

Year-Round Mentoring for Church-Planting Movement Leaders

with Dr. Dietrich Schindler

Leader



Dietrich Schindler is a German-American church planting leader in Germany and beyond. In thirty-three years of ministry, he and his wife Jan have planted five churches in Germany, and are currently planting the sixth in Frankfurt among urban professionals (<http://www.journey-church.de>). Previously, Dietrich was the executive director of church planting for the German Evangelical Free Church denomination, pursuing the goal of planting 100 churches in ten years. He is currently a church planting consultant and speaker with the German Evangelical Free Church. He is the author of the book *The Jesus Model: Planting Churches the Jesus Way and Profound: Twelve Questions that Will Grab your Heart and not Let Go*. He has also generated a new life-based course for secular postmodern Europeans entitled “MyLife-Workshop” (www.mylifeworkshop.net). Dietrich and his wife Jan have three adult children and two wonderful grandsons, Max and Sam – born to their church planting parents in Taiwan.

Programme

GOAL: To provide church planting movement leaders the proper content, encouragement, network relationships, and breakthrough training that would enable their national church planting ministries to grow qualitatively and exponentially.

FORMAT:

- Seven 40-minute webinars/web-based presentations led by Dietrich Schindler
- Pre- and post-webinar assignments
- Retreat: December 6–8, 2022 in Spain
- Pre-Forum Conference at the 2023 Forum: May 19 and 20, 2023

PARTICIPANTS: Fifteen to twenty church planting movement leaders who are willing to commit to become part of a learning community based upon the above outlined format.

QUALIFICATIONS: All participants will have already planted one or more churches.

REQUIRED READING:

SHIFT: The Road to Level 5 Church Multiplication, Dietrich Schindler, Exponential, 2021 (also available in Spanish, German, Czech, Romanian, French, Russian)
Please secure this resource as soon as possible.

NOTE: The power of this curriculum depends upon you, the participant, to share the contents and elicit application among your church planters. This is NOT meant to merely feed your mind or quicken your heart. It is intended to be TRANSFERRED to others. Therefore, begin by writing down the names of church planters with which you will share this material and its application.

Commitment

As part of the application process, all applicants need to commit to:

1. Attend all webinars, using a high-speed internet connection (with a headset).
2. Complete all reading and writing assignments by their due dates.
3. Attend the retreat on December 6-8, 2022, in Spain.
4. Attend a Pre-Forum Conference at the 2023 Forum, 19-20 May 2023
5. Pay attendance fees. See below for the retreat fees. The fees for the 2023 Pre-Forum Conference are 80 Euros for a Double Room and 90 Euros for a Single Room / 68 Euros for scholarship recipients.
6. In order to be accepted to next year's European Leadership Forum, all Year-Round Mentoring participants must nominate two other leaders for the following year Year-Round Mentoring, which includes personally contacting and recruiting them by email.

Webinars

The current church-planting mentoring plan includes six 40-minute webinars. Each webinar will involve discussing pre- and post-assigned reading and writing assignments.

Assignments, to be accomplished two weeks after each webinar, answer the following questions:

1. Personal – What struck a chord with me? Where is God speaking to me personally?
2. Ministry – What concepts would benefit other church planters?
3. Movement – What are the things, should they be applied to our situation, which would help spawn a church planting movement?

Two weeks after each webinar, teach the material to five to ten church planters in your country. They in turn must read the book and teach the material to three or more church planters outside of your network two weeks after they are taught by you.

Webinar 1, September 13, 2022 - Tuesday, 19.30 CEST

1. Shift from Organizational to Organic

Much of our church planting amounts to nothing more than a "transfer of the saints." It's not

growth as the New Testament describes it. The need today is for the Lord of the harvest to add to our number those who are being saved. The Lydia model of church planting is conversion-based. Knowing this about the early church, we can now see it in our mind's eye and trust God to do His work of salvation as we partner with Him. That's when we'll see His kingdom coming into the lives of individuals who will be led to plant new churches differently.

Note: This initial session will be a bit longer than usual, as we want to have the time to get to know one another.

