



INTO THE CURRENT

The current is already moving.
Put the right help within reach.

SEEK THE ONE.
SERVE THE NINETY-NINE.
CONNECT THE BODY.



Already in the conversation. Ready to put help within reach.

01 · IN THE COMMUNITY

A

J

R

The late lobby

Alex, Jay, River

Today · 9:41 PM

You · Alex

anyone want to play?

never mind

Jay

I'm here. What's up?

same thing at school again

starting to feel like nobody would notice if I was gone

Delivered

FLARE · CONTEXT → OPPORTUNITY

An invitation to play. A retreat. School distress. Then disappearance language.

Offer private support. Immediate safety is unknown.

 Shepherd

now

Looks like a hard moment. Can I help?

Private message request · Only you can see this

Accept ✓

Reject

Alex accepted · Private support opened

02 · PERMISSION → BOUNDED HELP

 Shepherd

Private · Alex + Shepherd

Request accepted · 9:42 PM

Shepherd

That sounded heavy. You do not have to sort it all out right now.

If you're in immediate danger or need emergency medical help, call 911 in the U.S. now.

If there's a parent or another trusted adult you can tell, reach out to them too — you don't have to face this alone.

Talk with a real person.

TheHopeLine offers free, confidential chat with a Hope Coach, available 24 hours a day.

CHAT WITH THEHOPELINE ✓

Additional crisis options: in the U.S., call or text 988 or visit [988lifeline.org](#). Outside the U.S.: [international crisis lines](#).

Other ways to start

Help me steady myself

Bring this to Jesus

Alex selected · Chat with TheHopeLine

THEHOPELINE · HUMAN SUPPORT

A private chat with a Hope Coach.

[thehopeline.com/chat-live](#)

 FLARE

Context warrants an offer

 FORMATION

Bounded choices

 LIFELINE

Relevant support routes

 NETWORK

A human-support destination

03 · A PERSON. NOT AN ENDLESS CONVERSATION WITH A BOT.

They weren't searching for help. Help became reachable.

Alex → a Hope Coach



“Maybe my faith isn't strong enough.”



Wednesday small group

Sam, Chris, Morgan + Shepherd

01 · A CLAIM ENTERS THE CONVERSATION

Sam

I've prayed for months and I'm still depressed. Maybe my faith just isn't strong enough.

Chris

If you have enough faith, God will take the depression away.

FLARE → TRUTH

A promise of healing is becoming a verdict on Sam's faith.

Test the guarantee before accepting the blame.

02 · TRUTH TESTS THE PREMISE



Shepherd

Replying to Chris

Chris If you have enough faith, God will take the depression away.



GUARD THE TRUTH

Continued suffering, by itself, does not establish deficient faith.

A healing account is not automatically a universal guarantee.

Job 1:1; 2:3

God describes Job as upright and still maintaining his integrity amid suffering. Suffering alone does not establish spiritual failure.

2 Corinthians 12:8–9

Paul asks three times for the affliction to leave. The recorded answer is: “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.”



KEEP THE COUNTEREVIDENCE

Mark 6:5–6 places unbelief alongside Jesus doing few mighty works there. James 5:14–16 calls the elders to pray and says “the prayer of faith will heal him who is sick.” Keep that strong language in view. It is not the same claim as “Sam is still depressed, therefore his faith is deficient.”

Scripture: WEB · Job 1:1; 2:3 · 2 Corinthians 12:7–10 · Mark 6:5–6 · James 5:14–16



The claim chooses the evidence.

Morgan · Wednesday small group

So is it medical, or spiritual?



Shepherd

Replying to Morgan

Morgan So is it medical, or spiritual?



HOLD THAT OPEN

THEOLOGICAL CLAIM

Does suffering prove deficient faith?

PRIMARY SCRIPTURE

Job is commended amid suffering; Paul receives grace without the affliction being removed.

[Job 1:1; 2:3 · 2 Corinthians 12:7–10](#)

HISTORICAL WITNESS

Spurgeon describes recurring depression of spirit within his own ministry, not outside a life of faith.

[Spurgeon · The Minister's Fainting Fits · Lecture XI](#)

SCHOLARSHIP

Brueggemann argues that lament gives suffering a voice within covenant relationship; silencing it impoverishes faith.

