

# ***HEART-TO-HEART***

May, 1996

A Pastoral Letter From Richard J. Foster



Dear Friends,

We have had some wonderful RENOVARÉ Regional gatherings in:

Wichita, Kansas . . .  
    San Francisco, California . . .  
        Santa Barbara, California . . .  
            Grand Rapids, Michigan . . .  
                South Hamilton, Massachusetts . . .  
                    Minneapolis, Minnesota . . .  
                        Kansas City, Missouri . . .  
                            Boulder, Colorado . . .

San Angelo, Texas . . .  
    Portland, Oregon . . .  
        Hammond, Indiana . . .  
            Edmonds, Washington . . .  
                Salem, Oregon . . .  
                    Quincy, Massachusetts . . .  
                        Rancho Cucamonga, California . . .  
                            Raleigh, North Carolina . . .

Hilton Head Island, South Carolina . . .  
    College Place, Washington . . .  
        Abilene, Texas . . .  
            Waco, Texas . . .  
                Bartlesville, Oklahoma . . .  
                    Shreveport, Louisiana . . .  
                        Lexington, Kentucky . . .  
                            Baltimore, Maryland.

Various team members have been with me in these events:

Marti Ensign . . .  
    Roger Fredrikson . . .  
        Emilie Griffin . . .  
            Jim Smith . . .  
                Donn Thomas . . .  
                    Bill Vaswig . . .  
                        Dallas Willard.

Each time George Skramstad has led a wonderful time of worship and ever in the background has been the able work of Lynda Graybeal and her assistants—organizing and planning, reminding and prodding.

I wanted you to hear a few of the hundreds of reports we have received from these events. Listen:

I thank you, from my heart, for your ministry and efforts  
on behalf of Christ's Church. . . . The work of  
RENOVARÉ offers cups of cold water to a parched  
people (Santa Barbara, CA). . . .

This conference helped provide a mental framework to help understand what is happening in our church and denomination. . . . We need to appreciate and respect *all* traditions (Grand Rapids, MI). . . .

There was a good balance with praise and prayer,  
teaching and sharing (Abilene, TX). . . .

I was *very fearful* of the small group session, but it was a high point! Thank you (Hammond, IN). . . .

As a missionary for the past 14 years, I have become somewhat discouraged with the North American church; this has renewed my hope (Minneapolis, MN). . . .

Thank you for allowing our Loving Lord to use and speak through you. John and I were blessed by the teaching (San Francisco, CA). . . .

Through the conference, I realized how several of the “elements” are coming together in my life through Christ’s guidance (Kansas City, MO). . . .

I especially liked the emphasis on a BALANCED vision and life. These truths capture what my inner spirit has desired to see lived out in Christ’s Body for several years (Boulder, CO). . . .

The small group experience magnified the wonderful diversity of spiritual backgrounds and disciplines all tied together by and in Jesus Christ . . . a hope for the future of the Christian community (San Angelo, TX). . . .

Many . . . found the entire conference a learning experience not only of the mind, but of the spirit to the end that the Body will be built up (Hilton Head Island, SC). . . .

I want to know my Lord in a deeper way. This weekend you have given me some tools to help me in this process.

Thank you (Salem, OR). . . .

This conference has helped me see that I must *train* to be spiritually fit and reach my spiritual goals rather than taking a haphazard approach (Quincy, MA). . . .

The sharing in small groups was a high point for me. It’s always refreshing to hear how God is working in the lives of other Christians (Rancho Cucamonga, CA). . . .

It was wonderful and a real blessing to hear and see all the traditions brought together to encourage a balanced Christian life (Lexington, KY). . . .

The singing and prayer really warmed my heart and helped me realize how much I need renewal. . . . God really touched me (Bartlesville, OK). . . .

This whole event was truly a mountain top experience (College Place, WA). . . .

Breaking into small groups was excellent. It is so important to practice what is being taught (Edmonds, WA). . . .

Thank you for the Scriptures that the Lord put on Richard Foster's heart that he shared with us. I needed to hear that God has not abandoned me. You have affirmed my personal relationship with God; he spoke to me through those Scriptures (Baltimore, MD). . . .

We thank our Lord for the *depth* of insight, wisdom, and *especially* infectious love that surrounds your message. We see him reflected and mirrored in all the principles you are sharing with his sheep (South Hamilton, MA). . . .

I loved seeing that this spiritual renewal journey is something I can do one step at a time! The practical steps and suggestions are what I needed to hear (Waco, TX). . . .

Probably the highest point was getting together with other Christians of other faith expressions who were united in a common purpose (Shreveport, LA). . . .

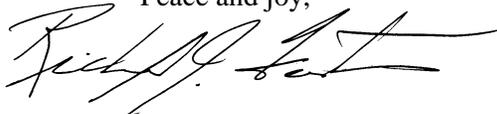
After attending the conference, the "spiritual life" seems actually "attainable" . . . very encouraging (Raleigh, NC).

Isn't it amazing that God would take our feeble efforts and work his good into the lives of precious people.

We do need your generous financial help to keep this good work moving forward. As always, we want you to give first to the poor and your local church (or wherever you are being nurtured spiritually), after which I urge you to consider a gift to RENOVARÉ. In 1997 six or seven team members are planning extended ministry in Australia which will cost around \$100,000.00. To do this—and all our other tasks—we truly need your prayers and support.

In all you do and all you are, always remember that Jesus Christ is your ever-living Savior, Teacher, Lord, and Friend.

Peace and joy,



Richard J. Foster



**Keep this portion as a reminder.  
All gifts are tax deductible.**

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Quarterly . . . . . \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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Financial Support.

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