

Year-Round Mentoring in Church Revitalisation

with David Brown and Daniel Fodorean

Leaders



David Brown has been involved in church planting in France since 1976 and has planted three churches (two in Nancy and one in the Paris suburbs), and then revitalised a church in central Paris (Église Protestante Évangélique de Paris-Cardinet). For many years he was involved with GBU (Groupes Bibliques Universitaires), the French student movement affiliated with IFES, first as General Secretary, and then as chair of the board. He chairs the Evangelism Commission of the French “National Council of Evangelicals” and teaches church planting and revitalization at the Geneva Bible Institute. He is married to Mary, and they have four adult children and a growing number of grandchildren.



Daniel Fodorean is an Assistant Professor of Applied Theology at Baptist Theological Institute of Bucharest, President of ‘Antioch Center,’ and Executive Director of The European Leader Formation Network. He is also the teaching pastor of Nova Vita Baptist Church, Constanta. Daniel is one of the founders of Constanta Baptist Association. Over the last 20 years, they have planted over 53 new assemblies of believers in the area.

Overview

GOAL: To help participants understand the issues raised in giving a new dynamic to existing churches, to think through what the concept of revitalisation could look like in the European context, and to share experiences in order to encourage one another.

PLAN:

- Online Seminar on 13 May 2021 (exact time TBD)
- A one-on-one Zoom meeting with David at the 2021 Forum
- Four 1.5-hour webinars with webinar assignments
- Three-day retreat near Barcelona in December, 2021 (exact dates TBD).
- Pre-Forum Conference at the 2022 Forum, on May 20 and 21, 2022. Participants will still need to apply for the European Leadership Forum and will be responsible for paying Forum fees in order to participate in the 2022 Forum. Participants must also pay for their own travel expenses.

PARTICIPANTS: Ten to twelve people who are willing to commit to become part of a learning community.

QUALIFICATIONS: The expectation is that the participants be involved in, or potentially involved in, church revitalisation. This would probably be as a denominational leader or local pastor, but at least in a situation where the ideas raised can be applied in the ministry of the participants.

COMMITMENT: In addition to submitting an application, you must commit to:

1. Thoroughly review a selection of pre-assigned materials before and after each webinar. These assignments will consist of reading selections of books or academic articles, including the list of books and articles indicated for each webinar.
2. Attend all sessions and meetings.
3. Access all webinars on a computer with a good Internet connection, and using a head-set.
4. Secure a copy of the needed books for assignments.
5. Pay attendance fees: *See below for retreat fees.* For the *2022 Pre-Forum Conference* the fees are 70 Euros for a Double Room and 90 Euros for a Single Room, or 40 Euros for scholarship recipients.

2021 RETREAT: All Church Revitalization participants will meet with David Brown and Daniel Fodorean in Barcelona for a three-day retreat in December 2021 (exact dates TBD).

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.

2021 ONLINE SEMINAR: All Church Revitalization participants will attend the Online Seminar with David and Daniel on 13 May, 2021, (exact time TBD).

Webinars: Dates, Topics, and Assignments

The current Church Revitalization mentoring plan includes the following four 1.5 hour webinars.

You should purchase as soon as possible the following books:

- Thom S. Rainer, *Autopsy of a Deceased Church* (Nashville: Broadman & Holman, 2014).
- Ed Stetzer and Mike Dodson, *Comeback Churches* (Nashville: Broadman & Holman, 2007).
- John James, *Renewal* (UK: 10Publishing)

Webinar One: An honest look at the situation of your church.

6 September, 2021 @ 15.00-16.30 GMT

- I. The first 15 minutes of the meeting will be devoted to introducing ourselves and answering questions you may have about the year-round mentoring programme for Church Revitalization.
- II. You should read the book by Thom S. Rainer, *Autonomy of a Deceased Church* before the seminar, and you should write a 200-word paragraph (no more) for each of the following questions. Please send your answers to David Brown (david.brown.paris@gmail.com) two weeks before the Webinar (24 August). You may be asked to share your responses during the webinar. Please be prepared to defend your answers.
 - A. Which aspects of a deceased church most particularly struck you as relevant in your situation?
 - B. Which category would you place your church and why?
 1. "My church has symptoms of sickness"
 2. "My church is very sick"
 3. "My church is dying"
 - C. Which of the suggested responses for your category seems the best suited?

Webinar Two: Accepting change in order to become a healthy church

Date: **8 November, 2021** @ 15.00-16.30 GMT

- I. You should read the book by John James, *Renewal* before the seminar and you should write a paragraph of 200 words (not more) for each of the following questions. Please send your answers to David Brown (david.brown.paris@gmail.com) two weeks before the Webinar (19 October). You may be asked to read your responses aloud during the meeting. Please be prepared to defend your answers if David calls upon you.
 - A. Which case study did you find the most helpful? Why?
 - B. What do you consider was the most important aspect of this revitalisation project?
 - C. Which aspects of the teaching in chapters 6 and 7 were helpful to you in your revitalisation project?

Webinar Three: Implementing changes for the health of the church

Date: **7 February, 2022** @ 15.00-16.30 GMT

1. You should read the book by David Brown *Disciple 24/24* before the seminar (David will send you an English translation by email), and you should write a paragraph for each of the following questions. Please send your answers to David Brown (david.brown.paris@gmail.com) two weeks before the Webinar (16 January). You may be asked to share your responses during the webinar. Please be prepared to defend your answers

- A. Which aspects of this book on discipleship did you find the most helpful in thinking of revitalizing your church? (Write 200 words)
- B. What practical things can you do to help each disciple in your church:
1. To worship God in spirit and truth (Write 150 words)
 2. To trust God (150 words)
 3. Fight the good fight (150 words)
 4. To love their neighbour as themselves (150 words)

Webinar Four: The role of leadership in implementing change.

Date: **11 April, 2022** @ 15:00-16.30 GMT

- I. You should read the book by Ed Stetzer and Mike Dodson, *Comeback Churches* before the seminar and you should write a paragraph of 200 words (not more) for each of the following questions. Please send your answers to David Brown (david.brown.paris@gmail.com) two weeks before the Webinar (29 March). You may be asked to read your responses aloud during the meeting. Please be prepared to defend your answers if David calls upon you.
- A. Why is leadership such an important factor in revitalizing churches?
- B. How can leaders be renewed in order to effectively lead their congregation in the process of revitalization?
- C. Did the book personally challenge you? Please explain.

Application Process

To apply:

1. Complete the [online application](#).
2. Once we have received your online form, your application will be considered complete. We will review completed applications 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