

WELCOME to a thirteen week Course sponsored by  
Dallas Willard Ministries & Jesus College



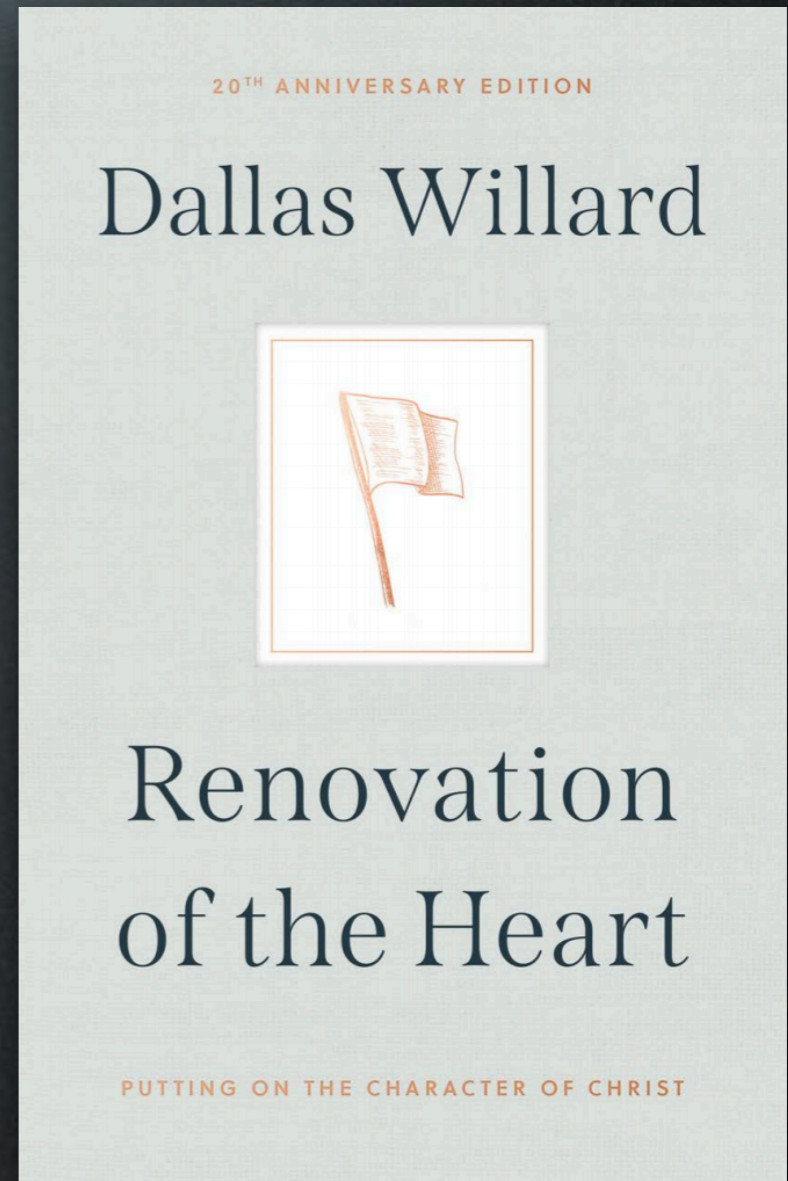
Spiritual Transformation...

...is the Spirit-driven process of forming the inner world of the human self like Jesus Christ.

