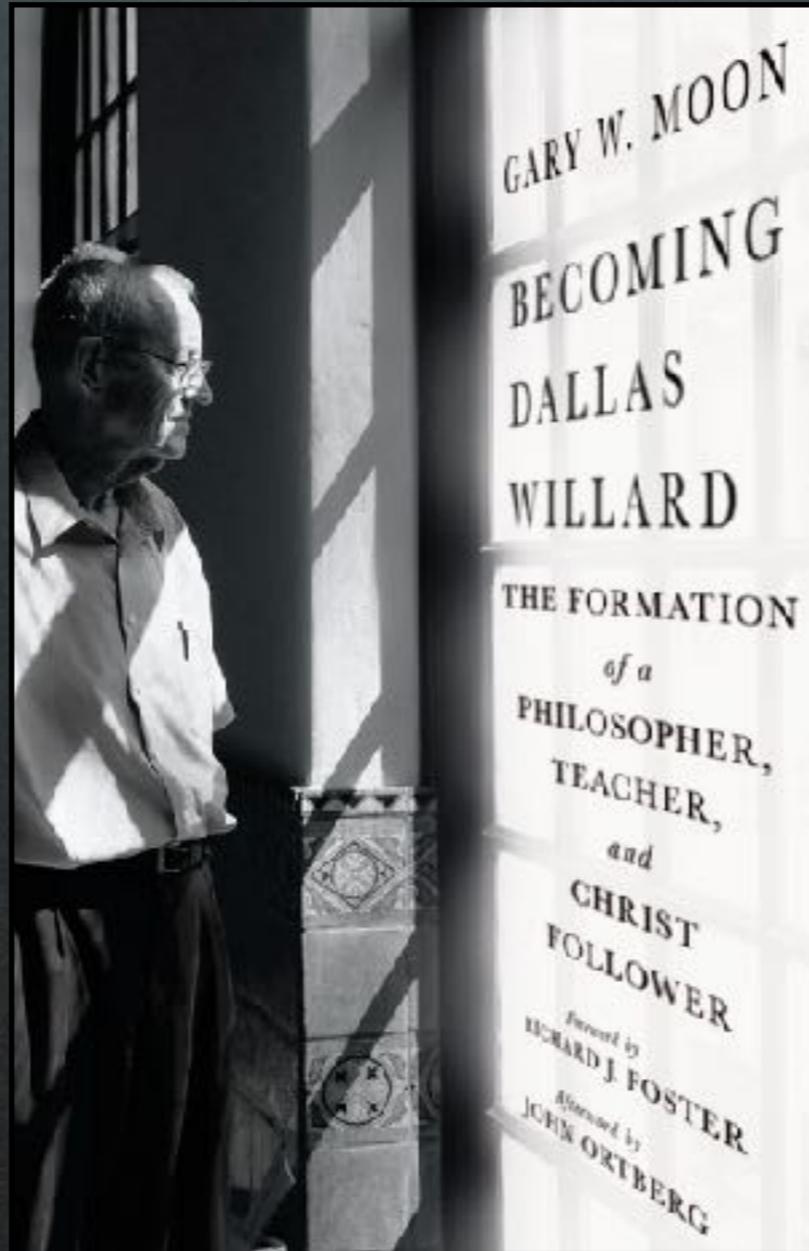


# BECOMING DALLAS WILLARD

## Chapter 14

### *Session 8 - "Ideas that Matter for Time and Eternity" Part 2*



## SESSION 7 REVIEW - BECOMING DALLAS WILLARD

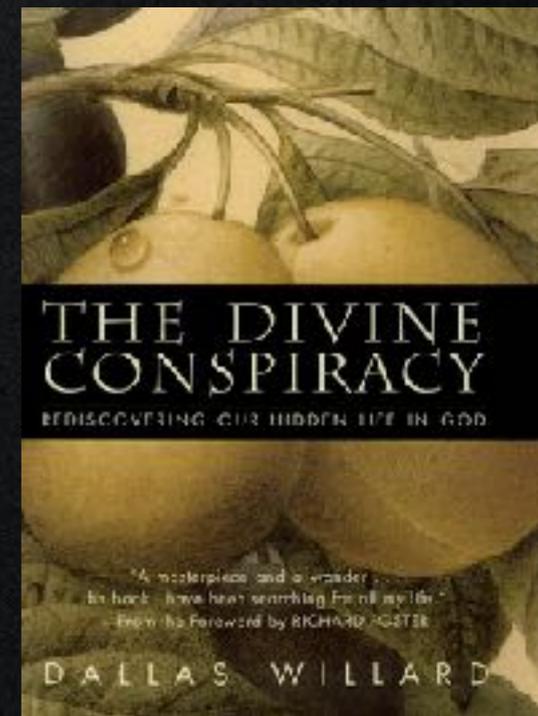
### Ideas that Matter for Time & Eternity (part 1)

Dallas' first two books were about the **Means** of entering eternal living, now. But still needed was a full **Vision** of what this life was. His third book *The Divine Conspiracy* filled that gap.

*“It is about living now as His apprentice in Kingdom living, not just as a consumer of His merits.*

*Eternity is now in flight and we with it, like it or not.”*

(206-207)



# **BECOMING DALLAS WILLARD**

## Chapter 14

### *Session 8 - "Ideas that Matter for Time and Eternity" Part 2*

To glorify God means to think and act in such a way that the goodness, greatness, and beauty of God are constantly obvious to you and all those around you.

(209)

# BECOMING DALLAS WILLARD

## Chapter 14

### *Session 8 - "Ideas that Matter for Time and Eternity" Part 2*

#### **A Gathering in Washington, D.C.**

*"The idea that knowledge — and of course reality — is limited to the world of the natural sciences is the single most destructive idea on the stage of life today. It may seem that you live in a world where moral knowledge has been pulled out of the grass. But you do not."*

That project — *The Disappearance of Moral Knowledge* — would be in the back of his mind for the rest of his life.

# BECOMING DALLAS WILLARD

## Chapter 14

### *Session 8 - "Ideas that Matter for Time and Eternity" Part 2*

#### **The Atonement**

*"We must never confuse fact and theory. The fact is Christ died; the theory is what was going on. Theologians still call them theories of atonement."*

(211)