[The Costly Loss of Lament · JSOT 11\(36\), 1986, 57–71](#)
[DOI: 10.1177/030908928601103605](#)

Suffering alone does not establish failed faith.

PERSON-SPECIFIC CLAIM

What is causing Sam's depression?

We do not need to settle every cause before we can care for Sam.

GENERAL CLINICAL CLAIM

What can contribute to depression?

CLINICAL EVIDENCE · WHO

Depression involves interacting social, psychological and biological factors, not one universal cause.

[Depressive disorder \(depression\) · Contributing factors](#)

YOUTH ASSESSMENT GUIDANCE · NICE

Assessment considers coexisting conditions, school, family and relationships.

[NG134 · Children and young people · Recommendation 1.1.6](#)

TRUTH BOUNDARY

This conversation does not provide that assessment. General evidence does not identify Sam's cause.

WITHHELD

No person-specific assessment is available here. Neither theology nor population evidence fills that gap.



Same truth. Different formation.

Sam and his dad need support. In another community, Jordan is preparing a study on the same question.

FROM THE SAME GROUNDED FOUNDATION

Suffering is not a verdict on faith. Make room for honest prayer and practical care.

S

Sam

17 · New to reading Scripture

I'm seeing a counselor, but I still feel forgotten by God. Help me pray and trust him. Just a short passage tonight.

S

Shepherd

SCRIPTURE + GUIDED PRAYER

From lament to trust

Psalms 13 brings sorrow to God, asks him to act, then turns toward his faithful love.

“How long, Yahweh? Will you forget me forever?”

Psalms 13:1 · WEB

“But I trust in your loving kindness. My heart rejoices in your salvation. I will sing to Yahweh, because he has been good to me.”

Psalms 13:5–6 · WEB

GUIDED PRAYER

Lord, help my unbelief. Give me faith to trust your loving kindness as the psalmist does. Draw me closer to you, teach me to pray honestly, and help me receive the care you put within reach. Amen.

Read together: Psalms 13:1–6 · Mark 9:24

P

Sam's dad

A parent needs support too

Sam sees a counselor, but I feel helpless. I keep trying to fix things. How can I support him without carrying all this alone?

S

Shepherd

FOR YOU · MENTORSHIP + READING

You need someone beside you, too.

Tell a trusted mentor, pastor or counselor what this is like for you. You can be honest without sharing Sam's private details:

“I'm scared for my son, and I feel helpless. Could we meet? I need someone to listen, pray with me, and help me think clearly.”

FOR YOUR OWN WORRY · 6-DAY PLAN

From Anxiety to Peace

A Scripture-based companion for your own reflection, not a treatment plan for Sam. It explicitly avoids a quick-fix promise.

Brian Russell · YouVersion

WITH SAM · HIS SUPPORT PLAN

Ask Sam which person, place and small action help him on hard evenings. Let him name them; write them down together. Keep his counselor involved.

The same foundation. A different kind of help.

J

Jordan

Another community · College-group leader

Our group keeps asking why faithful people suffer. Ages 18–22, Bible basics understood. Build a 45-minute study with close reading, a short video and real-life practice.



Shepherd

STUDY KIT · 45 MINUTES

Faith When Life Still Hurts

Learn to encourage trust in God without treating someone's suffering as a verdict on their faith.

1. 5 min · Watch. BibleProject's *Hope*.
2. 10 min · Read closely. Job's character versus his friend's explanation.
3. 10 min · Test the tension. Prayer for healing; grace amid weakness.
4. 15 min · Practice. Respond to two situations your group might face.
5. 5 min · Guided prayer + action. Choose one concrete way to support someone.

OPTIONAL LISTEN · AFTER THE GROUP

Halfway To Your Heart

Luke Bower · Reflection alongside Psalm 13
YouTube Gf4ppmJuKhI

Full study kit on the next page



POWERED BY



FLARE



TRUTH



LIFELINE



FORMATION

Faith When Life Still Hurts

Ages 18–22 · Bible familiarity · 45 minutes · Suffering, prayer and hope

TRUTH → QUESTIONS THAT KEEP THE EVIDENCE IN VIEW

Distinguish the voices.

