





HOPE THAT CONNECTS

HOPE THAT CONNECTS



A Ship is kept steady in the heave and swell of the sea not only by the anchor but BY THE CHAIN

- The CONNECTION to the Anchor
- The CONNECTION to the Ship
- The CONNECTION to each CHAIN LINK
- The CONNECTION to the sea-bed & the sea

5–9 October 2026 · Albania

Hope that Connects



Connections are often fractured or frayed during crisis times.

Hope that Connects



In a world of volatility, uncertainty, complexity and ambiguity, one of the by-products of turmoil and turbulence is disconnection.

- **This happens with friends.**
- **This happens with loved ones.**
- **This happens with families.**
- **This happens with communities and societies.**
- **This happens with nations.**

Volatility, uncertainty, complexity and ambiguity trigger feelings of fear, anxiety and the need to survive the storms—or the threat.

Hope that Connects



Connections are often fractured or frayed during crisis times.

Hope that Connects



1 Samuel 13:5–6

When the men of Israel saw that they were in a tight spot—for the people were distressed—then they hid themselves in caves, thickets, rocks, high places and in pits. This was the disconnection and decentralisation of a nation.

And we can see this around the world—war, conflict, economic and climate distress resulting in the displacement, dislocation and disconnection of people.

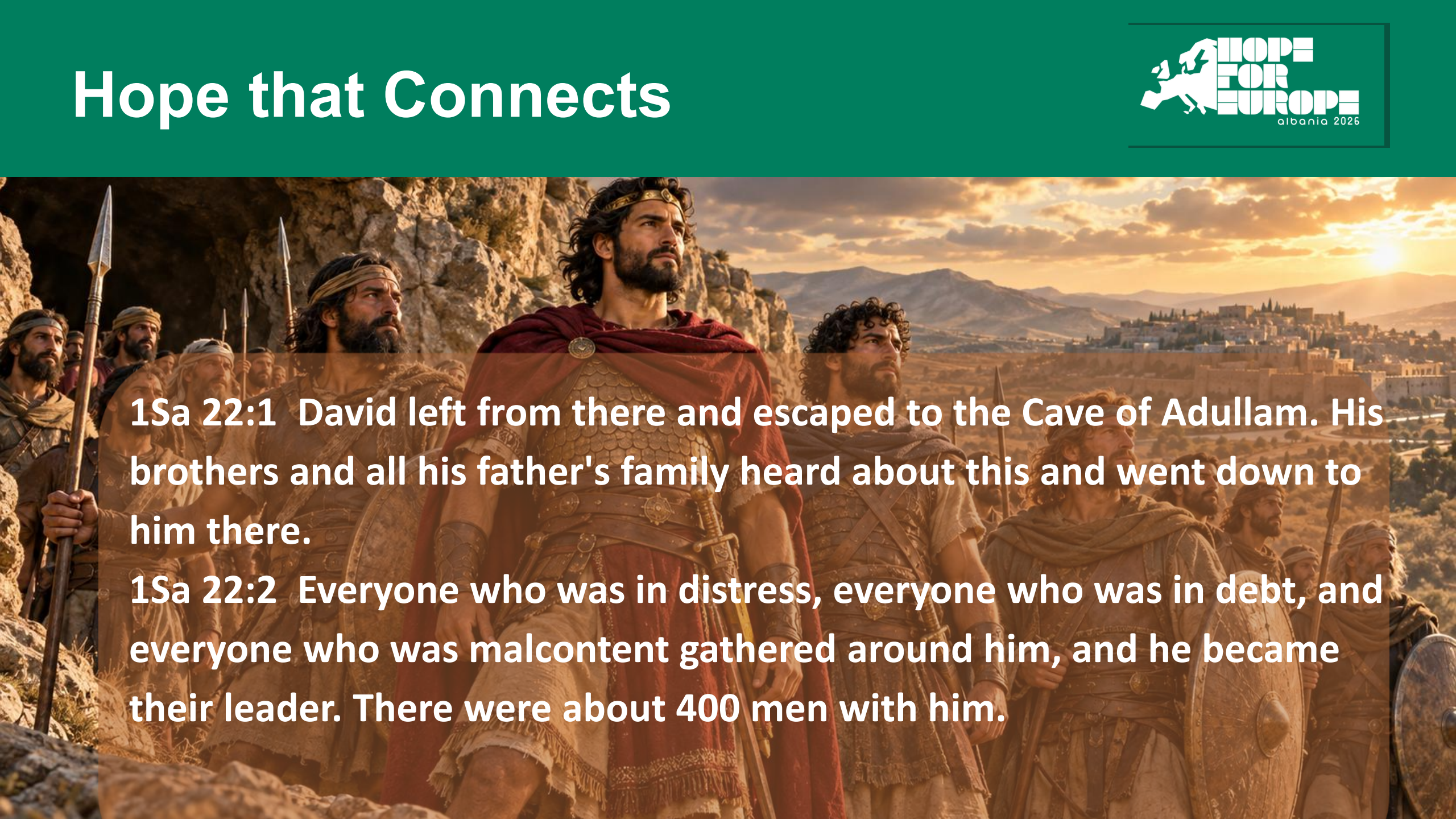
Hope that Connects



And we can see this around the world—war, conflict, economic and climate distress resulting in the displacement, dislocation and disconnection of people.

In 1 Samuel 22:1 We witness people who were in distress, debt and disgruntled gathering around David as a beacon of hope

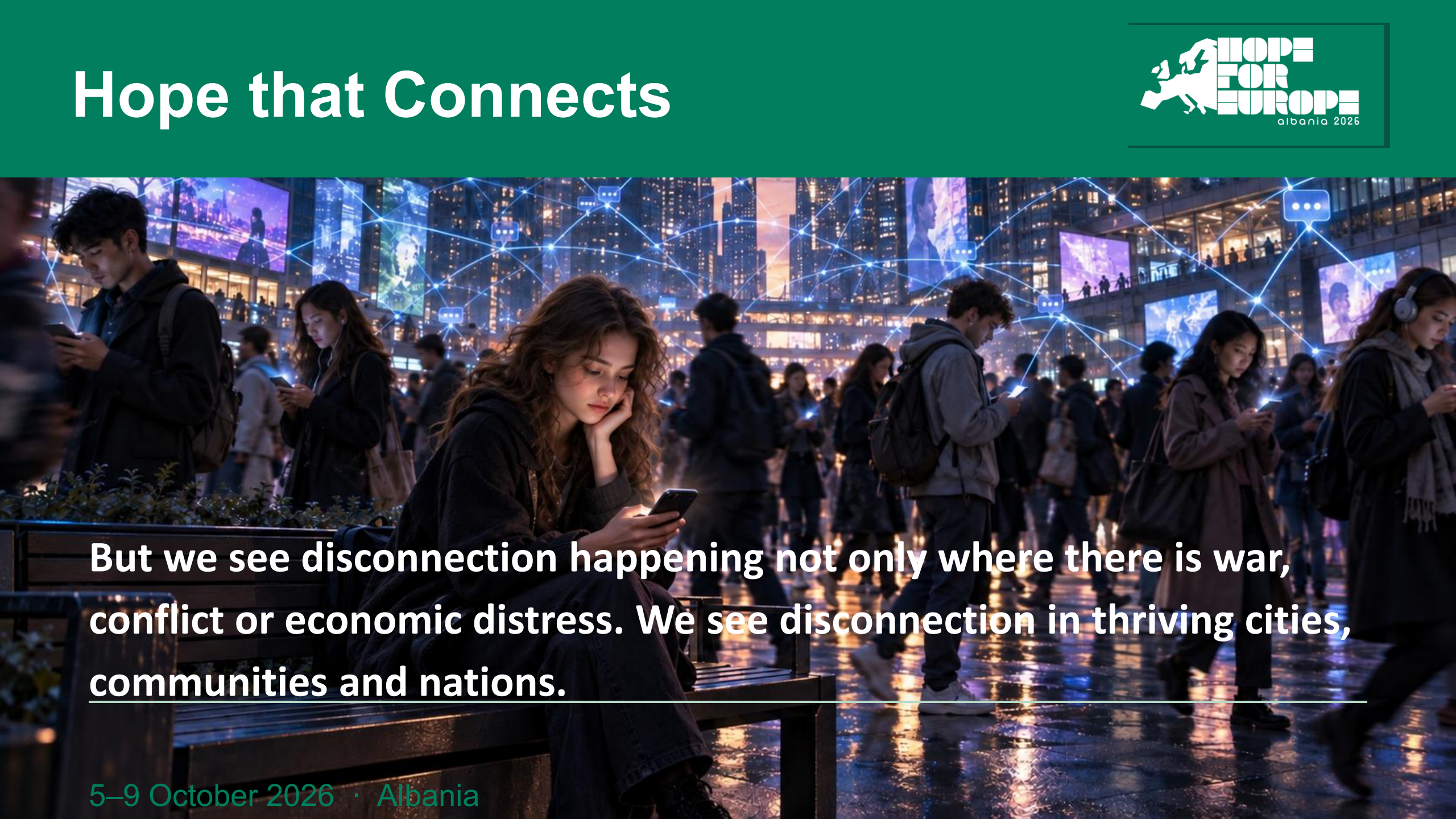
Hope that Connects



1Sa 22:1 David left from there and escaped to the Cave of Adullam. His brothers and all his father's family heard about this and went down to him there.

