

AI FOR LEADERS · PATREON · AUG 2026

I ran a mission trip and a business in the same week. AI carried the load.

Dominican Republic, summer 2026. How AI carried planning, logistics, meeting notes, and proposal speed while ministry and business both kept moving.

You do not need more hours. You need a better system.

Two worlds. One week.

We hosted a full missionary team at our school in the Dominican Republic while the company kept selling, quoting, and closing compliance work.

AI was not the hero.

AI was the bridge. It turned talk into plans, plans into two languages, meetings into notes, and proposals into first drafts I could approve.

The pattern stays simple.

Record once. AI drafts. You approve. Share it in the language your people actually speak. Then run the same loop at work.

What the week actually looked like

23+

MISSIONARIES HOSTED

At our DR school

5

DAYS OF VBS AND ESL

Classes, sports, service

1,000

BACKPACKS PACKED

Distributed to kids

0

**DAYS OF BUSINESS
PAUSE**

Sales and compliance still ran

MINISTRY SIDE

Advance planning on the ground before the main team landed.

Airport waves, housing, meals, and the school schedule.

Day one attendance shifted. The plan had to flex live.

WhatsApp was the only official ops channel.

BUSINESS SIDE

Weekly sales call run from the Dominican Republic.

Government contract vehicle orientations attended remotely.

Cybersecurity compliance docs reviewed and signed.

Quote desk cleared AI drafted RFQs while I was abroad.

Record once. Draft. Approve. Share.

01

RECORD

Otter, Zoom, or a phone memo. Capture the real conversation once. Stop rewriting it from memory.

02

AI DRAFTS

Feed the transcript to Claude with your format rules. Schedule, owners, logistics, brand voice.

03

YOU APPROVE

Check the facts. Cut what does not matter. Lock the plan. Nothing goes out until you say so.

04

SHARE

Publish in English and/or spanish and in the dialect your team actually uses.

How AI built the mission plan

01**Dinner conversation, recorded on Otter.**

We talked through food, transportation, lodging, sanitation, and the full summer schedule out loud. No blank page.

02**Transcript into Claude with the branding rules attached.**

Claude turned the talk into a formatted plan. Schedule, logistics, and clear expectations for every role.

03**Dialect instruction, not textbook Spanish.**

I told Claude the team is in the Dominican Republic. Use the Dominican Spanish Dominicans actually speak.

04**English and Spanish into WhatsApp the same night.**

Local leaders and the U.S. team got the same plan, each in the language they needed.

THE RULE I SAID OUT LOUD BEFORE THE TRIP

No one can meet a standard they were never given.

WRITTEN DOWN

Expectations live in a document, not in my head.

IN THEIR LANGUAGE

Both teams read the same plan the same day.

SENT BEFORE ARRIVAL

Nobody landed guessing what the week required.

AI did not create accountability. Clarity did. AI just got the clarity out the door in time.

From plan to boots on the ground

LOGISTICS LAYER

What AI helped package

Arrival waves. Housing. Meals. Airport pickup. School day rhythm. Emergency rules. All in one packet.

COMM CHANNEL

WhatsApp became the ops desk

One official channel for schedule, emergencies, and changes. Both language versions lived there.

ON SITE UPDATE

Record the planning meeting again

Once in country we recorded logistics, turned it into structured notes, and updated the Spanish housing details.

HUMANS STILL NEED TO DO THE WORK

AI does not pick people up

House leads and airport runs stayed human. AI made the packet clear enough to execute without chaos.

Capture, adjust, keep moving

- 01** **Day one debrief recorded.** Attendance came in lower than expected because of local conditions. We captured what happened while it was fresh.
- 02** **Teacher feedback captured the next day.** Real logistics notes became reusable truth instead of hallway rumor.
- 03** **Schedule changes hit WhatsApp fast.** Because the base plan already existed, updates were small deltas, not total rebuilds.
- 04** **Presence still mattered.** AI handled the paper trail. Leaders still walked the floor and made the calls in the moment.

FIELD RULE

Do not ask AI to replace presence. Capture decisions after the huddle, republish quickly, update the channel the same hour. People still own care and judgment.

