

2026-27 Year-Round Mentoring for Bible Study Leaders

YRM Leaders



Sherami Hinders, Lindsay Olesberg, and Tamás Schaueremann are a team of friends who share a common love for leading others into life-giving Bible studies. Sherami (Scotland) provides Scripture Engagement Leadership for Revive Europe and Greater Europe Mission. Lindsay (USA) is co-founder of Making Space Ministries and author of *The Bible Study Handbook*. Tamás (Hungary) is graphic designer, coach, and trainer who teaches widely in churches, student camps, and seminaries and is actively involved in the Hungarian Leadership Forum and Langham Fellowship. All

three were profoundly impacted by the ministry of the International Fellowship of Evangelical Students.

Overview

Goal: To create a community of teachers who are equipped and supported in using Manuscript Bible Study in their local contexts.

Plan:

- ✓ Lunch meeting with the mentors and other participants at the 2026 Forum in Wisla, Poland (18 May)
- ✓ Four on-line meetings (September 2026 – April 2027)
- ✓ Three-day December Retreat, 1-3 December 2026 (Location TBC)
- ✓ Each participant leads five local Bible studies using the model provided (September 2026 – April 2027)
- ✓ Pre-Forum Conference at 2027 European Leadership Forum (21-22 May 2027) *Participants will still need to apply to attend ELF and pay for travel and fees.*

Participants: Ten to twelve Bible study leaders who are motivated to be part of a community of practice.

Qualifications: Each participant will be a spiritually mature Christian who is actively involved in leading Bible studies in their local context.

Commitments: In addition to applying, participants will:

- ✓ Fully engage in all sessions, including the four on-line meetings, the three-day retreat in December, and the Pre-Forum Conference in 2026. *Participants are responsible for their own travel expenses.*
- ✓ Secure a copy of the required book and complete reading and reflection assignments prior to sessions.

- ✓ Access the on-line meetings with a good broadband internet connection.
- ✓ Put into practice what is being taught in the sessions by leading five Manuscript Bible Studies locally and reflecting on the experience.
- ✓ Prepare and lead a Manuscript Bible Study for your mini-group at the Retreat (December) or the Pre-Forum Conference (May)
- ✓ Pay the necessary fees. The fees for **the 2026 December Retreat** are 175 Euros for a Double Room and 225 Euros for a Single Room (or 125 Euros for scholarship recipients). For **the 2027 Pre-Forum Conference**, the fees are 115 Euros for a Double Room and 165 Euros for a Single Room (or 70 Euros for scholarship recipients).
- ✓ In order to be accepted to next years' European Leadership Forum all Year-Round Mentoring participants will need to nominate two other leaders for the following year Year-Round Mentoring which includes personally contacting and recruiting them by email.

Bibliography

Required Reading

Byer, Paul. "The 'Ross Letter': Paul Byer's Account of How Manuscript Study Developed and Its Significance", 1987.

Fee, Gordon D. and Stuart, Douglas. *How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth*. (Grand Rapids: Zondervan), 2003.

Optional Reading

Olesberg, Lindsay. *The Bible Study Handbook*. (Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press), 2012.

Recommended Resources

bibleproject.com

howto.bible

Keener, Craig. *IVP Bible Background Commentary: New Testament*. (Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press), 1993.

Marshall, I. Howard, Millard, A.R., Packer, J.I., and Wiseman, D.J., ed. *New Bible Dictionary*. (Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press), 1999.

Ryken, Leland, Wilhoit, James C., and Longman III, Tremper, ed. *Dictionary of Biblical Imagery*. (Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press), 1998.

Walton, John H., Matthews, Victor H., and Chavalas, Mark W., ed., *IVP Bible Background Commentary: Old Testament*. (Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press), 2000.

Sessions & Assignments

On-line Meeting One: Why Manuscript Bible Study

8 September 2026, 18:00 – 20:00 UTC

- 1) Purpose: In this session we will meet our community of practice; study Scripture together; and explore the form, purpose and benefits of Manuscript Bible Study.
- 2) Preparation Assignments:
 - ✓ Read: “The ‘Ross Letter’” (*will be provided as a pdf*)
 - ✓ Read (optional): *The Bible Study Handbook*, chapter 5 “Community Around the Word”
 - ✓ Cultivate Curiosity: Post two to three questions from the reading [here](#). (*If you have the same question as another participant, add your name to the right-hand column.*)
- 3) Practice Assignment:
 - ✓ Using the MBS Leaders Guide, prepare and lead the Bible study modeled during our on-line meeting. Afterwards, use the personal evaluation tool to reflect on your experience of leading. Be prepared to discuss with your mini-group at the next on-line meeting.

