



Brethren Training Network

encouraging training and leadership development

Fourth International Training Consultation

"Biblical Training for growing Healthy Churches"

held at

Emmaus Bible College

Dubuque, Iowa, USA

29 May – 2 June 2018 (DV)

**Consultation, fellowship and learning together
for all involved in Bible teaching and training for
ministry in association with Open/Christian
Brethren churches and similar independent
churches worldwide**

Plenary speakers:-

- **Jonathan Lamb (Keswick Ministries, UK)**
- **David Smith (Perth Bible College, Australia)**

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International Training Consultation

The main plenary sessions and associated discussions will look at both the theology of church and the practicalities of developing healthy churches as a basis for principles to improve teaching courses and training initiatives.

- **“Essence, Expression and Evaluation of Healthy Churches:”** David Smith (Principal Perth Bible College, elder at Duncraig Christian fellowship, chairman in Christian Community Churches of Australia) will be dealing with the specific ecclesiological considerations and challenges that face the Brethren movement. His own work has included the development of an evaluation process which provides churches with the ability to assess their understanding of the essence of what it means to be church, to build connected expressions of that in a local context, and to ensure the church is directed toward its goal - becoming all that God intends.
- **“Growth with depth, honour and integrity:”** Jonathan Lamb (CEO Keswick Ministries, former teaching elder Belmont Chapel, Exeter, UK, former Director of Langham Preaching) will tackle three key challenges of growing and maintaining healthy churches: (a) the problem of ‘growth without depth’, which has been one of the challenges in recent high growth areas of the majority world, but which clearly challenges western churches too. (b) the problem of inconsistency – the lack of integrity in leaders and the lack of godliness in churches. (c) our struggles with division, or sometimes our inability to develop a doctrine of difference in church thought and practice.

The afternoon sessions will be a choice from a range of workshops covering some of the current training issues we face in the Brethren Movement.

The evenings will provide opportunities to share best practice with one another, inspire one another through being informed of significant developments, and sharpen our perspectives with some of the major training challenges we face.