What still ran while we were in country

SALES RHYTHM

Weekly pipeline call from the DR

I joined the sales meeting from the Dominican Republic. Board review still happened on schedule.

VEHICLE INTEL

Remote orientations with a backup

I attended government IT vehicle orientations. A teammate recorded whenever I could not sit the full session.

COMPLIANCE

Sign offs from the road

Cybersecurity docs still needed review. I worked the sync remotely and kept the sprint alive.

QUOTE DESK

AI drafts. Humans clear the queue.

The team cleared AI generated eBuy and RFQ drafts. Anything needing my pricing judgment waited for me.

How I still got the notes

LAYER 01

Record everything that matters

Otter on business calls. Zoom or MS TEAMS recordings when I am in another country. A teammate as backup recorder if I drop.

LAYER 02

AI drafts the structured note

Transcript becomes bottom line, decisions, owners, next steps. Same format every time so I can scan it fast.

LAYER 03

I read for judgment, not typing

I am not rebuilding the meeting from scratch at midnight. I am checking facts and making calls.

HONEST BOUNDARY

I still joined the calls that needed my voice. For sessions I could only catch in pieces, the recording plus the AI note closed the gap. AI is not permission to disappear.

How AI sped up proposals and quotes

01 · FIRST DRAFT

AI builds the shell

Requirements in. First pass quote or proposal sections out. Brand rules and safety rules already loaded.

02 · HUMAN GATE

Pricing and risk stay with you

AI drafted RFQs moved through the desk. Items that needed my pricing judgment waited for me. That is healthy.

03 · PARALLEL WORK

Ministry does not kill the pipeline

Deadlines still hit midweek. The team advanced drafts while I was on a school campus instead of at a keyboard.

WORKING RULE

AI may draft. AI may organize. AI may translate. AI does not send. AI does not overwrite. AI does not invent numbers.

What I actually used

CAPTURE

Otter.ai

Dinner planning. In country logistics. Business calls. Teacher debriefs.

DRAFT AND TRANSLATE

Claude

Branded plans. Dominican Spanish. Meeting notes. Proposal and quote drafts.

DISTRIBUTE

WhatsApp

Official trip channel. English and Spanish packets. Live schedule changes.

BUILD AND SHIP

Claude Desktop

Project folders, safety rules, quote desk clearing, remote compliance review.

You do not need my whole stack on day one. Start with a recorder, Claude, and the channel your people already check.

Steal this for your church, your business, or both

- 01** **Event planning.** Record the planning meeting, get a one page plan, translate it for every audience that has to execute it.
- 02** **Travel weeks.** Force a recording on every important call, then read the AI note for decisions instead of replaying hours of audio.
- 03** **Quote and proposal load.** Let AI draft the shell. You approve price, risk, and send.
- 04** **Bilingual teams.** Never ship accountability docs in only your language. Name the dialect, not just the language.
- 05** **Dual calling.** Stop choosing between the mission and the business. Build a bridge so both move the same week.

DO THIS TODAY

Use this after your next planning talk.

Screenshot it. Paste it. Approve what comes back.

Turn this transcript into a one page operations plan.

Include:

- 1) Bottom line in three bullets
- 2) Day by day schedule
- 3) Owners for food, transport, lodging, communications
- 4) Risks and backup plans
- 5) What success looks like on day one

Tone: clear, direct, no fluff.

Then create a second version in [the dialect my team actually speaks].

Flag any missing facts so I can fill them before I share.

Lock these before you travel

RULE 01

Never send without approval

Email, WhatsApp blasts, quotes, proposals. AI drafts. You hit send.

RULE 02

Never overwrite the source file

Save versioned outputs. You always need a rollback when you are exhausted and abroad.

RULE 03

Never invent numbers

If the transcript never gave the headcount, budget, or date, the draft shows a blank or the word confirm.

RULE 04

Name the dialect

Spanish is not enough. Dominican Spanish changed the usefulness of the entire packet.

AI FOR LEADERS · YOUR MOVE

Build the bridge. Then live in both rooms.

This week, record one real planning conversation. Turn it into a plan. Translate it for the people who have to execute. Approve it. Share it the same day.

COMMENT BELOW What dual assignment are you bridging right now?