

KNOWING Christ today

Why We Can Trust Spiritual Knowledge



DALLAS WILLARD

Author of The Divine Conspiracy

mark for

WELCOME to an 8 week Course sponsored by Dallas Willard Ministries & Jesus College





REVIEW from Chapter 1

Knowledge Defined & Applied

Knowledge (defined) – We have knowledge of something when we are representing it (thinking about it, speaking of it, treating it) as it actually is on an appropriate basis of thought and experience. (15) (and 60, 71, 108)

Knowledge (applied) - Authority, right, responsibility to: Act,

Direct action, Establish and supervise policy, and Teach. (17) It cannot *not* be political. (29)





Ch. 1 - Faith as Knowledge

Faith in God through Jesus Christ as knowledge to guide humankind to who we are and what we can be battles secular belief that true knowledge is based on "science" and "research" rendering religion mere beliefs (faith) not truth.

Ch. 2 - Perish without Knowledge

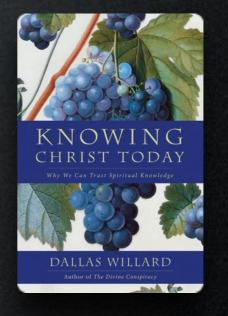
We can not not have a world view. It shapes how we see the world and govern our lives in response.

The lack of the indispensable knowledge of Jesus Christ affects our lives.

Ch. 3 - Loss of Knowledge

We can no longer expect our teaching institutions to teach the next generation how to be good people living good lives.

Our experience of the love of God in Jesus shown to our neighbor within effectual contact reveals our knowledge of an interactive relationship with God and His Kingdom of love.



Ch. 4 - Know God Exists?

We can know that an intelligent creator thoughtfully willed the physical universe into existence thereby confirming the words of the Apostles Creed, "I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of Heaven and earth" as knowledge of truth.

Ch. 5 - Jesus Resurrected?

The established possibility of resurrection, resting upon the openness of the physical universe to a nonphysical source or creator of it all, opens the door to consider fairly the evidence that strongly favors the resurrection of Christ as an actual event and favors His continued presence in this world. (136)

Ch. 6 - Knowing Christ Today

The "Christ Focus" is learning by grace-filled effort through specific practices to interact with Jesus Christ and His Kingdom in humble, intentional obedience right where we are today, now.

Ch. 7 - Christian Pluralism

Christian pluralism is not tolerance of any or all religions or belief systems. It is loving our neighbor with God's love revealed in Jesus and trusting His wide mercy to accept the heart of persons who may or may not have the recognizable Christian marks.

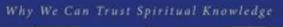
KNOWING CHRIST TODAY Session 8 - "Pastors as Teachers of the Nations"



Chapter 8

KNOWING Christ today

p.193-212





DALLAS WILLARD Author of The Divine Conspiracy

"Feed my sheep" Jesus to Peter

To All the World – Apprentice Makers

Spokespeople for Christ — Our responsibility is to teach what we know to those who don't know it.

"Make disciples of all nations, teaching to do what I commanded" Matthew 28:18-20

The vision and the task were now cosmic. The greatest danger is that we will think too small. Not to make Christians or start churches. To make disciples — to teach them all that Jesus taught.



(194)

"Let me say this to you—the problem of the people of Christ is never that we don't have enough people. Never. If that were the problem, we'd never gotten off the ground in the first place. It's never that we don't have enough money. Never that we don't have enough influence. And I say that because we started right at the bottom. That's where we started. And without violence, without money, without influence, without overwhelming numbers, Christianity became, even today, the single greatest religion in world history. So, I'll say that again, see, the problem is never that we don't have enough people. And the rest of the sentence is...the problem is with the kind of people we have."



Dallas Willard, "Knowledge of Christ in Today's World" Session 8 @ 11:12

The Mission of Spokespeople for Christ

The Mission - Teach students by speaking and being to do what the Master taught.

To know Christ, and in knowing Him, to make knowledge of God and of life in God available to those around them. (195)

"Knowledge" - the whole point of the book.

The failure of the American church to do this is very obvious. (197)

The Task – Present Christ's answers to life's four great questions as knowledge of what is real and good. (198) "4M IQ" – Life's Four Most Important Questions * * *Knowing Christ Today* (45-55) Q1 - What is reality? A - God and His Kingdom.

"Repent, for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand."

Q2 - Who is well off - living the good life? A - Living in the direct availability of the Kingdom of God. "Blessed are the _____, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven."

Q3 - Who is a good person? A - One permeated with agape love. "Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you."

Q4 - How do I become a good person? A - Become an apprentice of Jesus. "Everyone who hears my words and puts them into practice is like a wise man..." ** - <u>Video 1 Questions: 32:00</u> Jesus' Answers 39:45

The Makeup of Spokespeople for Christ One who has a solid basis of knowledge as calm, clear, courageous. (201)

One who magnifies the office presenting testable and available knowledge. (202) Not just believe, commit or profess, but *knowledge* to govern lives. (204)

One with fairness, thoroughness & openness to other worldview answers. (205)





Christian Higher Education *Colleges, Universities, Seminaries* **Present "Mere Christianity" as a proprietary**

body of Christian knowledge. (206)

How does what I believe relate to knowledge in my professional fields?