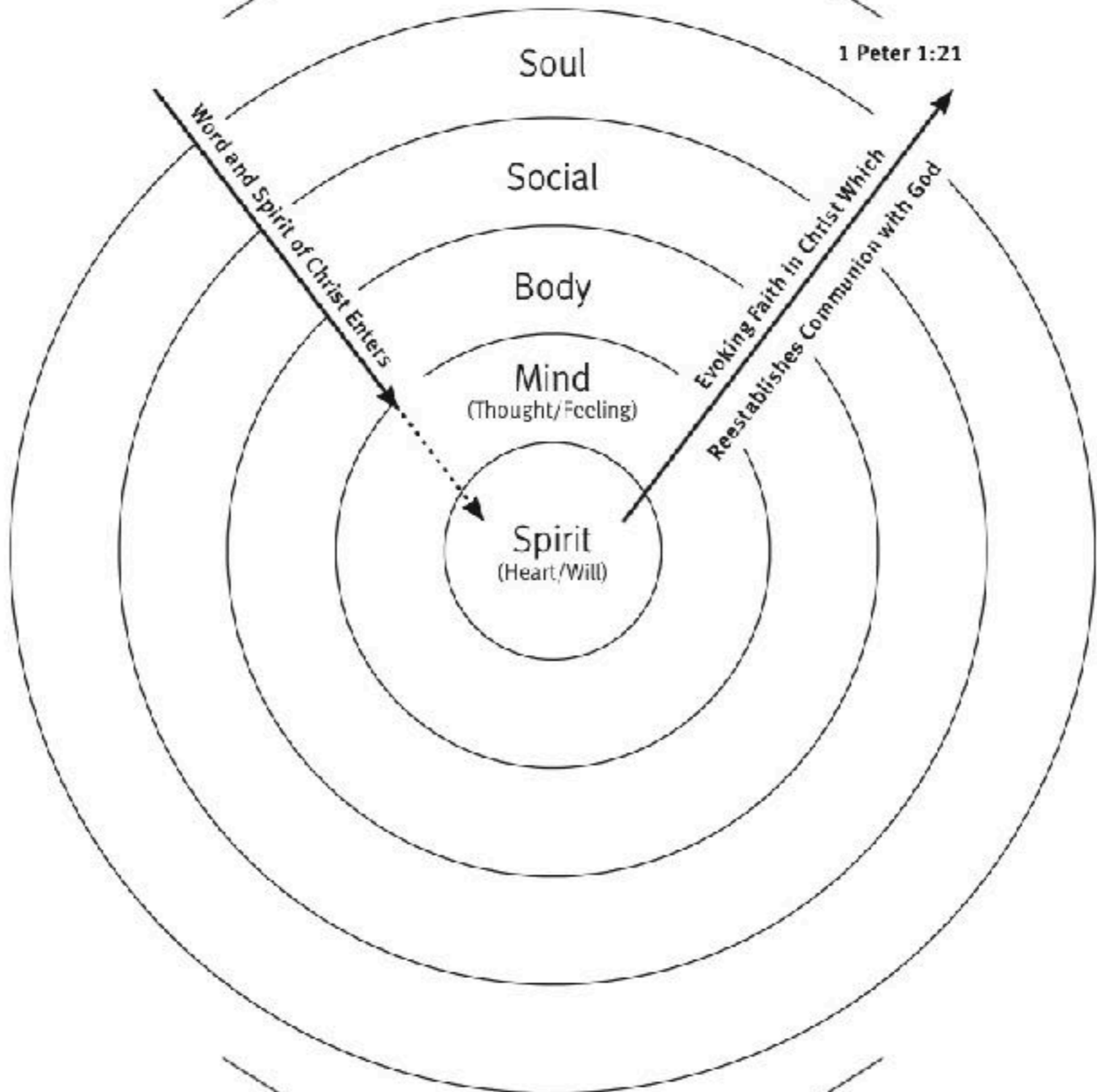
Session 1

...only happens as each [of the six] essential dimensions of the human being is transformed to Christlikeness under the direction of a regenerate will interacting with constant overtures of grace from God.

