



TERM 6
Spiritual Leadership
January - May 2029

Instructor: Dr. Richard Hovey
richard@renovarecanada.ca

Retreat Dates/Location:
April 19-22, 2029 on Deer Island, NB

Note: For our Retreat Weekend arrival is on Thursday evening (April 19) for a time of welcome, settling in and an opening devotion time together. We will end our retreat time with lunch on Sunday (April 22).

Course Description: This final course will focus on securing a biblical understanding of leadership which is: reliant on the Spirit, has shepherding as a motif, and takes into account the biblical themes of shema, sabbath, and shalom. These elements will be discussed in relation to Jesus as savior, with the understanding that spiritual leadership ought to foster Jesus' continued ministry.

Objectives:

- To provide the student with a biblical understanding of leadership and the pillars that indicate success as a leader of God's people.
- To enable the student to more effectively lead others into the heart of God in their particular ministry context.
- To encourage students to rely ultimately upon the Spirit's influence and guidance in their ministry, gaining a greater sense of the Spirit's leading in their own lives.

Course Texts (in reading order):

The Genesee Diary: a report from a Trappist Monastery by Henri Nouwen

Authentic Spirituality: moving beyond mere religion by Barry Callen

An Altar in the World: a geography of faith by Barbara Brown Taylor

In the Name of Jesus: reflections on Christian Leadership by Henri Nouwen

Assignments:

- For a period of 8 weeks, practice the Daily Examen (we will go over this our first Zoom session). Journal your reflections on what you have discovered about God, yourself, and others. (1000 words). Due: March 31 2029.
- What does it mean to be led by the Spirit in your life and ministry context? Reflecting upon the readings and retreat material, write a personal response to this question. (1500 words). Due: June 30 2029.

Devotional Reading/Small Group Involvement:

Another element of 'Consumed' is having an active devotional life which finds expression in community. Our devotional guide this term, *Devotional Classics: selected readings for individuals and groups* (edited by Richard Foster and James Bryan Smith), provides select readings centered around the six streams of Christian life and faith, as covered in *Streams of Living Water* by Richard Foster. Students are encouraged to work through these readings, journaling answers to the reflection questions and trying the suggested exercises for at least one of the readings under each discipline. We will continue to meet weekly via Zoom to discuss and encourage one another in the devotional material as well as the course texts.