Is Christianity personal preference or knowledge of truth and reality? (208)

Is faith at home in knowledge? Does faith integrate with knowledge?





Work as a Divine Calling Kingdom Living where we work and live

Routinely and easily doing what Jesus said and did.

Discipleship trains for the sake of the world: "our job is our calling". (210)

Divine service is not church service. Divine service is life. (211)





A Closing Prayer by Dallas

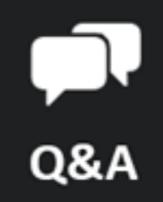
"Blessed glorious God, blessed Trinity. We ask that you would be our instructor and that you would take the things that we have discussed and center them in our minds and give us the grace to reach for them with our inquiries and questions and put them to the test of real life so that we will know the reality of Christ and His Kingdom in our life and in our world today. Please honor your name and the good of human beings in this world by answering that prayer. Amen."

> <u>Video 8 - "The Mission of Christ's People"</u> [53:10 - 54:04]



Your Questions & Comments are welcome!

(Use the Q&A on the bottom of your Zoom screen)





Meditation — Colossians 3:17, 22-24

Application for Knowing Christ in Your Next 10,000 Minutes —> V-I-M*

VISION — What do you see as the purpose of "church"? What about the purpose of your local church?
INTENTION — Do I want knowledge, or merely belief, commitment or profession?
MEANS — How are you training others to engage God's Kingdom at work at work?



* - For more on V-I-M, see Dallas Willard's Renovation of the Heart, chapter 5



Suggested video for Course Session 8

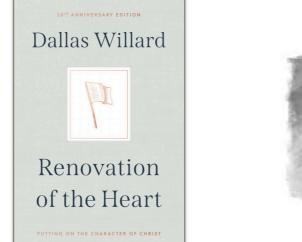
"Knowledge of Christ in Today's World" * Dallas Willard Ministries YouTube Channel



Video 8 - "The Mission of Christ's People"

* **Full 8-session video series** See the course study guide for full transcripts of all (8) video teachings

RENOVATION OF THE HEART Course



Starts

in 2

Weeks



You are invited into a Spirit-driven process of forming your inner world in such a way that it becomes like the inner being of Jesus Christ himself. Join a cadre of apprentices of Jesus from around the world learning from Him the way of pervasive inner transformation through practical, realistic, small steps that quietly and certainly lead to the transformation of the six dimensions of your whole self based on Dallas Willard's cherished book.

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Led by Doug Webster, JESUS COLLEGE

Registration or Information — info@JesusCollege.com

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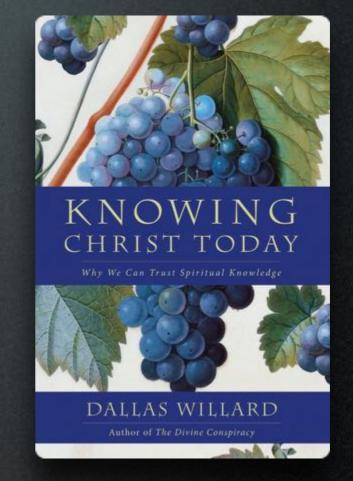


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Session 8 Summary

Spokespeople for Christ have the knowledge of the best answers from Jesus to life's most important questions applied in our daily lives where we work and live.



A CELEBRATION of COMPLETION Yahwehallelujah!

From Dallas Willard Ministries & Jesus College to the Apprentices who complete the Course:

"Knowing Christ Today"



CERTIFICATE of completion

This Certifies that

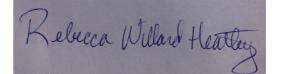
AW Tozer

Has diligently and devotedly completed in August, 2023, the Course

"KNOWING CHRIST TODAY"

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Doug Webster
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REBECCA WILLARD HEATLEY



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"Master's in the Master"

A 3 year spiritual training as a student of history's greatest teacher for apprentices who take their spiritual formation seriously.

A self-paced, community supported, spiritual transformation track through (15) courses to grow in Christlikeness guided by the works of Dallas Willard. This is a non-accredited but fully accountable and affirming journey with Jesus and fellow apprentices from around the world.

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As an unceasing spiritual being with an eternal destiny in God's great universe, may you enter eternal life today as an interactive knowledge of the Kingdom of God by placing your confidence in Jesus to be with Him to learn from Him how to be like Him,

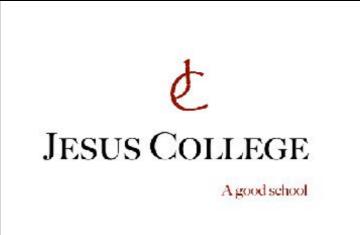




THE SCHOOL of KINGDOM LIVING



Information...Registration — JohnC@dwillard.org



Apprentice to Master Love – //Nouns "A Student of the Superior Benefactor"

Apprentice to Master Love – //Verbs "Training to be proficient in willing the good"

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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.

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