Session 2



Infinite Environment

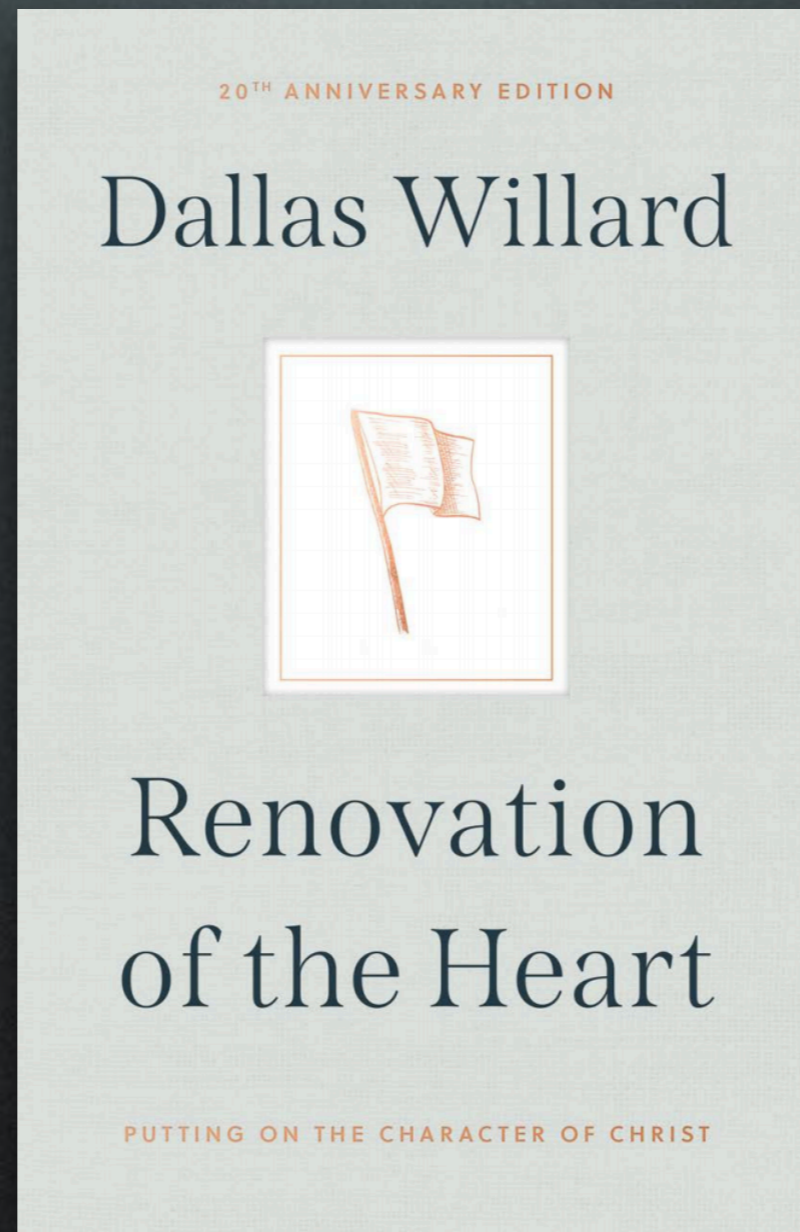


Infinite Environment

(2021::34)  
(2002::38)

# RENOVATION OF THE HEART

Session 3 - Chapter 3 - “Radical Evil in the Ruined Soul”