Read Job 1:1; 2:3 alongside Eliphaz in Job 4:7–8. Which words describe Job's character? Which words are a friend's explanation? What happens if we give both the same authority?



TRUTH · SPEAKER MATTERS

A character's claim is not automatically the book's conclusion. Leader notes follow.

Do not erase either passage.

Read James 5:14–16 and 2 Corinthians 12:7–10. What does each say about prayer? What would you have to add to conclude that every continuing illness proves inadequate faith?

FORMATION → PRACTICE, NOT JUST DISCUSSION

“Maybe God is punishing me.”

A roommate is still ill after months of prayer. Write two sentences that take the fear seriously without pretending to know its cause. Name one practical offer you could make.

“I guess there's no point praying.”

A friend sees unanswered prayer as a reason to give up. Respond using both passages. How can you pray with hope without promising a deadline for healing?

LIFELINE → MEDIA WITH A JOB TO DO

WATCH · 4:34 · WITHIN THE 5-MINUTE OPENING

Hope

BibleProject · Advent Word Study

Distinguishes biblical hope from optimism about circumstances. After watching: what gives hope a foundation when circumstances have not changed?

bibleproject.com/videos/yakhal-hope

Psalms 130:5–8 · 1 Peter 1:3



LISTEN · OPTIONAL FOLLOW-THROUGH

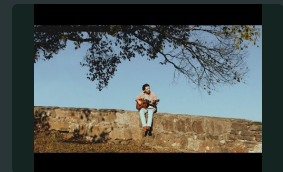
Halfway To Your Heart

Luke Bower · Reflective acoustic song

Gives the group another way to encounter doubt and longing for God. Read Psalm 13 afterward: where does honest anguish turn toward trust?

YouTube · Gf4ppmJuKhI

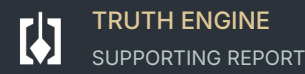
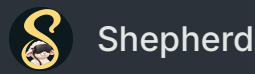
Music for reflection, not evidence for the claim.



THIS WEEK

Check in with someone who's having a hard week. Make time to listen. Ask if they'd like you to pray with them, and offer something practical: dinner, a ride, or an afternoon together.





SUPPLEMENT TO FORMATION / FAITH WHEN LIFE STILL HURTS

Supporting Truth Insights

For the study leader: evidence, counterpoints and open questions behind the formation experience.

GUARD THE TRUTH · CLOSE READING

Who is speaking?

Eliphaz connects suffering with wrongdoing. The narrator and God describe Job as upright. Do not turn the friend's explanation into the book's verdict.

- Ask the group
- What changes when you distinguish a claim recorded in Scripture from a claim the passage endorses?

Job 1:1; 2:3; 4:7–8 · Study: Distinguish the voices

HOLD THAT OPEN · PERSONAL APPLICATION

Care without claiming the cause.

These texts guide prayer and care. They do not identify why a particular person is ill. Keep the roommate exercise focused on listening and a practical offer, not assigning guilt or a diagnosis.

- Listen for
- “I know why this happened” becoming “Here is what I can do alongside you.”

Application: “Maybe God is punishing me” · Person-specific cause unestablished

TRUTH supplies the grounded distinctions.
FORMATION carries them into the leader's preparation and the group's practice.

KEEP THE COUNTEREVIDENCE · PRAYER

Do not flatten the tension.

James speaks strongly about prayer and healing. Paul describes repeated prayer and grace amid an unremoved affliction. Account for both; neither cancel prayer nor promise every illness will end.

- Ask the group
- What would you need to establish before making a universal promise from a particular healing?

James 5:14–16 · 2 Corinthians 12:7–10

DISTINGUISH THE ROLE · RETRIEVED MEDIA

Different resources have different jobs.

The video introduces biblical hope; test its explanation against the passages. The song invites reflection. Its emotional resonance does not establish a theological claim.

- Ask the group
- Which idea can we support from the text, and which response is the music helping us express?

BibleProject · Hope · Psalm 130:5–8; 1 Peter 1:3
Luke Bower · Halfway To Your Heart · Psalm 13

Before the offer, someone opens the door.

