purpose of this questionnaire is to investigating the key benefits of integrating technology in love temple and to invite opinions from the church.

Α. **Personal Details of Respondents** Please tick appropriate box 1.0 Gender: Male Female **Designation**: 1.1 Leader Members 2.0 Please specify your Department: **B.** Answer sheet 1.0 Please tick the response that best reflects the extent to which you agree or not, and elaborate on them. Tick YES or NO and explain why Questions Yes No Elaborate points Is integration Of technology

Helpful to the church?

Is there benefits of
Integrating technology
In the church?
Is there benefits
The church receive
From technology?
C. Measurements and Attained Results
1.0 Do you have in place a measurement attained system?
Yes No
If yes, please state the
Explain the leader's reasons for choosing for such a system.
If No, please explain why
2.0 In your own opinion, what do you suggest/recommend to improve the performance
of technological integration in Love temple?