1Sa 22:2 Everyone who was in distress, everyone who was in debt, and everyone who was malcontent gathered around him, and he became their leader. There were about 400 men with him.

Hope that Connects



But we see disconnection happening not only where there is war, conflict or economic distress. We see disconnection in thriving cities, communities and nations.

5–9 October 2026 · Albania

Hope that Connects



Recognized globally as a major public health and cultural threat—with the [World Health Organization](#) noting that loneliness affects roughly one in six people worldwide and carries severe mortality risks—this fragmentation manifests across multiple dimensions of modern life.

Hope that Connects



Modern cities are experiencing a "digital paradox" where hyper-density and digital hyper-connectivity coexist with acute personal isolation.

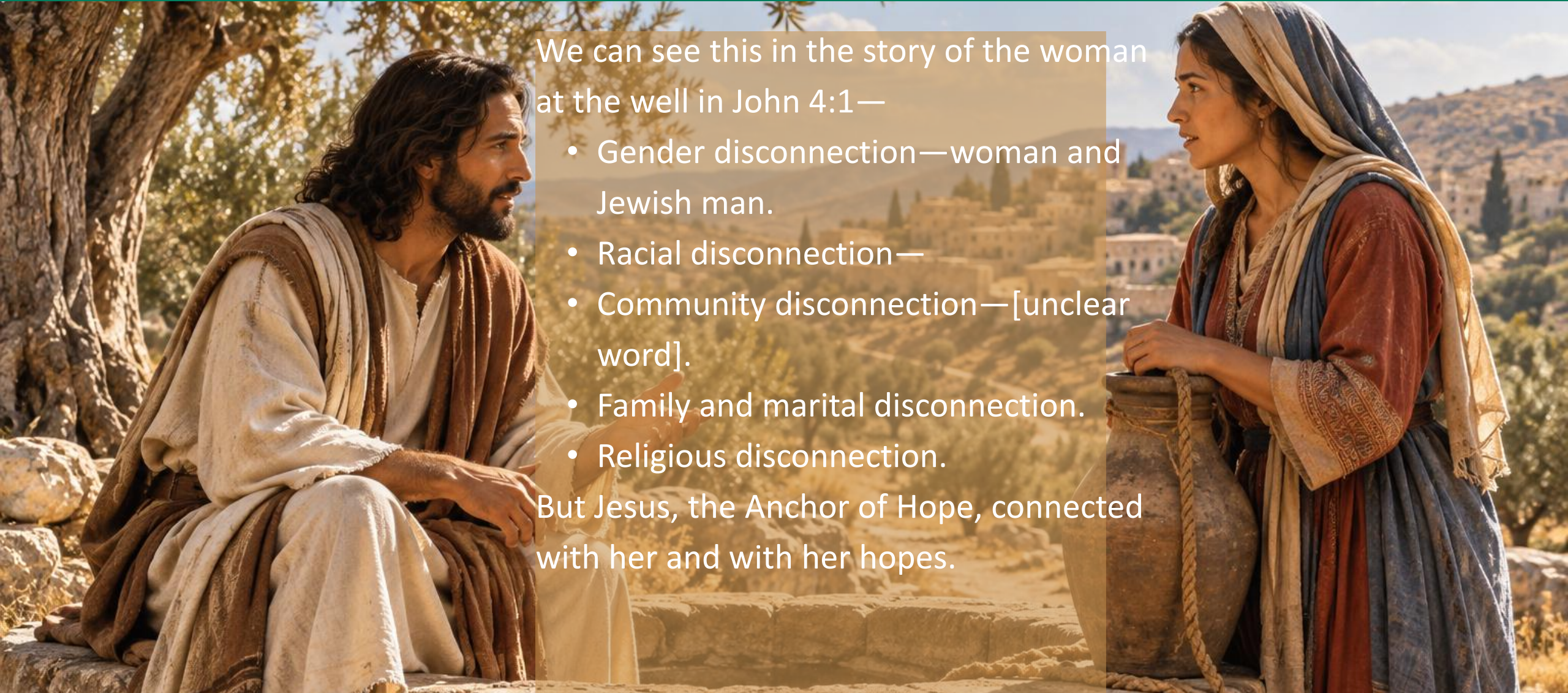
- The "Lonely Generation" Shift: Major global studies show that roughly 1 in 4 individuals aged 15 and older experience moderate to extreme loneliness. Unexpectedly, Gen Z and young adults (under 34) report the highest levels of isolation—double the rates of older demographics—frequently driven by geographic mobility and superficial social media interaction.**
-

