



Consulting a Church for The Next Level

**The Training Summit – Annual Conference
 Southern Seminary, Louisville KY
 September 15-17, 2014**

Our Agenda

Mon Sep 15	4:00-6:00 PM	Reception and Registration
	5:30-6:45	SCC Board members meal and social time together
	6:00-7:00	Networking Meal Break (not provided)
	7:00-8:30	Keynote Advanced Session #1 Taking a Church to The Next Level Dr. Gary McIntosh
Tues Sep 16	8:00AM-2:00 PM	Level 1 and 2 Training (with free DVDs for L3 and L4 upon completion of this training) – Dr. John Ewart
	8:30-9:30 AM	Continental Breakfast and Networking
	10:00-11:30	Advanced Session #2 Health Factors for The Next Level Dr. Bob Whitesel
	12:00-1:00 PM	Box Lunches
	1:00-2:00	Case Study Group Working Session Facilitated by Bob Whitesel and open to all
	2:00-2:30	Break and Networking
	2:30-4:00	Advanced Session #3 Change Reaction to The Next Level Dr. Bob Whitesel
	6:00-7:30	Optional Networking Banquet Leadership Trends by Society Board Members Hosted by Tom Harper, Society President
Wed Sep 17	7:00-8:00 AM	Continental Breakfast and Networking
	8:00-9:30	Advanced Session #4 Developing A Vision for The Next Level Dr. John Ewart
	9:30-10:00	Break / Networking
	10:00-11:30	Advanced Session #5 Governance Transitions for The Next Level Jim Barber
	11:45AM-12:30 PM	Optional Networking Lunch

Session Syllabus

The Society is pleased to be able to offer Level 1 and 2 and five advanced training sessions this year with the theme of consulting a church to the next level. Churches will frequently rely on a consultant to guide them through the transitions from one size to the next. It is essential that the well-rounded consultant become equipped to guide a church through how to grow and how to anticipate what will be required to grow. Our Level 1 and 2 training has always provided this. Our Advanced Sessions are designed to focus on a specific area of consulting and put more tools in your consulting tool bag.

Note: Anyone can take the Advanced Sessions. It is not a prerequisite that you have completed Levels 1-4 Training

The following is a description of Level 1 and 2, each advanced session, a complimentary case study session, and our plans for the networking banquet Tuesday evening. The conference is designed with a "Create-Your-Conference" format. Participants will select which sessions they will attend.

Levels 1 and 2 Training

Dr. John Ewart

Assoc. V.P. for Global Theological Initiatives

Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary

Level 1: Introduction to Church Health & Consulting

- Changes in American culture
- The State of the American church
- Definition of Church Consulting
- Healthy Church Model
- Guiding a church toward evangelism
- Principles for making disciples
- Leading a church through change
- Handling church conflict
- Getting started with prayer!
- Consulting code of ethics
- Church consultation process
- Conducting interviews
- Winning strategies
- The Church Health Survey™

Level 2: Comprehensive Church Consultation

- Comprehensive Consultation Areas
- Mission and Vision
- Growth Barriers
- Congregational Analysis
- Data Analysis
- Community Analysis
- Church Finances
- Church Budgets and Financial Ratios
- Financial Borrowing

Keynote Advanced Session #1
Taking a Church to The Next Level

Dr. Gary McIntosh
Professor of Christian Ministry and Leadership
Talbot School of Theology, Biola University
President of the Church Growth Network

There are few others who can speak to the matters of transitions with size with the clarity and experience of Dr. McIntosh. Gary will kick off our Training Summit with a general overview of what the consultant should consider regarding growth transitions for any size church. He will discuss the key features of five different size churches as they progress through their life cycles. He will also help the consultant grow in the understanding of the transitions required from one size to the next.

Advanced Session #2
Health Factors for The Next Level

Dr. Bob Whitesel
Professor of Missional Leadership
Wesley Seminary, Indiana Wesleyan University
President of Creative Church Consulting International

There are factors of health that allow a church to go to the next level. Knowing what those are and how to assess them allow the consultant to bring an objective voice to the church leadership table. Dr. Whitesel has devoted attention to research, consulted churches, and written about this important topic. Bob will help you have a better understanding of what health factors to look for, how to assess them, and how to coach a church to greater health. Health is a prerequisite to getting to the next level.

Case Study Group Working Session

Facilitator: Dr. Bob Whitesel

This complimentary session is open to anyone who would like to work on a case study of a church desiring to go to the next level. Bob will have you break into small groups to work on a case together. In the last fifteen minutes, each group will report on their recommendations. Bob will interact with your thoughts from his consulting expertise.

Advanced Session #3
Addressing Change Reactions to The Next Level

Dr. Bob Whitesel
Professor of Missional Leadership
Wesley Seminary, Indiana Wesleyan University
President of Creative Church Consulting International

Transitions require change and churches will usually react to change in predictable ways. Dr. Whitesel won an Outreach Magazine award for his book, *Preparing for Change Reaction: How to Introduce Change in Your Church* (Wesleyan Publishing House, 2013). As consultants, we need to be prepared to discern and address the dynamics of change in churches that are transition to the next size. This session will focus on those change dynamics and equip you to take your consulting to the next level.

Leadership Trends Banquet

Host: Tom Harper, President of the Society for Church Consulting
President of Networld Media Group
Publisher of Church Central.com

This optional banquet will provide opportunities for networking with those in the field of church consulting and those aspiring to it. A short agenda will include a discussion with Society board members facilitated by Tom Harper. Tom will share from his experience as editor and publisher of Church Central. He will also draw out the experience and observations from his fellow board members.

Advanced Session #4

Developing a Vision for The Next Level

Dr. John Ewart
Assoc. V.P. for Global Theological Initiatives
Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary

One of the essentials of getting to the next level is having a vision to see that realized. In our Level 2 training, Dr. John introduces this topic. In his Advanced Session, he will expand on those thoughts and focus specifically on how to consult to a church that needs a vision for growth and making transitions with size. This session will dig deeper into how a vision can be developed and clarifying the role of the consultant in that process.

Advanced Session #5

Governance Transitions for The Next Level

Jim Barber
Executive Director of the Society for Church Consulting
President of Barber Church Consulting

The need for a governance transition is a common barrier experienced by churches transitioning to the next level. Jim Barber regularly consults about and has written on the topic of congregational churches transitioning from congregation-led to board-led, and from board-led to staff-led structures. He has developed his own consulting approaches to this and also uses Dr. Aubrey Malphurs guidance in *Leading Leaders* (Baker Books, 2005). This session will equip the consultant with practical ideas for consulting to churches needing to make governance transitions.