**HUMAN JOURNEY**

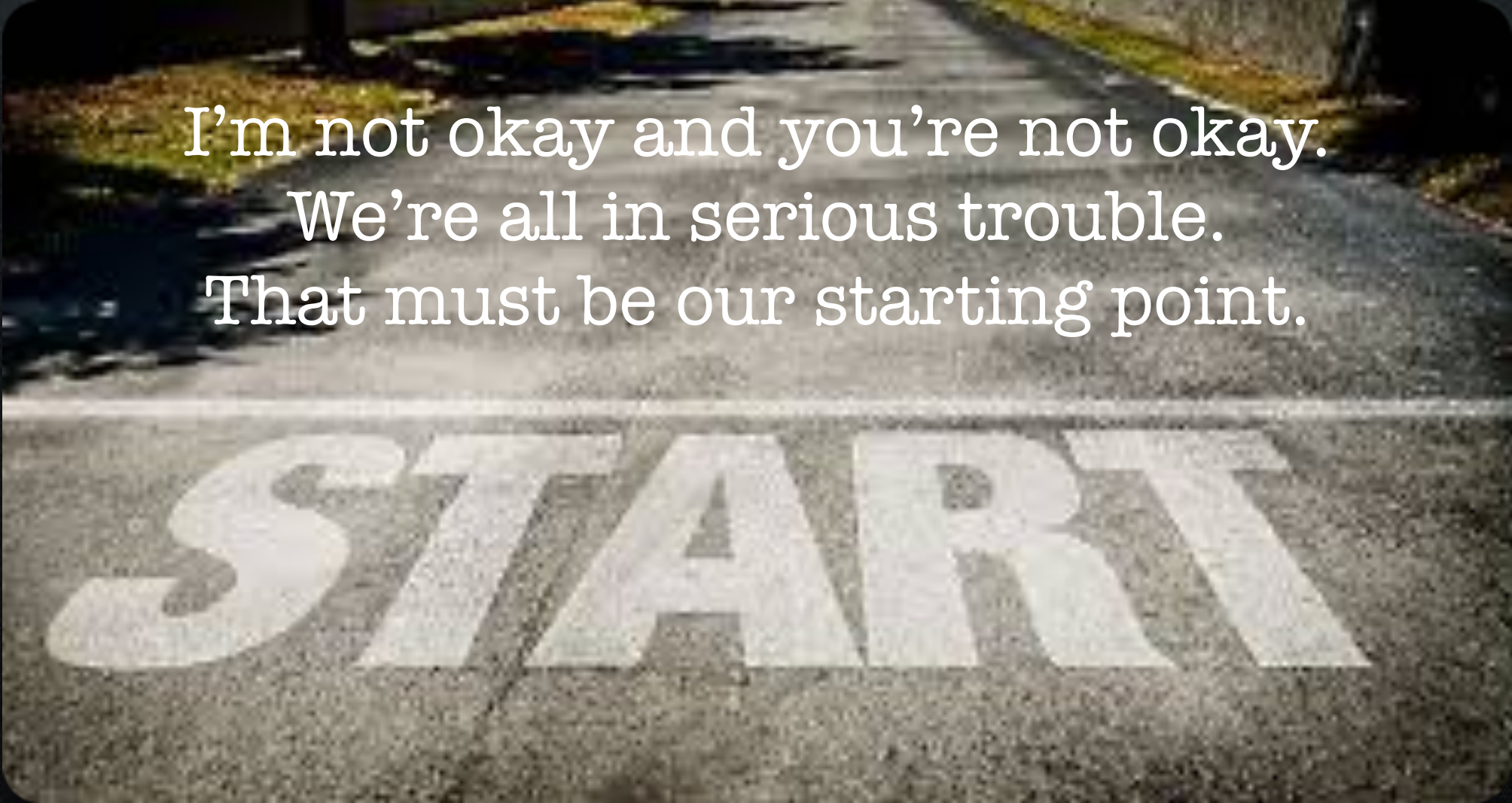
Starting from Ruin

God and Not-God

Lost and Out of Place

A Path of Remorse

*Becoming a certain kind of person.*



I'm not okay and you're not okay.  
We're all in serious trouble.  
That must be our starting point.

Dallas Willard  
*Renovation of the Heart*  
(p. 45, 2021 Edition  
p. 49, 2002 Edition)

## Starting from Ruin

We must see the soul and the person in its ruined condition, with its malformed and dysfunctional mind, feelings, body, and social relations, before we can understand that it must be delivered and reformed and how that can be done.

One of the greatest obstacles to effective spiritual formation in Christ today is simple failure to understand and acknowledge the reality of the human situation as it affects Christians and non-Christians alike. We must start from where we really are.

(2021:: p.41)

(2002:: p. 45)

**Flashback** — “In the ruined soul, the mind becomes a fearful wilderness.” (Ch. 2 — p.27 2021; p. 33; 2002)

The real sources of our failures lie in choice and the factors at work in it.

Choice is where sin dwells.

Our social and psychological sciences stand hopeless.

The only solution we know to human problems today is “education”. But what kind of education? Rigorous understanding of the human self and life [is] impossible.

Even in the church...and beyond.

(2021:: p.42)

(2002:: p. 46-47)