Hope that Connects

A woman wearing a traditional patterned headscarf and a dark patterned garment is looking down at a tablet computer. From the tablet, several glowing, teardrop-shaped thought bubbles emerge. These bubbles contain various scenes: a person reading in a library, a person meditating in a natural setting, a person praying in a landscape, and a city skyline at sunset. The background shows a cityscape at night with lights reflecting on water, and a large globe with glowing connection lines is visible in the upper right.

CONNECTIVITY WITHOUT CONNECTION
But when hope comes, it brings connection.

Hope that Connects



We can see this in the story of the woman at the well in John 4:1—

- Gender disconnection—woman and Jewish man.
- Racial disconnection—
- Community disconnection—[unclear word].
- Family and marital disconnection.
- Religious disconnection.

But Jesus, the Anchor of Hope, connected with her and with her hopes.

Hope that Connects



But Jesus, the Anchor of Hope, connected with her and with her hopes.

- She left her pot and went to be reconnected to community—and connect her [community—text cut off] to her newfound faith.

Hope that Connects



Act 2:6 And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one was hearing them speak in his own language.

Act 2:7 And they were amazed and astonished, saying, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?

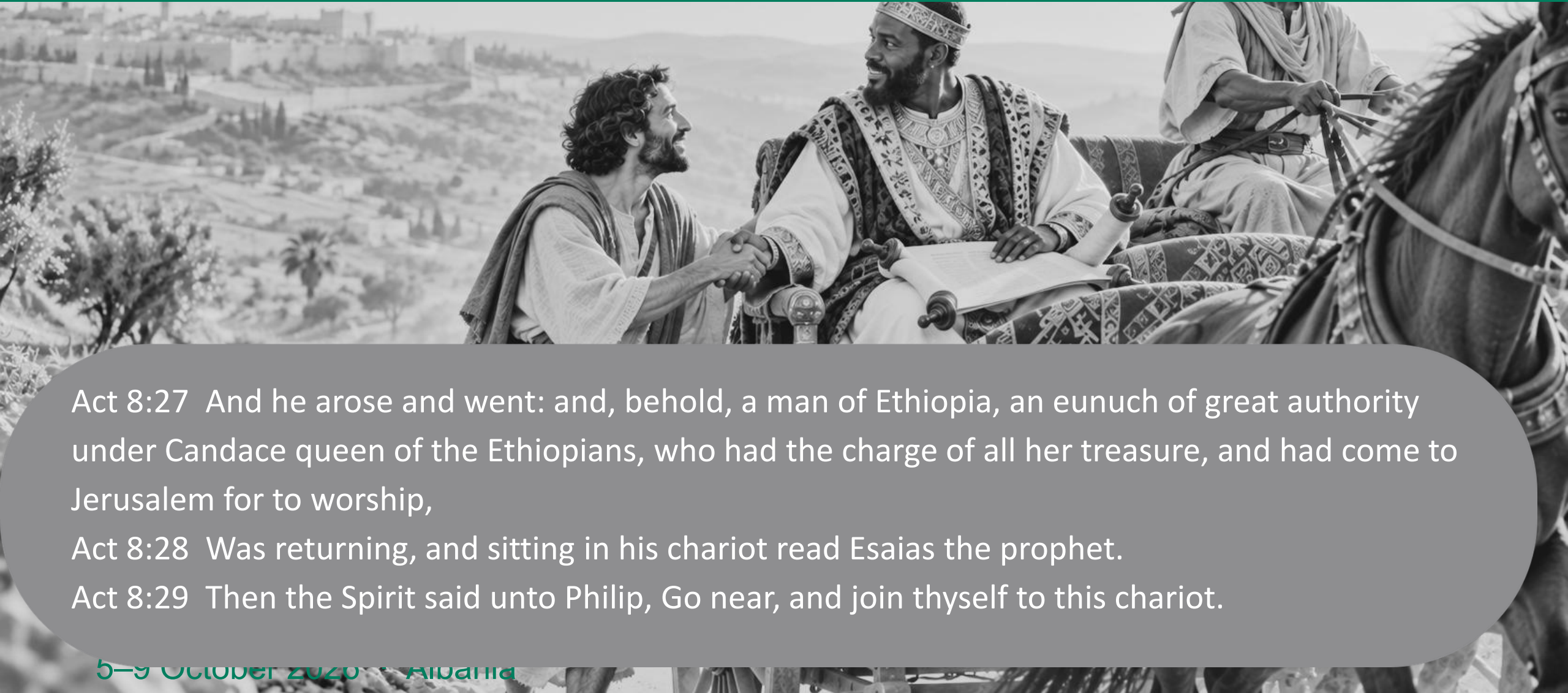
Act 2:8 And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language?

