



# RENOVARÉ

The RENOVARÉ International Institute for Christian Spiritual Formation  
A TWO-YEAR EXPERIENCE OF BECOMING LIKE JESUS

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## What is RENOVARÉ?

RENOVARÉ is a nonprofit ministry devoted to advocating, fueling, and modeling authentic discipleship to Jesus Christ, so that churches and individuals might be renewed through deeper experience and understanding of Christ-like life. Founded by spiritual formation author Richard J. Foster, RENOVARÉ is Christian in commitment, international in scope, and ecumenical in breadth.



*“I give my highest endorsement for the Renovaré Institute. I know every teacher in the program personally and they are superb. The Renovaré Institute will provide students with a solid framework for understanding and living out Christian Spiritual Formation. In addition, the cohort structure encourages an exceptional experience of Christian community life.” —Richard Foster*

## What is the RENOVARÉ Institute?

Richard J. Foster first drew up a proposal for a spiritual formation academy/institute in 1991. Since that time, there has been an explosion of interest in spiritual formation with the majority of seminaries offering “something” related to spiritual formation. However, even with the burgeoning interest, it is rare to find programs that maintain what RENOVARÉ champions—high Christology, balanced vision, practical strategies, a breadth of historical and ecumenical engagement, and a superior quality in ideas and written materials.

According to Dallas Willard, at present “the spiritual formation field lacks intellectual rigor and testable

information needed to put the gospel and spiritual life in Christ on the cognitive map for the multitudes of people who are hungry for something real.” With this challenge in mind, the mission of the RENOVARÉ Institute is to make disciples of Jesus, immersing them into Trinitarian LIFE in the kingdom of God, and teaching them actually to do what Jesus says is best.

*The Renovaré Institute is unique in the area of spiritual formation today in the way it incorporates: in depth study of classic and contemporary texts in the field, scholarly and intellectual engagement and oversight, intensive cohort and communal involvements, and supervision by people highly qualified by their own experience and understanding of spiritual formation in the Way of Christ. The Institute is designed to put its participants in position to live fully in the Kingdom of God, whatever their real life circumstances may be, increasingly manifesting the character and power of that Kingdom throughout the contemporary world. It is a rigorous and demanding course of studies and development, as one should expect the path of discipleship to Jesus Christ to be. But the outcome gives substance to the high calling of Christ that far too often is only sung about and fitfully dreamed of. —Dallas Willard*



## Who should apply?

The ideal individuals to benefit from the offerings of the RENOVARÉ Institute are the cross section of people within various local congregations who are profoundly dedicated to Christian spiritual formation. These are well educated and natural leaders among both laity and clergy who may have become frustrated with church but cannot abandon it. These are highly motivated individuals who are looking for something not fully provided by either seminary education or local church life. Their common desire is to know and live the “with-God life.” Their common strength is the ability and the platform to influence others in living well.

## What will the RENOVARÉ Institute provide?

The RENOVARÉ Institute offers a systematic way to articulate and develop—both in writing and teaching content—critical ideas of Dallas Willard and Richard J. Foster and others associated with RENOVARÉ. In addition to providing an intensive environment for soaking in these core concepts, the Institute will add intellectual rigor and testable information to the Christian spiritual formation field. The RENOVARÉ Institute will help develop a second generation of RENOVARÉ teachers.



## Student Comments

*“I have spent two years within an environment that exemplifies openness, vulnerability, the love of God, the challenging of the mind and the cultivation of a permeable soul.”*

*“This course has been truly life changing. The teaching has given me a new vision of God, and of life that is so much bigger and more wonderful than anything I could have imagined.”*

*“Two years ago I had a deep ache in my heart to know God more deeply and to be able to communicate that process of growth to others. The Renovaré Institute has provided incredible teaching, spiritual direction and guidance.”*

*Through the Renovaré Institute I have begun to believe and to know Jesus’ good news. Life in the Kingdom of love, joy and peace is really possible and I’m invited.*

## Who will teach in the RENOVARÉ Institute?

Teachers for the first three cohort groups have included: Dallas Willard, Keith Matthews, Jan Johnson, John Ortberg, Todd Hunter, Trevor Hudson, Chris Webb, James Bryan Smith, Glandion Carney, Emilie Griffin, Mindy Caliguire, Charles Ayars, Eduardo Rosa Pedreira, Howard Baker, and Gary W. Moon. Richard J. Foster has been available for Q & A sessions.

## Curriculum

Over the course of two years, students will *read* more than 24 books and dozens of articles, *participate* in a variety of spiritual formation activities, *develop* a spiritual community with a small group of co-learners, and *experience* 28 days of teaching and formational activities built around key Renovaré concepts such as the following:

1. *It is actually possible to become like Jesus: Biblical Foundations*
2. *Living in the kingdom of God: What is the gospel of Christ?*
3. *The total human system—all of which is to love God*
4. *Living in Conversation with God*
5. *The role of Spiritual disciplines in Developing Christian Character*
6. *Salvation is a life of knowing God*
7. *Celebrating the Great Traditions of Christian Faith*
8. *Being with God in classical devotional literature*
9. *Experiencing God in Scripture*
10. *Being with God in prayer*
11. *Living as an Apprentice to Jesus*
12. *Formation in all the roles of real life*

## Important Dates

While you can be a student in the Renovaré Institute and live anywhere in the world, students will gather four times over the course of the two-year program in one particular geographic location. The first three host cities have been Menlo Park, California; Denver, Colorado and Atlanta, Georgia. The next two cohort groups will meet in Santa Barbara, California and London, England.

SESSION	SANTA BARBARA	LONDON
One	Oct. 8-14, 2012	Oct. 7-13, 2013
Two	Mar. 11-17, 2013	March 10-16, 2014
Three	Jan. 6-12, 2014	January 5-11, 2015
Four	June 2-8, 2014	June 1-7, 2015

## What will it cost?

The cost for **each year** of the two-year academy—exclusive of transportation, books, and supplies—is \$3,900. A significant percentage of this cost is for lodging and meals during the four weeks in retreat center settings.

## Deadlines

**Early Application Deadlines: 3/1/2012 (Santa Barbara) and 3/1/2013 (London)**

If applying for the Santa Barbara cohort group, please try to have all your materials in my March 1, 2012. It is anticipated that there will be far more applicants than available space. It is likely we will close the application process prior to the final application deadline.

**Final Application Deadline: 5/1/2012 (Santa Barbara) and 5/1/2013 (London)**

This date is applicable only if space is still available.

**Payment Date for Year One: 7/1/2012 (Santa Barbara) and 7/1/2013 (London)**

For more information contact Pam Stewart at 706.498.7595 or email: pam@renovare.us.