# BECOMING DALLAS WILLARD

## Chapter 14

### *Session 8 - “Ideas that Matter for Time and Eternity” Part 2*

*“His thinking and writing turned my world upside down. It was like being thrown into a swimming pool when one can barely swim. I was thrown into a new, wonderful, exhilarating, life-giving pool of ideas. I joined the conspiracy; the conspiracy to disrupt our contemporary world with the life of Jesus Christ.”*

James Catford  
Harper Acquisitions Editor

(212)

Dallas was moving from shining the light on the Kingdom to shining light on the person.

(212)

# BECOMING DALLAS WILLARD

## Chapter 14

### *Session 8 - "Ideas that Matter for Time and Eternity" Part 2*

In 1998, with *The Divine Conspiracy* in the hands of the publisher, now life can get back to normal.

*"In the university, there is no such thing as moral knowledge."*

Jane was moved to tears that a book had to be written on this information and Dallas was the one who had to write it. That would be his next book. That was the plan ...considered by many to be his magnum opus project.

The problem was, Dallas found it hard to turn requests down.

*Renovation of the Heart* took two years to write.

It became Jane's favorite book with chapters 6 & 7 as her favorite chapters.

Two things for which Dallas wanted his listeners to have a compelling vision: the Kingdom of God and how persons are specifically designed to experience the abundant life of the Kingdom.

*Renovation of the Heart* would offer understanding concerning how to bring the various aspects of the human self (thinking, feeling, behaving, relating, and choosing) under God's reign, into the Kingdom to experience life in full.

Theology and Psychology came together in Dallas.

## *Renovation of the Heart (continued)*

Jesus, a member of the creative team (the Trinity) that designed human beings, might actually know a thing or two about optimal human functioning. Jesus is both present and really smart. And Jesus had excellent answers to the 4 questions human have wrestled with for 1000's of years.

What is (ultimate) reality?

*God and His Kingdom*

Who is well off?

