



RENOVARÉ CANADA

A Vision for Spiritual Formation in Canada

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Why Renovaré Canada? *By Richard Hovey*

I have often found myself in search of something more than what I was presently experiencing. Knowing that I had put my faith in Jesus, believing in Him as both my Saviour and Lord, I began what has been a lifelong journey of learning how to get to know Him – to know His presence, His correction, His compassion. And to know these things not only in some secretive personal way but rather in a way others may also know that I know Him.

As a pastor for the past 23 years, I learned later than I wished the importance of spiritual formation for ministry. As the years went by, I found myself dry, empty and ministering in my own strength. It was unsettling to realize this was not only my situation, but also the situation of others I knew in ministry – and the situation of many of our parishioners, they too finding themselves spiritually dry and uncertain of the presence of the Lord in their daily Christian life.

The answer to my search began to come into clearer focus while I was in seminary. Through my seminary education I came to realize the importance of spiritual formation for the Christian life. The Spiritual Formation for Ministry course, where I was introduced to Richard Foster's *Celebration of Discipline*, started me on this avenue. The disciplines are our ongoing response to the grace of God made manifest in Christ as we cooperate with the work of the Spirit in our lives.

Shortly after this course, I called Renovaré US to ask if they did ministry in Canada. Long story short, this phone call led to my submitting a proposal to start Renovaré Canada – which was graciously approved by Renovaré US. Renovaré Canada, shortly thereafter, was incorporated as a not-for-profit organization in 2014. My hope and desire with Renovaré Canada is simple: to help people know God (Father, Son, Holy Spirit) in all His fullness and to do life with God in all the beauty that entails – both personally and corporately.

Contact Renovaré Canada

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About Renovaré Canada

Are you curious about Renovaré Canada? Here are some facts to get you started.

Renovaré Canada:

- is the Canadian extension of Renovaré U.S., established and directed by Richard Foster.
- seeks to teach about the necessity of grace, the means of grace, the availability of God's kingdom and the centrality of Scripture in spiritual formation.
- imagines a world where people's lives flourish as they increasingly become like Jesus because Christian spiritual formation is clearly understood and widely practiced.
- is a community of Christians who model, resource and advocate fullness of life with God, experienced by grace, through the spiritual practices of Jesus and the historical

church.

- stands with historic Christian orthodoxy, affirming both the Apostles' and Nicene Creeds.
- models, resources, and advocates fullness of life with God experienced, by grace, through the spiritual practices of Jesus and of the historical Church.

"In utter dependence upon Jesus Christ as my ever-living Savior, Teacher, Lord, and Friend, I will seek continual renewal through: spiritual exercises, spiritual gifts, and acts of service."

Find out more at www.renovarecanada.ca

...utter dependence upon Jesus Christ as my ever-living Savior...

What Students Are Saying

"I'm really glad that I signed up for Renovare's Certificate of Spiritual Formation and Leadership. After stepping down from full-time pastoral ministry, I was looking for something to keep me growing and learning. The combination of readings, assignments, retreats, and weekly zoomchats has definitely done that, and I look forward to the third year of the program with Richard and my colleagues."

~Doug Wightman

Certificate in Spiritual Formation

Are you desiring a deeper relationship with God—through His Word, His people and His presence?

Consider joining Renovaré Canada's Certificate in Spiritual Formation and Leadership.

This Certificate is led by Dr. Richard Hovey, whose desire with the certificate is to see God's people brought to a place of ministering out of a rich experience of Christ which leads to life with God.

This three-year certificate has four components:

- You will meet with an online Cohort of up to 12 people in which you will work through material geared to make spiritual formation into Christ-likeness a regular part of your life.
- You will be able to interact in an online forum with other individuals in your Cohort.
- You will have a number of assigned readings and papers to write, which will aid you in working through concepts in Spiritual Formation and Leadership.
- Twice a year, your Cohort will gather for workshops relevant to Christian Spiritual Formation. Each workshop will run Thursday evening to Sunday noon at Queen's House in Saskatoon, SK.

Find out more at www.renovarecanada.ca and consider joining our 2020/2021 cohort.

A New Partnership

Renovaré Canada is excited to announce our new partnership with Briercrest College & Seminary. This is a phenomenal opportunity and we look forward to watching how this new partnership unfolds.

Meet Blayne Banting, Interim Dean of the Seminary!



“Briercrest Seminary is thrilled to partner with Renovaré Canada. We share a common passion to form God’s people into the likeness of the Lord. Depth of character and a vibrant spiritual life have always been essential for those serving the Lord, but even more so in these days when so many things seem to be “up for grabs” around us. We welcome those who have completed Renovaré Canada’s Certificate in Spiritual Formation and Leadership and grant 12 semester hours of seminary credit for these studies. Please feel free to contact the Seminary to explore how these hours might fit into one of our degree programs. This partnership is designed to help any follower of Jesus to grow deeper, wider and higher in their living relationship with the Triune God and his people. Together we are stronger!”
~Blayne Banting, Interim Dean of the Seminary,
Briercrest College & Seminary



Partner with Us

Partner with us in revitalizing spiritual life in the Canadian church!

Your Partnership will help us in our work of bringing spiritual formation into Christlikeness into sharper focus and practice, with 18% of your Partnership Payment going toward sponsorships for churches and individuals to access our programs and ministries. Also, as a partner you will receive a 10% discount on all ministries of Renovaré Canada along with access to a quarterly publication highlighting our current and upcoming ministries, containing relevant articles on spiritual formation, and more.