ELI · COMMUNITY HOST

“We're accepting 3 digital missionaries,
ages 18–28, who love Fortnite.”

Not another listing waiting to be found.
A team ready to bring someone in.

E

Eli is receiving introductions

Named host · Friday team welcome



Shepherd

CONNECT / HOST SETTINGS

Friday Fortnite mission team

Online · Adults · Community team

Open places

3

digital missionaries

Age range

18–28

Shared interest

Fortnite

Role

Welcome players, build friendships, serve together

First step

Friday, 7 PM Central · Team voice welcome

Receiving host

Eli · Introductions open

Offer relevant introductions

ON

Host confirms fit and onboarding before a team place is finalized.



“I'd love to do something with the hours I spend here.”

M

Maya · 23

Shared profile · Open to serving through gaming

Maya · The squad chat

Fortnite again Friday? I'm in.

Maya

I love this game. I just wish I had people to serve with here, too.



FLARE · OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE

Expressed interest in Fortnite. A desire to serve with others. A relevant moment for an optional offer.



NETWORK · RECEIVING CAPACITY

Shared age fits 18–28. Online team. Three openings. Eli is available to receive an introduction.



Shepherd

Private · Maya

Want to meet a team serving through Fortnite?

Eli's team has three openings for digital missionaries ages 18–28. They play together, welcome people and help each other serve. Their next team welcome is Friday at 7 PM Central.

Introduce me ✓

Not now

Maya accepted the introduction

Share with Eli: Maya's display name, age 23, Fortnite interest and interest in joining the team.

No chat history, private prayer or support conversations included.

Introduction sent · Waiting for Eli's acknowledgment

The opportunity was already there. Maya didn't need to know where to search.

An introduction isn't finished until someone receives it.

HOST SIDE · ELI



Introduction from Maya

23 · Fortnite · Wants to serve with a team

Shared with Maya's permission

I'll welcome Maya ✓

Eli acknowledged · One introductory place held

3 openings → 2 remaining

A held introduction is not completed onboarding. The host and Maya still decide whether the role fits.

IN THIS MOMENT



NETWORK

Fit and capacity, then host acknowledgment

MAYA'S SIDE · DIRECT HUMAN CONTACT

E

Eli

Friday Fortnite team · Receiving host

Hey Maya, I'm Eli. Glad you're joining us Friday. I'll meet you in the welcome voice room at 7 Central and introduce you to the team. No need to arrive knowing anybody.

Maya

That helps. See you Friday!

Human contact established

Named host · Agreed time · Clear next step



FLARE

The expressed opportunity that started it

FRIDAY / THE TEAM VOICE ROOM

Not just somewhere to go. Someone expecting you.

"Maya! You made it.
Come meet everyone."

Eli · Team host

A directory could find a community.
CONNECT made sure somebody was waiting.

The welcome doesn't have to stay online.

S

SOMEONE SEEKING COMMUNITY

“I'd like to meet people near me, too.”

Shared interests, age and chosen area.
The person chooses the introduction.

**CONNECT**

Fit · Permission
Capacity · Named host



ACTIVE RECEIVING MINISTRY

ONLINE

Fortnite community

Team voice room · Host receiving
A shared game becomes a shared welcome.

IN PERSON

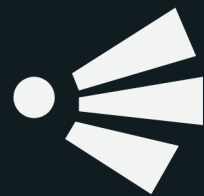
Local youth group

Friday game night · McKinney, Texas
A youth leader greets the newcomer; age and guardian arrangements are confirmed before the visit.

Different destinations. The same responsibility: somebody is ready to receive.

A mentor or discipler ready to keep walking with someone, not just greet them once.

One shared foundation. Many ways to show up.



FLARE

Alex's moment. The claim affecting Sam. Maya's expressed desire to serve.



LIFELINE

Support routes and resources eligible for the moment.



TRUTH

The claim chooses the evidence. Break apart the claims. Follow the right evidence. Challenge the conclusion independently. Show what holds, credible alternatives and what remains open.



FORMATION

One foundation, shaped into guided prayer, a support plan, and a study.



NETWORK

Eli's open places and acknowledged welcome. People, services, communities and opportunities that fit and are available.

