Leading a Movement: Challenges, Issues, Pathways

Leaders of church planting multiplication movements need to realize that their role is to work on the movement and not in it. What does it mean to work on a church planting movement? We will explore the challenges that this presents, the issues that it surfaces and the route we can take to see it happen.

Dietrich Schindler is a German-American church planting leader in Germany and beyond. In twenty-three years of ministry, he and his wife Jan have planted five churches in Germany. They have three adult children and one wonderful grandson, Max – born to his church planting parents in Taiwan. The past six years 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. As of 2006 63 churches have been started. Dietrich 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." He has also generated a new life-based course for secular post-modern Europeans entitled "MyLife-Workshop" (www.mylifeworkshop.org).

Tom McGehee is the founder and CEO of The WildWorks Group. Tom graduated from university in 1978, and after several years in the US Marines, he entered the private sector. He quickly rose from executive in a large global corporation to a Partner with Ernst & Young consulting. His life story and life's work have the noticeable hand of God directing his path. Tom's life verse is John 10:10, and his passion is to help individuals live abundantly through the church. Tom founded WildWorks in 2001, and has applied his collaborative approach for Results-based Conversations (RbC) to work with many churches, denominations and ministries all over the world. Tom is a published author, accomplished speaker, trainer and thought leader in collaboration, group interaction and organizational change. He and his wife currently live in Plano, Texas.

I. The Conundrum – What got you here (church planting) won't get you there (movement)

- A. Church planting success is realized in involvement
- B. Involvement in church planting can hinder a movement
- C. A movement demands that leaders work on the ministry rather than in it

II. The Challenges of a Movement Leader

- A. To shepherd a dynamic spiritual movement
- B. To discover, empower and coach church planting leaders
- C. To formulate audacious faith goals and to communicate them regularly
- D. To guide leaders to solve their ministry hurdles
- E. To fan the flames of church planting success

III. The Pathway to becoming a Movement Leader

- A. Church Planting experience
- B. Learning from the best outside of our culture
- C. Inspiring vision
- D. Adherence to the G7 principles of church planting multiplication
- E. Surrendering the movement to God