Webinar 2, October 11, 2022 - Tuesday, 19.30 CEST

2. Shift from Big to Small

If we want to see churches multiply and movements emerge, we'll be attentive to the small. I'm convinced that one of the reasons why leaders are hesitant about planting or daughtering churches is that they see church planting happen only on the macro-level: a mature church spawning another church. What they fail to see is the power of the many small entities that exist in the macro church: one-on-one discipleship, small groups.

My thesis: *If we were to give our focused attention to the small entities and see them multiply, we will have all we need to generate thousands of new churches and thereby lay the foundation for Level 5 ministries of multiplication.*

Webinar 3, November 15, 2022 - Tuesday, 19.30 CET

3. Shift from Cognition to Emotion

"Christianity needs to make emotional sense before it can make rational sense."

—Timothy Keller

The rational communication of the best news available on the planet is not enough for people to come to know Jesus as their Lord and Savior. Understanding the gospel without feeling the gospel will short circuit conversion. They might buy in with their minds, but their affections remain untouched.

Jesus told us that the heart of the matter is the heart. The greatest commandment, He said, is to "love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind" (Matt. 22:37). The heart loves before the mind does. The heart is the seat of emotion and volition. It is that place in our soul where our deepest decisions are made. The heart encompasses the mind but represents the core of who we are. When we're undivided in our love for someone, we're wholehearted, totally committed, unreservedly devoted to that

person. Bottom line: The mind (intellect), though important, just doesn't elicit the sticking power the heart does.

Webinar 4, January 17, 2023 - Tuesday, 19.30 CET

4. SHIFT from asking “What?” To “What if?”

Most church-planting strategy begins with the wrong question, the question of “What?” The question of “What?” leads us to what we should do next, serially. “What do we need to do next?” deals with the here and now. But the word “if” and the combination of “*What if?*” are vastly more powerful. Why? Because it frees us from what we have always known and possibly experienced. “*What if?*” transports us into the future and future possibilities, such as alternative outcomes. “*What if?*” is the genesis of Level 5 ministry.

“*What if?*” takes us out of the realm of what *is* and transports us into the realm of what *might be*. “*What if?*” is the question of vision.

Webinar 5, February 14, 2023 - Tuesday, 19.30 CET

5. SHIFT from Membership to Discipleship

When the Lord called you to the grand and glorious ministry of church planting, He called you to make disciples, not simply members or visitors. He called you to challenge those both within and still outside of the kingdom of God to leave their small worlds and to lay hold of the gospel. You are called to teach and preach a message that's as compelling as it is honest—to die to self and live unto Christ. This is the life beautiful and strong, a foretaste of Heaven, open to us now.

The normal way of referring to Christians in the New Testament was not the word “Christian.” It was “disciple.” The word “disciple” occurs 269 times in the New Testament; “Christian” is found only three times. A disciple is someone who learns from a master, an apprentice. An apprentice lives with the master, learns from the master, with the goal of living and working like the master. As we lead others, we lead them to be apprentices of Jesus. But how do we do that?

Webinar 6, March 14, 2024 - Tuesday, 19.30 CET

6. SHIFT from Addition to Multiplication

In my thirty-five years of church-planting experience in Germany, I have come to refer to seven disciplines of good to great church planting as “G7.” By that, I mean they seem to have seven great qualities that set them apart from merely good church-planting ministries. These seven great qualities of church planting include: timed release, generational distance, discipleship depth, intentional mindset, external focus, reproducible models and multiplication coordinator.

Webinar 7, April 11, 2023 - Tuesday, 19.30 CEST

Wrap Up!

Retreat

All participants will be required to attend a retreat with Dietrich on December 6-8, 2022, in Spain. *The participant fees for the retreat are 150 Euros, or 100 Euros for scholarship recipients. For the retreat, non-scholarship recipients also have the option, which must be chosen in the application form, of paying 190 Euros in order to stay in a single room. Participants are also responsible for their own travel expenses.*

Pre-Forum Conference

All participants will be required to attend a Pre-Forum Conference at the 2023 Forum (19-20 May). The program will consist of dinner on Friday evening and a meeting on Saturday morning.

The fees for the 2023 Pre-Forum Conference are 70 Euros for a Double Room and 90 Euros for a Single Room (or 40 Euros for scholarship recipients).

To Apply

1. Complete the [online application](#).
2. We will review your completed application and let you know if you are accepted into the program within four to six weeks.

If you have questions, contact us at initiatives@euroleadership.org