Act 2:9 Parthians and Medes and Elamites and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia,

Act 2:10 Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome,

Act 2:11 both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabians—we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God.”

Hope that Connects



Act 8:27 And he arose and went: and, behold, a man of Ethiopia, an eunuch of great authority under Candace queen of the Ethiopians, who had the charge of all her treasure, and had come to Jerusalem for to worship,

Act 8:28 Was returning, and sitting in his chariot read Esaias the prophet.

Act 8:29 Then the Spirit said unto Philip, Go near, and join thyself to this chariot.

Hope that Connects



Gal 3:26 for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith.

Gal 3:27 For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

Gal 3:28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

Hope that Connects



1Co 12:12 For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ.

Hope that Connects



Eph 4:1 I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called,

Eph 4:2 with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love,

Eph 4:3 eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

Eph 4:4 There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call—

Eph 4:5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism,

Eph 4:6 one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

Eph 4:7 But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift.

Hope that Connects



3. Hope That Connects — Questions

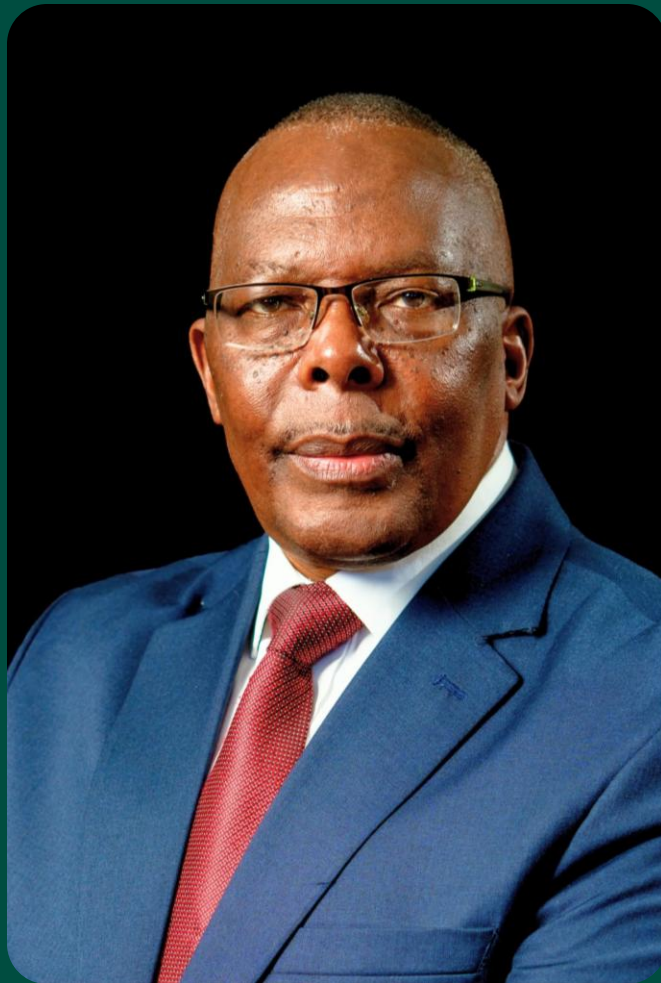
3.1. How connected is the Church as a hope network where you come from?

3.2. How can we develop and build bridges with other (i) Christian believers and (ii) stakeholders and platforms that can positively be used for the proclamation and partnership of the Gospel of hope in your context?

3.3. What hope connection are you hoping to develop through this meeting and in your local network at a [transnational?] level?

Hope that Connects

5–9 October 2026 · Albania



GOODWILL SHANA

Morning Gathering speaker

Founder and Senior Pastor

Word of Life International Ministries, Zimbabwe
Serving since 1990

Former President

Association of Evangelicals in Africa, two terms

World Evangelical Alliance leadership

WEA International Council Chair (2019–2025)
Acting Secretary General (2024–2025)

Scan for his full profile



