

## THE EMERGING JOURNEY

### How Do I Get Involved?

#### 1. Consider your life...

What sort of life does God want to give shape to with your unique life? And with whom are you actually traveling on your faith journey? This may be the exact time in your own life to take a deepening step in walk with the Lord. Amidst the intensity of your whole life, can you really afford to put off this sort of reflection and conversation with others about your life with God?

#### 2. Gain a greater understanding of this Emerging Journey...

Investigate the process. Meet with your pastor or those from your church who are facilitating *The Emerging Journey*. Ask questions of those who have taken the process before. Come to an informational meeting and find out what the Emerging Journey is all about.

#### 3. Complete an application...

Filling out an application can have a way of confirming whether or not you should take this step of faith and participate in *The Emerging Journey*. Contact your pastor or those facilitating the process to get an application.

#### 4. Consider the Financial Cost...

The financial cost of *The Emerging Journey* typically will be \$285 over eight months. Additional events are often added to *The Emerging Journey* in order to enhance the learning. In such cases the cost will be greater. In either case this cost can be paid in full or spread over the course of the process/class. *The Emerging Journey* is a deeply rewarding process with long-term effects, but it requires an investment of time and energy. Are there things that you must adjust as you consider the time commitment of this spiritual formation process? Be prayerful as you consider the responsibilities of your life.

“The desperate need today is not for a greater number of intelligent people, or gifted people, but for deep people.”

Richard Foster  
*Celebration of Discipline* (1978)



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*“For we are what He has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works,  
which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.”*

*Ephesians 2:10*

## Have you ever wondered...

“Is there more to this life with God than what I am experiencing? “Is this as good as it gets or am I just scraping the surface of the Christian life?” “What is this *way of life* for which God has created us?” “and “Why do I feel so alone as a Christian?”

Jesus looked into the faces of those who were following him 2000 years ago and said, “Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest....learn from me....and you will find rest for your souls.” (Matthew 11:28-29). Is not *this life of learning with Jesus* the life that we have always really yearned for? But amidst the intensity of our busy lives today, when do we actually take time to join together with other believers in order to seriously reflect and honestly converse about our lives with the Lord?

Richard Foster has observed over the past few years, “Superficiality is the curse of our age. The doctrine of instant satisfaction is a primary spiritual problem. The desperate need today is not for a greater number of intelligent people, or gifted people, but for deep people.” Whether you have walked with Jesus for many years or you are just beginning the faith journey we want to invite you to take this next several months and in the company of others discover more deeply the life that God wants to shape in you. Join us on this *Emerging Journey*...

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## What is *The Emerging Journey*?

*The Emerging Journey* is a unique spiritual formation and leadership development process that invites life transformation, shared authentic community, a re-visioning of leadership and influence, and Kingdom empowerment of your life. This shared journey of discovery involves an eight-month commitment and effort of:

- weekly small group gatherings (2 hours a week)
- regular study & reflection & prayer (2-3 hours a week)
- a mentoring relationship with a mature believer (twice a month)

We will walk and learn together through the following four stages:

**Stage 1: *Biblical Foundations*...**will guide us into an understanding and appreciation of the foundational and transforming role of the Scriptures for a lifetime of growth and service.

**Stage 2: *Personal Foundations*...**will lead us into an exploration of God’s sovereign, shaping work in our unique lives.

**Stage 3: *Relational Foundations*...**will explore the necessity of spiritual community in Jesus’ way of forming us into people of integrity and influence.

**Stage 4: *Practical Foundations*...**will guide us into an overview of the diverse work of *Christian* leadership within a community.

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## Why go on this journey?

The spiritual life is not meant to be traveled alone. We need others’ support, challenge, and prayer if we are to finish well in life. At its core *The Emerging Journey* seeks to invite you, along with a group of fellow travelers, into a stretching exploration of three primary questions in your life: *Who is God? Who am I? What does God desire to do through me?* Along the way you will:

- Be challenged to stretch your imagination of God’s personal goodness and love in this world.
- Experience together the healing power of shared authentic Christian community.
- Discover the uniqueness of who God has created, gifted, and prepared you to be.
- Grow in a deeper understanding and appreciation of the Scriptures and their transforming influence.
- Prayerfully examine what God has been graciously up to throughout your whole life.
- Reflect upon your formation in holiness as a lifelong work of the Spirit from the inside out.
- Cultivate a heart to walk with others and help them make sense of their life in Christ.
- Wrestle with the difference Jesus makes to your understanding and practice of leadership.
- Be empowered to live and serve out of who you have been designed to be.
- Be invited to participate in God’s good and gracious work in the world, in your community, and in your life.