A Renovaré Canada Partnership is \$15 per month (\$180/year).

Find out more at
www.renovarecanada.ca

Food for Thought

“You cannot give people the conclusions without walking the journey, or they will substitute the conclusions for the journey itself. Maybe that will always be the downside of religion, for that is what it most often does.”

~Richard Rohr

“True solitude is found in the wild places, where one is without human obligation. One’s inner voices become audible... In consequence, one responds more clearly to other lives.”

~Wendell Berry

Upcoming Events

Renovaré Canada, partnering with the Canadian Fellowship of Christian Spiritual Directors presents:

For more information, and to register,

Visit

www.genesis-summit.ca

GENESIS SUMMIT 2019 A Spiritual Formation conference

October 3-4, 2019

Redeemer Bible Church
3017 Montrose Rd.
Niagara Falls, ON

Genesis Summit is an inter-denominational event that exists to EQUIP, ENCOURAGE, and EMPOWER ministry leaders to foster communities of spiritual transformation.



Ongoing Ministries—Spiritual Mentoring

Are you looking to go deeper in your relationship with God? In our Spiritual Mentoring Program we seek to help you live your life to the fullest with God.

When you sign up for the Spiritual Mentoring Program, you get:

- 16 sessions with a spiritual mentor
- The opportunity to work through selected resources in developing your spiritual life
- An Enneagram Assessment
- The chance to develop a Rule of Life

This is an 8-month journey which you can start any time!

The cost is \$360 (\$45/month).

For more information, visit us at www.renovarecanada.ca

Now on Twitter and Facebook

We are online!

For upcoming information or news about Renovaré Canada, you can follow us on Twitter and Facebook!

Find us on Twitter

@RenovareCanada

Find us on Facebook

/RenovareCanada



“These are not the kinds of books you want to rush through.”

Renovaré Book Corner

I was richly blessed by *the Apprentice Series* by James Bryan Smith. This 3-part series is not only easy to read, but it is also very practical and easy to apply to one’s life. As a student in Renovaré’s Spiritual Certificate, we read through these three books as a weekly devotional, so I was able to chew on them slowly. These are not the kinds of books you want to rush through. Each chapter outlines a topic to reflect upon, and ends with a Soul Training Exercise: a spiritual discipline to practice for the week. Reflection questions help you go a little further in helping with the spiritual exercises. The Soul Training Exercises are very doable and easy to accomplish. These books were the highlight of my readings throughout the Spiritual Certificate.

The Good and Beautiful God walks you through the character of God, and how knowing His character more fully can help us move closer to Him in our daily

walks.

The Good and Beautiful Life takes it a step further and, following the Sermon on the Mount, walks you through the life God desires for His people.

The Good and Beautiful Community ties it all together, walking you through how to live the God-life with others, living as a community of Christ-followers.

I would recommend these treasures to anybody who wants to deepen their walk with Jesus. These books are practical and useful for every Christian.

~Chrissy M. Dennis



The Board and Staff

Renovaré Staff



Richard Hovey—Founding Director

Richard has over 20 years of ministry experience, currently serving as an Associate Pastor at First Baptist Church in Regina, SK as well as the Executive Director of Renovaré Canada. Richard also serves as adjunct faculty at Briercrest Seminary where he teaches spiritual formation for ministry. He has completed a BA in Sociology, MA in Pastoral Counselling, and MA in Theology. In 2018, Richard completed his doctorate in Leadership and Spiritual Formation at George Fox University.

Chrissy Dennis—Administrative Assistant

Chrissy Dennis is the administrative assistant for Renovaré Canada. She believes Jesus is everything and wants to experience Him more fully in this life. She is a foster mom, an avid reader, and a published author of 3 Christian novels.



Renovaré Board



Mark Friesen

Mark Friesen is a Christ-follower whose walk with Christ has been greatly enhanced for over a decade by the teaching and resources of Renovaré. He has also found Renovaré resources to be helpful in leading a number of small groups.

Mark seeks to live out the with-God life in the context of his life in Winnipeg with his family (his wife Maryann and two boys Zack and Sam), in his work as a hospital pharmacist, and in his church as a lay leader in life group and prayer ministries (The Meeting Place: Mennonite Brethren). He and his wife are also members of an Imago Dei group that meets in Winnipeg.



Ryan Lees

Ryan Lees works as a chiropractor by trade and loves helping people in this way. But what he really desires is a deeper and daily experience of Jesus and the life He offers to all of us. In turn, he wants the good news of the availability of this life and how to take hold of it made known to all who wish to find it.

"I have long known that there has been a giant void in my life between what I experience of Jesus and what I desire to experience. That I can be transformed in my character to be like Jesus, in reality, and have joy, peace and faith as my constant companions is great news! Through the writings of Dallas Willard and Richard Foster and the moving of the Spirit, I have come to understand that that can truly become a reality for me."



Ruth Heine

Ruth Heine is a lay reader in the Anglican Diocese of Edmonton and is on staff at St. Thomas in Sherwood Park. She coordinates music for worship services, assists with spiritual formation teaching, and is the mission facilitator for neighborhood engagement.

Ruth is also a Doula running a practice providing education/companionship through the journey of childbirth and the transition into parenthood. "Renovaré has been a blessing as I seek to live the 'with-God life', implementing spiritual disciplines that support daily growth in Christ. I have been encouraged and challenged through the course content, leadership, and relationships built in my cohort. It has been life changing and life giving."