

Tres Dias

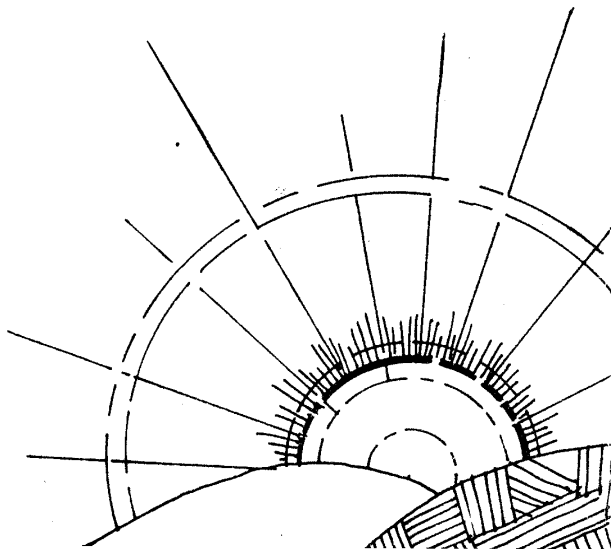
In today's world, can a Christian's faith relate to the many areas in which a person lives? Can we as Christians be a part of God's plan to transform the world? Yes.

Tres Dias proposes no new type of spirituality; it is simply a method through which one's spirituality may be further developed, lived, and shared in any area of human life where there are Christians willing to dedicate their lives to God in an on-going manner.

Tres Dias is an adult weekend, for those aged 21 and over. There are separate Tres Dias weekends for men and women.

Instrument of Renewal

Tres Dias is an instrument of renewal of the church. Its aim is to concentrate closely on the person and teachings of Jesus Christ. Tres Dias gives those who attend a dynamic understanding of basic Christian beliefs, and the desire to serve their local church.



The Format of Tres Dias

The Spanish words "Tres Dias" mean "three days". Although it can be held on any three consecutive days, a Tres Dias usually begins on Thursday evening, and ends the following Sunday in the late afternoon. During the three days, those attending live and study together, communicating with one another to gain a permanent living awareness of their faith, and of the responsibility that such a deep awareness involves.

The Tres Dias team leading the weekend is composed of former attendees of a Tres Dias who have volunteered their time for weeks of preparation, working and praying together as a unit. Tres Dias is centered around 15 talks: 10 given by lay people and 5 by clergy. In addition to the talks, there are also worship periods, singing, and celebrations of Holy Communion.

Notes are taken during the talks, and each talk is then discussed in small groups. With lay leaders assigned to each table. The interchange that develops in these discussions makes Christ's teachings come alive. There is presented in three days, the basis of the Christian life, the meaning of living the Christian ideal, and its application in our daily lives.

Tres Dias can be made only once in a lifetime. Therefore it is not a substitute for a retreat nor does it have the individual solitude of a retreat. The basic atmosphere of Tres Dias is one of love, joy and Christian fellowship. Actually Tres Dias can make succeeding retreats and other experiences more rewarding.

The Fourth Day

Following Tres Dias, a person is able to expand one's own spiritual life and become a more active disciple of Christ in the world and in one's own church. One's life after a Tres Dias weekend is known as the "Fourth Day". During this time, perseverance is important, just as it is with any method of renewal. In Tres Dias, the spirit is continued after the three days through reunions of the Tres Dias community. These are available regularly as a means for growth in understanding and enthusiasm within the Christian community. Also, reunions of smaller groups within the local church and/or the larger Tres Dias community are encouraged, so that the participants may help one another in living the Christian life.

History of Tres Dias

Tres Dias was derived from Cursillo (kooor-see-yo) de Cristiandad (a short course in Christianity), which has been an active tool of renewal in the Roman Catholic Church since its Spanish beginning in 1949.

Tres Dias is an ecumenical version of Cursillo, open to any Christians interested in deepening their walk with the Lord. Each attendee must be sponsored by someone who has previously attended a Tres Dias or Cursillo. Tres Dias was started in 1972, and is now overseen by a National organization of lay people and clergy. Individual weekends are co-ordinated by area Secretariats, whose members consist of anyone who has already made a Tres Dias.

Tres Dias relies on prayer and on the indwelling presence of God's Spirit for its leadership and guidance.