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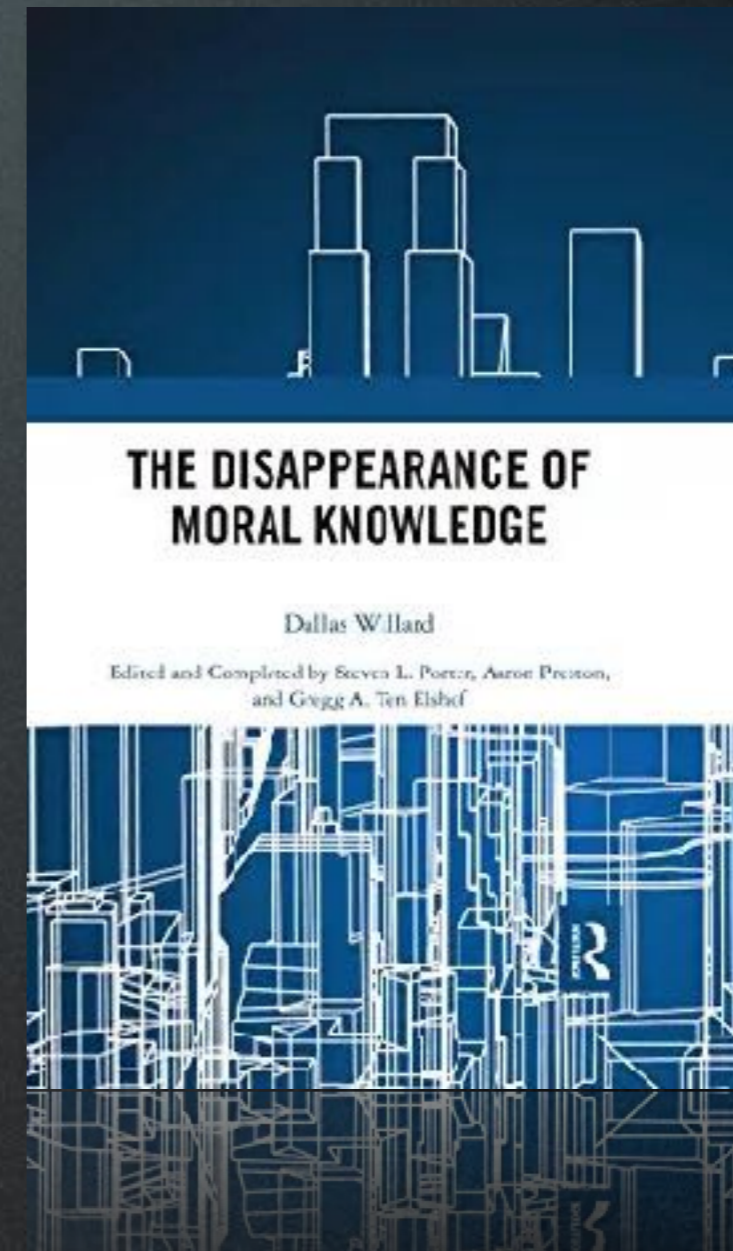
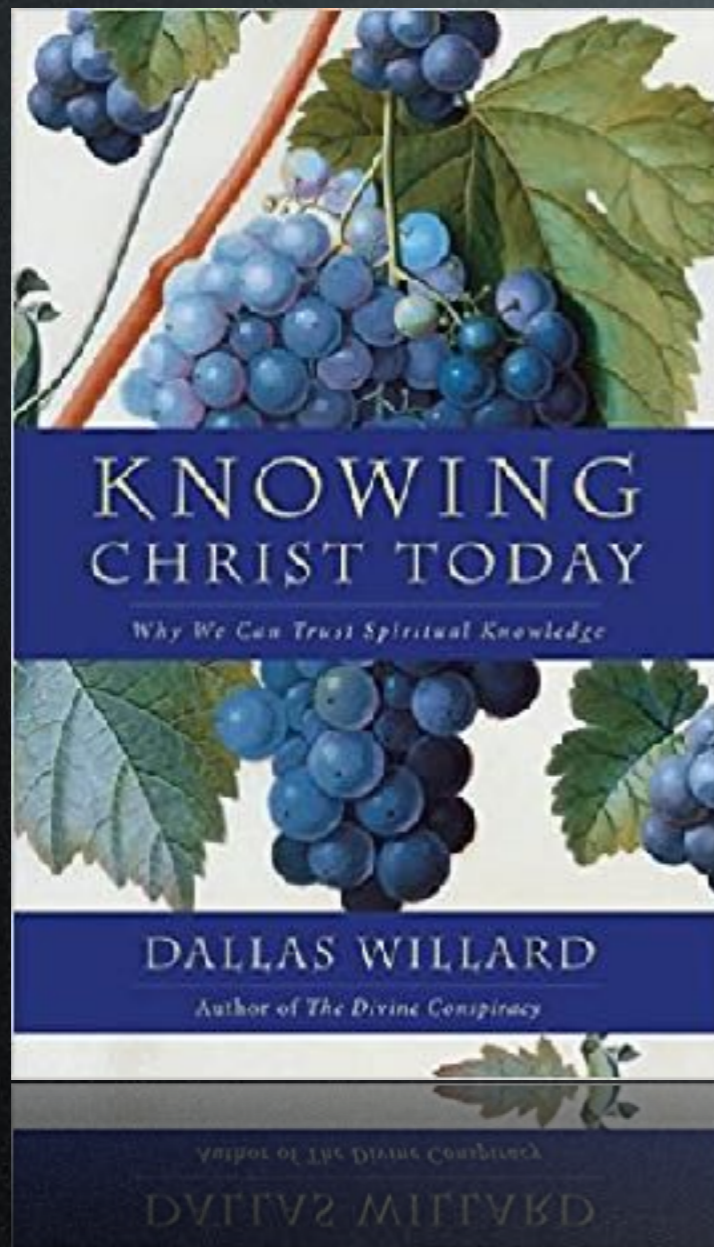


