

The Parts of a Human Being
Renovaré Institute Series Video #7 – Part 1
© Dallas Willard Ministries

1. Introduction

When we think about our life today, not only as individuals, but as people who are leading and guiding in the fellowships of believers, we often think of the problems we run into – the public noise and chatter that constantly goes on, the intimate details of group life, and the individual life with all the problems there. **We need to understand that the problems and limitations we encounter do not stop the work of God in our midst.** The only thing that prevents us from overwhelming our communities and our world with the glory of Christ and the power of God in righteousness is not that we do not have enough people, that we don't have enough money, that we don't have enough influence.... **The problem is that we do not do what Jesus told us to do.**

We have many explanations of why we don't. And yet to do what Jesus told us to do as his disciples requires no special human resources. You don't have to have a budget. It requires no special human talents or human connections or advantages.

It requires only:

1. Intention to obey based upon a vision of life in the kingdom of God
2. Persistence in learning how to be with him in all of our activities and circumstance

God will provide everything else as we go.

The barrier we face is that many people think this is difficult/impossible.

2. We are not passive.

In the process of transformation, it is very important to understand that, while what we're thinking about is Spirit-driven, we are _____ passive. We _____ be passive. ***If we do not take appropriate _____, transformation will not happen.***

Theology is very important. It is not what you say you believe about God, but what you _____ about God.

When you look at the spectrum of Christian life, you have to distinguish *knowledge* from *belief*, *belief* from *commitment*, and *commitment* from *profession*, and then you have to apply that not only to yourself, but to the situation in which you are working.

The Parts of a Human Being
Renovaré Institute Series Video #7 – Part 1
© Dallas Willard Ministries

a. Knowledge and Belief

Knowledge is when you are able to represent or treat or deal with things as they are on an appropriate basis of _____ and _____. It is the substance of eternal living – interactive relationship with the Trinity.

Head knowledge isn't knowledge because it doesn't possess the _____ person.

Real knowledge is interactive relationship: thought and experience.

You believe something if you're ready to _____ as if it were _____. **Your belief is not just thoughts; it is your dispositions to behave.**

Knowledge and belief don't necessarily go together. Belief involves your _____. Your will may be set in the direction that _____ the _____ you have. When that comes to a fever pitch, that is *conviction*.

In the fallen condition of humanity, belief will triumph knowledge. Belief and knowledge can be _____ one another. People reject knowledge: Hosea 4:6 *My people perish for lack of knowledge*.

It is important to put the weight on knowledge.

b. Commitment

Commitment is setting your will in a certain direction; it may not involve knowledge or belief.

One of the things that undercuts the power of the gospel in our world today is the illusion in the society at large that what we are talking about is commitment. That's where the phrase "a leap of faith" comes flying by. If you hear that phrase, swat it down! That is not the path of the disciple! The disciple is not making a leap of faith. What is called a leap of faith is actually a leap *without* faith.

If you're going to have faith, you need knowledge as a foundation. Knowledge will make your faith _____.

The Parts of a Human Being
Renovaré Institute Series Video #7 – Part 1
© Dallas Willard Ministries

Faith, in the biblical sense, is environed in _____. Abraham went out not knowing where he went, but he knew who was with him - that's faith environed in knowledge.

By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place
which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed;
and he went out, not knowing whither he went.
By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country....

Hebrews 11: 8-9

Faith environed in knowledge will take care of _____.

The church, in the past, treated the content of Christian teaching as _____
to be _____.

c. Profession

Profession is saying you believe things whether you believe them or not.

When we think about the spirit at work in our lives we must think in terms of knowledge;

and belief based on knowledge;

and commitment based upon belief based on knowledge;

and profession as the expression of the _____ of a disciple's life
lived in growth of knowledge and faith and commitment.

Your job (as a leader) is not to get people to do things; it is to bring _____ of
_____.

The world hungers for knowledge of God and a life based on that knowledge.

The only hope the world has is that someone will bring them knowledge of God.

The Parts of a Human Being
Renovaré Institute Series Video #7 – Part 1
© Dallas Willard Ministries

For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

2 Corinthians 4:6 (KJV)

You don't have to *make* people know:

You _____ knowledge, then they can _____ to it as such, and **God will move in and give them the reality that goes with the knowledge**, thanks be to the mercy of God.

In Renovaré Institute Series Video #7 – Part 2 Dallas explains why the Great Commandment (Mark 12:29-31) is central to restoring the parts of a human being. He also highlights the importance of the Law.