On-line Meeting Two: How Genre Impacts Understanding and Response

27 October 2026, 18:00 – 20:00 UTC

- 1) Purpose: In this session we will discuss our experience of leading MBS; study Scripture together; and explore the significance of literary form for interpreting and apply the Bible.
- 2) Preparation Assignments:
 - ✓ Read: *How to Study the Bible for All Its Worth*, chapter 1 “Introduction: The Need to Interpret”
 - ✓ Read (optional): *The Bible Study Handbook*, chapter 15 “Determining Genre”
 - ✓ Cultivate Curiosity: Post two to three questions from the reading [here](#). (*If you have the same question as another participant, add your name to the right-hand column.*)
- 3) Practice Assignment:
 - ✓ Using the MBS Leaders Guide, prepare and lead the Bible study modeled during our on-line meeting. Afterwards, use the personal evaluation tool to reflect on your experience of leading. Be prepared to discuss with your mini-group at our retreat.

Retreat: Studying Narrative

1-3 December 2026 (Location TBC)

- 1) Purpose: During our retreat we will continue to grow as a community of practice by study Scripture together, reflecting on our experiences of leading, and considering how to overcome potential barriers to modern Europeans engaging with ancient religious narratives. Several participants will have the opportunity to lead MBS for the group.

2) Preparation Assignments:

- ✓ Read: *How to Study the Bible for All Its Worth*
 - chapter 5 “The Old Testament Narratives: Their Proper Use”
 - chapter 7 “The Gospels: One Story, Many Dimensions”
 - chapter 8 “The Parables: Do You Get the Point?”
- ✓ Read (optional): *The Bible Study Handbook*
 - chapter 6 “Honor the Author”
 - chapter 7 “Respect for the Story”
- ✓ Cultivate Curiosity: Post two to three questions from the reading [here](#). (If you have the same question as another participant, add your name to the right-hand column.)

3) Practice Assignment:

- ✓ Using the MBS Leaders Guide, prepare and lead one of the Bible studies modeled during our retreat. Afterwards, use the personal evaluation tool to reflect on your experience of leading. Be prepared to discuss with your mini-group at the next on-line meeting.

On-Line Meeting Three: Studying Epistles

2 February 2027, 18:00 – 20:30 UTC

- 1) Purpose: In this session we will discuss our experience of leading MBS; study Scripture together; and consider strategies for studying epistles.
- 2) Preparation Assignments:
 - ✓ Read: *How to Study the Bible for All Its Worth*
 - chapter 3 “The Epistles: Learning to Think Contextually”
 - chapter 4 “The Epistles: The Hermeneutical Questions”
 - ✓ Cultivate Curiosity: Post two to three questions from the reading [here](#). (If you have the same question as another participant, add your name to the right-hand column.)
- 3) Practice Assignment:
 - ✓ Using the MBS Leaders Guide, prepare and lead the Bible study modeled during our on-line meeting. Afterwards, use the personal evaluation tool to reflect on your experience of leading. Be prepared to discuss with your mini-group at the next on-line meeting.

On-line Meeting Four: Studying Poetry

13 April 2027, 18:00 – 20:30 UTC

- 1) Purpose: In this session we will discuss our experience of leading MBS; study Scripture together; and consider strategies for studying biblical poetry (psalms and prophetic literature).
- 2) Preparation Assignments:
 - ✓ Read: *How to Study the Bible for All Its Worth*
 - chapter 10 “The Prophets: Enforcing the Covenant in Israel”
 - chapter 11 “The Psalms: Israel’s Prayers and Ours”

- ✓ Read (optional): *The Bible Study Handbook*, chapter 20 “Studying Poetry”
- ✓ Cultivate Curiosity: Post two to three questions from the reading [here](#). *(If you have the same question as another participant, add your name to the right-hand column.)*

3) Practice Assignment:

- ✓ Using the MBS Leaders Guide, prepare and lead the Bible study modeled during our on-line meeting. Afterwards, use the personal evaluation tool to reflect on your experience of leading. Be prepared to discuss with your mini-group at the Pre-Forum Conference.

Pre-Forum Conference: Ongoing Growth for Bible Study Leaders

21-22 May 2027 Visla, Poland

- 1) Purpose: During our final time together, we will continue to grow as a community of practice by studying Scripture together, reflecting on our experiences of leading, and considering how to be proactive in our ongoing growth as teachers. Several participants will have the opportunity to lead MBS for the group.
- 2) Preparation Assignment:
 - ✓ Using the tool provided, reflect on your growth as a Bible study leader during the last year and consider your next steps in development.
- 3) Evaluation:
 - ✓ Please provide feedback on the Bible Study Leaders YRM using the form provided by ELF.

Application Process

1. Fill out an online application by clicking [HERE](#). Please be sure to fill out every field.
2. Once we receive your online application form, your application will be considered complete. 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