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# Dallas Willard on the Knowledge of a Good Life with God



## **The Prophetic Witness to the Ruined Soul**

The only path to spiritual transformation today still lies through this illumination.

DENIAL — usually in some form of rationalization — is the primary device that humans use to deal with their own wrongness. The prophetic witness from God must throw itself against the massive weight of group and individual denial, often institutionalized and subtly built into our customary ways of speaking and interacting.

JESUS addressed leaders of his day in language that may seem harsh and pitiless to us, but that was the only possible way he could be of help to them, strongly self defended as they were...

...and perhaps the same is true of us as well.

(2021::46)

(2002::49-50)



“There is none righteous, not even one.”

“There is no fear of God in their eyes.”

Romans 3:10 & 18

John 17:3 — Experiential knowledge of God & His Son

Proverbs 3:5-8 — Trust & Understanding

Colossians 3:17 — Ultimate (trans)formation in Christ

## God and Not-God

Romans 1:18-32 - *“Pervasive Soul Corruption”* (Willard)

God being God offends human pride. (Augustine)

DENIAL — Perpetual human blindness to the obvious.

SENSUALITY — Sex & Violence: Self-gratification opens up a life without boundaries where nothing is forbidden.

~~Why?~~ Why not?

Romans 1 — “God gave them over to...

sinful desire (v. 24)

shameful lust (v. 26)

a depraved mind (v. 28)

(2021:: p.48-50)

(2002:: p. 51-55)

Underneath it all is the radical evil of the human heart.



Dallas Willard  
*Renovation of the Heart*  
(2021::52, 56, 57  
2002::55, 58, 60)

## Lost and Out of Place

A ruined soul is a lost soul.

To be lost means to be out of place. Theologically, the outcome is hell - little likelihood of your arriving where you want to be. But the condition of lostness is not the same as the outcome to which it leads.

We are our own god, and our god doesn't amount to much.

To be lost means to be Self-Obsessed.

*Self-Idolatry — Self-Obedience — Self-Love*

*Self-Worship — Self-Blindness — Self-Deification*

We are not “partakers of the divine nature” II Peter 1:4



(2021:: p.52-55)  
(2002:: p. 55-58)

THE RUINED SOUL must be willing to hear of and recognize its own ruin before it can find how to enter a different path, the path of eternal life and naturally leads me spiritual formation in Christlikeness.

Spiritual formation...

...is NOT something that may, or may not, be added to the gift of eternal life as an option.

...IS the path that the Eternal kind of life from above naturally takes.



(2021::56-57  
2002::59)

## The Necessary Path of Remorse

*To be truly sorry...* genuine remorse tells us something very deep about the individual.

Christian profession today — no remorse or sorrow at all over who one is or even for what one has done.

— Little awareness of being lost or very radical evil in our hearts, bodies, and souls - which we must get away from and from which only God can deliver us.

Christian “brokenness” = Wounds not Evil within



(2021::57  
2002::60)



“Woe is me! for I am undone; because I am a man of unclean lips for my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts.” Isaiah 6:5

## REMORSE PATH

Without this realization of our utter ruin and without the genuine revising and redirecting of our lives that this bitter realization naturally gives rise to, no clear path to enter transformation can be found.

It is psychologically and spiritually impossible.

We will steadfastly remain on the throne of our universe, so as far as we are concerned, perhaps trying to “use a little God” here and there.

(2021::57-58; 2002::60)

# Q&C

Your Questions & Comments are welcome!

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



Q&A



Becoming a “better Christian” doesn’t mean becoming a nicer version of ourselves. Building self-esteem or trying to look good doesn’t matter anymore. I’m now aware that I’m not okay. We’re all in serious trouble.