*Anyone alive in the Kingdom interactively engaged with the Trinity*

Who is a really good person?

*Anyone pervaded with love*

How does one become a genuinely good person?

*Place your confidence in Jesus and become His apprentice*

(83, 103, 113, 214, 224)

In memory of Dallas Willard

*September 4, 1935 - May 8, 2013*

Beloved Professor of Philosophy (1965-2012)

“You cannot ‘opt out’ of having a worldview.

You can only try to have one that most accords with reality,  
including the whole realm of facts concerning what is genuinely good.

The four questions any worldview must answer are:

What is reality?

Who is well-off?

Who is truly a good person?

How does one become a truly good person?

In modern psychology, those who continued to talk about invisible things became progressively marginalized. In the new world of psychology, if you can't see and measure it, it does not exist.

In *Renovation of the Heart*, Dallas offered a great gift to the discipline of psychology (literally soul-ology). Modern psychology was all but ignoring the invisible components of the person, spirit (heart and will) and soul.

Dallas' anthropological work was a most welcome addition to the field.

In 1995, the first conference was held under "Soul Care".

(214-215)

*Renovation of the Heart* was to provide a clearer and more precise understanding of the various dimensions of the human self (thought, emotion, behavior, relationship, volition and soul) and interpretation of the process for bringing each of these various aspects of the person under God's reign.

Real change of character is possible.

This requires a transformation of the heart from being radically evil to radically good.

There was a psychology before the birth of modern psychology, that the invisible parts of the person, (soul, spirit, mind) are vital to well being, and that Dr. Jesus was at hand and accepting new patients.

(215-216)

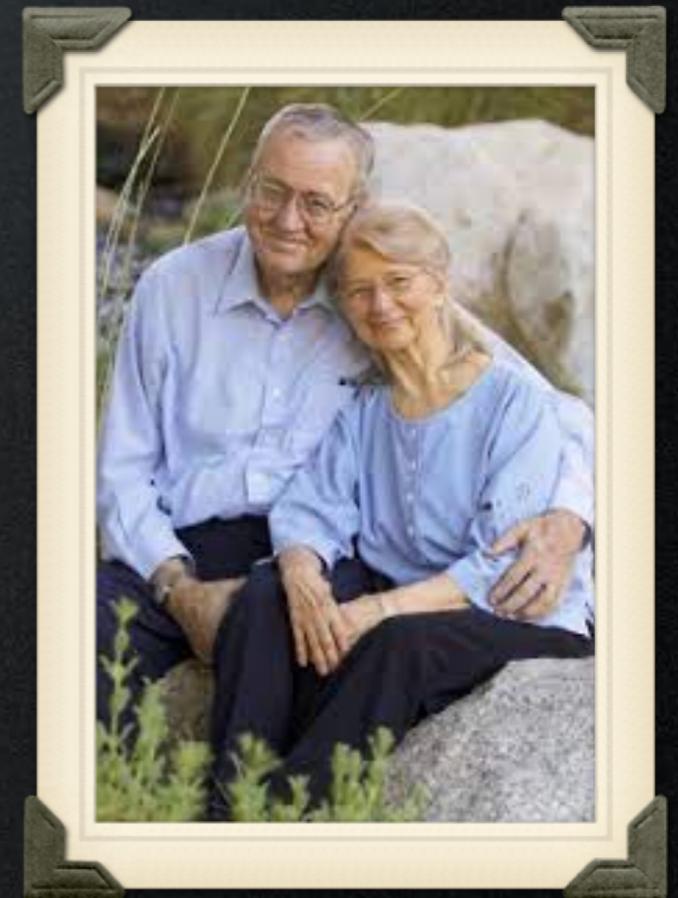
## **A Supervisory Council**

Jan Johnson, Keith Matthews, Becky Willard Heatley and their Pastor Bill Dwyer formed a team to contain Dallas' proclivity to say Yes to nearly every speaking invitation.

