

## **Stick to Your Calling: How God's Call Gives Long-Term Direction to Your Church Plant**

European experience shows that planting a healthy church takes four to seven years, sometimes more. In this session we will see how God's call to the Church Planter and the core team will give long time direction and endurance to faithfully finish the task. One part of responding to the call is determining and living out shared core values. How this can be done will also be covered in this session.

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### **I. A personal call**

- A. Jesus's personal call - John 18:37
- B. Jesus calls Peter and Andrew - Mark 1:16
- C. Paul's calling - Acts 26:14-18
  - 1. Calling gives direction
  - 2. Calling is about people
  - 3. Calling is about serving God

### **II. Calling groups, churches and nations**

- A. The church in Ephesus - Eph. 4:1-4
  - 1. Calling demands a certain way of life – culture and values
- B. The nation of Israel - Rom. 11:29
  - 1. Calling is long term

### **III. Understanding your calling**

- A. Your gifts
- B. Your values and practices
- C. Personal direction

IV. The calling of the Church Planter gives direction to the Church plant

- A. Peter brings his team - Acts 10:23
  - 1. Others will join your call and hear God's call through you
- B. Personal example

V. Understanding the calling together

- A. Praying and hearing - Eph 1:17-18, Rev 2:7
- B. Important attitudes - Eph 4:1-4
- C. Finding out the gifts in the team - Eph 4:11
- D. How do we live the new life together? - Eph 4:17
- E. Common ethos and culture? - Eph 4:25-32
  - 1. Style of communication
  - 2. Handling conflict
  - 3. Service and generosity
  - 4. Style of worship
  - 5. Relations

VI. Confirm your calling 2 Peter 1 :10

- A. Inner confirmation
- B. Outer confirmation
- C. Make it sure.

***Suggested Readings:***

*M4 Master & Mission New people – new churches from dream to reality. Dawn Norway*  
*The Call: Finding and Fulfilling the Central Purpose of Your Life. Os Guinness.*  
*The Forgotten Ways – Alain Hirsch*