**Keys to Discipling in a Secular Post-Reformation Context**

Europe today has wandered far from its roots in the Protestant Reformation. The goal of this session is to address the challenges of discipling new believers who are more secular in their worldview than ever before. It will address: (1) The post-Reformation spiritual catastrophe in Europe and why it happened; (2) keys to changing that through robust discipling and church-planting; and (3) a 2020 case study from Geneva, the city of Calvin.

**John Glass** was born of American parents in Paris, France and raised in Geneva, Switzerland. In 1976, at the age of 19, John backpacked for 6 months from Switzerland to India in search of life’s answers and was led to Christ by a missionary in New Delhi. He has served as a church-planter in France and Switzerland for the last 35 years, first with TEAM and currently with Grace Ministries International (GMI). In 2007 John started a French-speaking church that he is currently pastoring in the heart of Geneva *l’Eglise Evangélique Internationale de Genève* (eeig.ch). He holds BA from Syracuse University, an MDiv from Talbot Theological Seminary and a DMin from the Master’s Seminary. He served as chaplain to Geneva-Servette hockey team for 16 years, making him at the time the only professional sports chaplain in Switzerland. John has a weekly French radio program on Radio 74, *Plus précieux que l’or (More Precious Than Gold)*. John also gives Reformation tours of Geneva and founded *Calvin Tours* (calvintours.com) and just published a visitor’s guide titled *A Walking Guide to John Calvin’s Geneva*. He and his wife Meg have three grown children.

**INTRODUCTION**

Today we will look deeper at the **3 components** implied in the title that will help us understand how to make disciples in a Secular Post-Christian Context:

1. **The Rise of the Reformation in Europe**

This section is a PowerPoint Presentation on how the Reformation started and spread through Europe in the 16th century.

1. **The Death of the Reformation in Europe**

There are 4 major events in France’s (and Europe’s) history that caused the death of the Reformation in Europe:

1. The Counter-Reformation
2. Protestant Persecutions
3. The French Revolution
4. Liberal Theology
5. **The Rebirth of the Reformation in Europe**

I Thessalonians 1: 1-10 suggests 3 biblical solutions for the rebirth of the Reformation in Europe.

1. Realistic Evangelism

Big-fruit Evangelism

I Thessalonians 1:5, 9

Acts 17: 1-4

Low-fruit Evangelism

Matt 11:23-24

Was Jesus a successful evangelist?

1. Persistent Discipleship

I Thessalonians 1: 1-10

Luke 1:1-4 is a great example of the kind of persistent discipleship needed for the European context especially:

1. Luke had commitment
2. Luke had compassion
3. Luke had compulsion
4. Deliberate Rejoicing

I Thess 1:2-3

 Very short Power-Point Presentation showing 30 years of church-planting in Geneva, Switzerland – that is very encouraging!

**Conclusion**

***Suggested Readings:***

*John Calvin*by Emanuel Stickelberger

*John Calvin* by T.H.L Parker

*The Legacy of John Calvin;* *His Influence on the Modern World* by David. W. Hall

*The Greatest Century of Reformation* by Peter Hammond

*Seven Men Who Rule the World from the Grave* by Dave Breeze

*A Walking Guide to John Calvin’s Geneva*by John Glass