(216-217)



**A 50th Anniversary  
August 26, 2005**



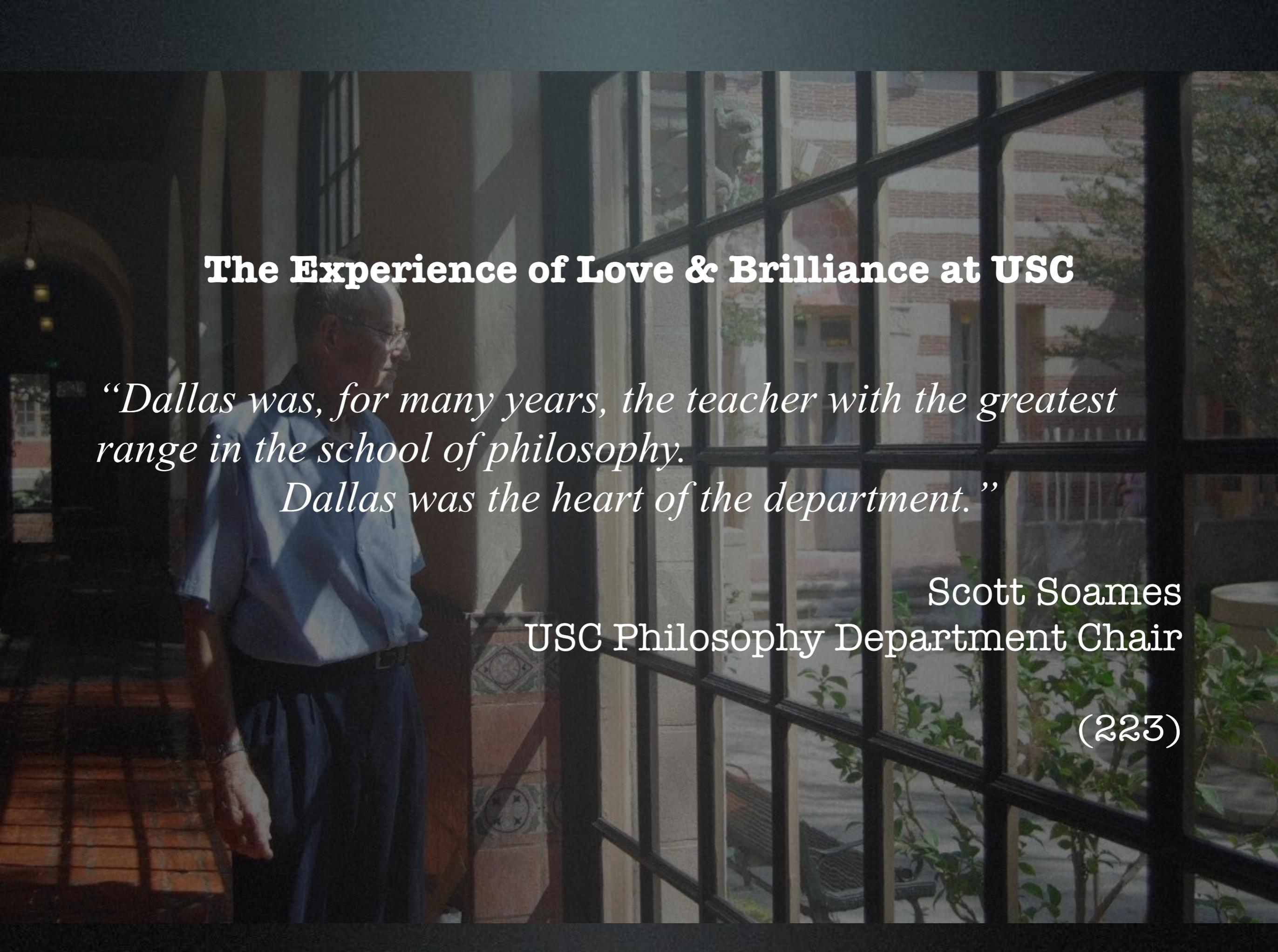
**The Renovaré International Institute for  
Christian Spiritual Formation**

Summer of 2006

For the multitudes of people who are hungry for something real, the mission was to make disciples of Jesus, immersing them into Trinitarian Life in the Kingdom of God, and teaching them to actually do what Jesus says is best.

The Cohorts started in 2009 and each ran for two years covering 12 Key Ideas. Dallas spent two weeks per year with the Institute from 2009-2012.