80:00 + 10K



80:00 + 10K



## Today's Experiment

Find a kind, genuine, humble person and ask, “Why isn’t it important for you to be the center of attention?” “What advice do you have for me?” (36)

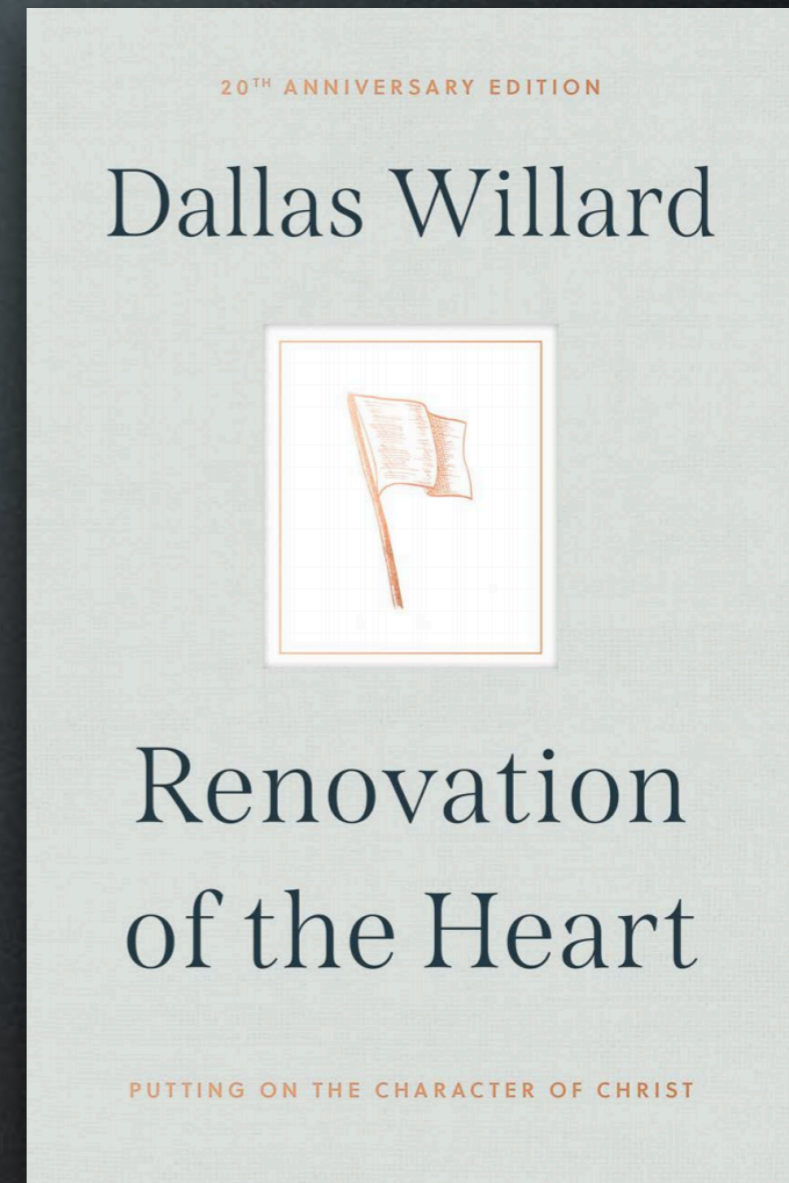
Pray scripture by Luther’s “4 Golden Strands” (38)



## Session 3 Summary

The ruined soul must be willing to hear of and recognize its own ruin before it can find how to enter a different path, the path of eternal life and naturally leads me spiritual formation in Christlikeness.

(2021::56; 2002::59)



## **Next Week — Session 4**

“Radical Goodness Restored to the Soul”

Chapter 4

*Renovation of the Heart in Daily Practice*

Chapters 14-16

Travel your next  
10,000 minutes with  
Jesus on a grace-  
filled confirmation of  
your condition of  
ruin as the only path  
to a Christ-like life!



*Doug*

@OneAfterJesus

# The SCHOOL of KINGDOM LIVING

## Interested, But You Need More Info?

Attend our open house on Saturday, September 9 at 12pm EST/9am PST.

Hosted online via Zoom. Click here to register: [SKL Open House](#)

## School of Kingdom Living “Virtual” Open House



Jan Johnson



Keith Matthews



Matt Johnson



John Carroll

[Zoom Registration Link](#)

Information...Registration — [JohnC@dwillard.org](mailto: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”*

**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** - (17) full courses and 420 [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.