ONE MISSION. THREE FACETS. SHARED ENGINES.

Resident Shepherd / Direct-use tools / Field Kit / APIs

Yes, we thought about that.

Is this an AI counselor?

No. Bounded support and appropriate human help. The success is the person reached, not another hour talking to a bot.

What keeps unsuitable material out?

Catalog admission, then audience and situation-specific eligibility, then relevance. Uncertain material can be held back. Ranking cannot override eligibility.

What about privacy and choice?

Communities choose participation. People choose introductions. Only agreed context goes to the receiver; private support history does not become recruiting material.

How would a Christian support app be welcomed where help is needed most?

SEEKER satellite apps offer practical support only, with no spiritual pathways. When someone chooses a community introduction, CONNECT routes to a suitable Shepherd-enabled community with a human ready to welcome them. Optional faith pathways may exist there, but the arrival is a welcome, not a sermon. Sponsorship is clear; help never depends on religious participation. External support services do not need Shepherd installed.

Who decides what's true?

The evidence must be inspectable. Scripture grounds theological claims; other claims require their own competent evidence. Neither organizational preference nor a fluent model gets the final word.

What if nobody answers?

The handoff stays incomplete. Show that honestly and offer another appropriate route. A sent invitation is not a received person.

And immediate danger?

Acute safety routes take precedence over ordinary recommendations. Essential support remains available when discovery is unavailable. A gaming community is not emergency care.

The goal isn't a bigger Shepherd. It's a better-connected Body.

LOW BARRIER. LOW BURN.

A ministry shouldn't need an AI department.

Shared research, resources and formation tools. Designed for low overhead, with room for small communities to participate.

LOCAL OWNERSHIP.

Keep the calling. Keep the relationships.

Hosts set capacity. Leaders shape formation. Parents remain parents. Organizations customize the experience, not the truth.

A BODY THAT LEARNS.

Did the help actually help?

Use feedback and acknowledged handoffs to improve future offers. Popularity does not establish truth, and one decline does not define a person.

Offer → Experience → Feedback + follow-through → Better future offers

Shared grounding in truth. Diverse expressions of faith.
Connections built around welcome and readiness, not denominational sameness.

This is just the beginning.

SEEK

Reach the moments
we aren't reaching yet.

SEEKER satellites

Useful support across more surfaces, configured for the community. Bounded help and human support, without requiring faith participation.

Human help within reach

Practical support opens a door. Each person chooses whether to take the next step.

SERVE

Turn grounded truth
into growing lives.

Formation that fits

Studies, devotions and support tracks built from evidence, meaningful tensions and the needs of real people.

Formation that multiplies

Shared testimony and ministry-owned material can become useful resources for others, with permission and review.

CONNECT

Make the whole Body
more reachable.

A living receiving network

Online communities and local ministries with real capacity, named hosts and acknowledged welcomes.

Multicast

Share field stories and live moments with participating communities. The person welcomed today can welcome someone tomorrow.

SEEK the one. SERVE the ninety-nine. CONNECT the Body.
More places to show up. More people ready to care.

Search where you are. Rescue where you can.

Carry the light with you.

One live moment. Already in their world.

VRCHAT / A COMMUNITY'S WORLD

Watch the field update together.

Live video on an in-world screen.

 Shepherd

FIELD KIT · LIVE

Mara is live from Phoenix.

A quick update from the missionary relief team.

VR world Discord In-game update

Sent to participating communities following this team.

DISCORD Community server · Field updates

field-updates

Stage · From the field

Host-enabled relay

 Shepherd APP

LIVE AUDIO

Mara is live from Phoenix.

 Relaying into the Stage

Listen here, with your community.

ROBLOX Creator-enabled experience · Community plaza

 Shepherd

IN-WORLD UPDATE

Mara · Phoenix relief team

"The shelter is open. We have enough supplies for tonight. Thank you for standing with us."

Voice → filtered transcript · Text arrives inside the experience.

The stream is the source. The community is the destination.

Host-enabled. Audience-aware. Video, voice or filtered text.

[REACH OUT TO SHEPHERD](#)
shepherd@sovereignify.ai