(218-219)



**The Experience of Love & Brilliance at USC**

*“Dallas was, for many years, the teacher with the greatest range in the school of philosophy.  
Dallas was the heart of the department.”*

Scott Soames  
USC Philosophy Department Chair

(223)

## Jesus Had the Best Answers

He hoped *The Disappearance of Moral Knowledge* would fire the same type of shot across the bow for the university that *The Divine Conspiracy* sounded for the church. (224)

The universities and other transmitters of culture no longer believed in the possibility of moral knowledge and hence no longer held moral passions to rational scrutiny. But he did believe in our need to recover a lost sense that moral progress, through the advancement of moral knowledge, is possible.

His spin-off work *Knowing Christ Today*, 2009, built a case for bringing Jesus in as a source of exquisite-knowledge, and for pastors to to earn the right to teach by virtue of their living in a knowing relationship with Jesus.

Dallas knew we cannot bring Jesus in as an authority as long as people don't believe it is possible for there to be an authority.

(225)

## **Deep Roots in Classical Understanding**

Steve Porter's, "The Willardian Corpus", 2010

Dallas five primary Christian books offering Dallas Willard's (13) Key Ideas.

By the end of the first decade of the new millennium the impact of the ideas and concerns that drove Dallas' teaching and writing continued to cause significant ripples across the church and academy.

Fall 2011, "The Dallas Willard Center for Christian Spiritual Formation" was launched at Westmont College.

## “BECOMING DALLAS WILLARD” - CH. 14

If you paid attention to his way of relating to me, you would've thought we were equals.

*“We're friends.”*

(227)



## “BECOMING YOU”

What key idea(s) has the Lord revealed to me through Dallas that turned my world upside down? (see page 226)

Do others see in me the Christlike humble, gracious, kindness that seemed so effortless in Dallas?

Is Jesus my sole source from whom I draw all knowledge and wisdom for a good life as a good person?

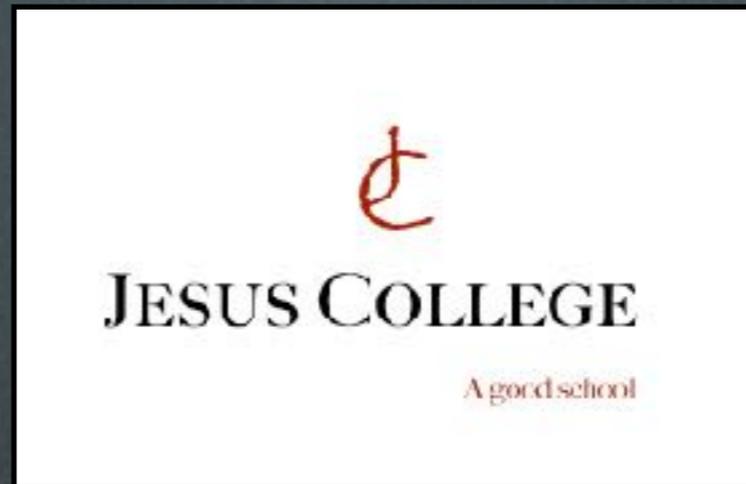


# **BECOMING DALLAS WILLARD**

## **Our Last Session #9**

Chapter 15-16 - "Thank You & Healing Light"

Pages 228-254



Apprentice to Master Love — //Nouns  
*“A Student of the Superior Benefactor”*

Apprentice to Master Love — //Verbs  
*“Training to be proficient in willing the good”*

**The Mission of Jesus College** - To Empower Apprentices to Master Love by knowing Jesus as the One, great truth and live a good life found in such truth.

**The Vision of Jesus College** - To equip Trainers (Ministry, Business Leaders, Parents) to mentor Leaders (Senior Apprentices) to disciple Apprentices to Master love.

**The Storehouse of Jesus College** - Over [150 FREE downloadable resources & links](#) offering the good life in the person, work, teachings & life of Jesus through “Eyes to See” visual resources and “Ears to Hear” audio resources, plus gatherings live & online provided by JESUS COLLEGE, a non-profit 501(c)3 organization.