



# Group Learning Experience



## Engage with Holistic Christian Spirituality in a Week-Long Formation Program

We are transformed when we risk crossing boundaries of comfort and predictability. Cities like San Francisco are a microcosm of diversity and global cultures that reflect the beauty and shadows of our humanity. How can we resonate with the heart of God and God's kingdom dream as we open ourselves to the wonder and brokenness revealed in city streets?

As a center for Integral Christian Practice, ReImagine's mission is to help people become more fully human through engagement with the life and teachings of Jesus. We do this through inviting participants into a series of retreats, learning labs, conversations and projects to help integrate the teachings of Jesus into every aspect of life through shared practices and community experiments.

For visiting groups, we offer an intensive learning experience designed to engage participants with intentional, holistic and

incarnational Christian practices. We find these trips highly formative for participants as they daily encounter and wrestle with how to live out the teachings of Jesus in varied contexts. While our curriculum is set in the urban environment of San Francisco, a major learning goal for the week is to help participants apply these tenants and practices to their own home context and ministry.

We focus the week on five themes we see in the life of Jesus: compassion, justice, creativity, community and prayer. Each day includes a mix of scriptural study, prayer, a active practices and group reflection the day's experiences. Program designed by Mark Scandrette, author of *FREE, Practicing the Way of Jesus and Soul Graffiti*. We also feature local leaders throughout the week who live out these themes in their communities. Curious about the layout of the week? See the next page for a full schedule!

### The Basic Numbers:

Participants	12 - 25
Days of Program	1-6
Ages of Participants	13 & Up
ReImagine Staff Leaders	2

### PROGRAM PRICES

\$70 PER PARTICIPANT PER DAY  
+AIRPORT TRANSPORTATION IF  
REQUIRED

We Welcome  
Groups of All Ages  
& Backgrounds

Over the past 7 years, we've hosted learning experiences for:

- Students from Nashville, TN
- Students from various colleges in California and Oregon (Westmont, Vanguard, George Fox)
- Post-college church interns and leaders from Austin, Salt Lake City and Colorado Springs
- Groups of pastors on continuing education experiences
- Doctoral students from Fuller Theological Seminary



## Sample Program Schedule

### DAY 1: LEARNING TO SEE

Example from the Life of Jesus:  
Jesus teaches us how to live in this world.

*"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."* Matthew 11:28-30

#### Learning Objectives:

- Welcome & introduction to the history and culture of San Francisco.
- Viewing Jesus as a teacher (Rabbi) who invites us to be his students.
- Trying on Jesus' life and teachings in a city and in our current place in history.
- Seeing as God does through connecting with compassion and acknowledging the beauty and dignity in the unexpected and those who are different than us.
- Taking risks to try new experiences (food, conversations, new sights, etc.).

#### Actions:

- Day-long "[Resonate](#)" prayer walk, where small groups explore the Mission, Castro and Haight districts with a guided map, try new experiences and write a poetic prayer reflection.
- Conversation with local faith leader, [Tim Otto](#), from [Church of the Sojourners](#).

### DAY 2: BEING AN AGENT OF HEALING

Example from the Life of Jesus:  
Jesus announces his purpose as a liberator.

*"He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written:*

*"The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."*

*Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him. He began by saying to them, "Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing."* Luke 4:16-21

#### Learning Objectives:

- Understanding the complexity of justice work in under-resourced communities.
- Importance of long-term, incarnational life in neighborhoods.
- Nothing is as it seems (ex: massage parlors are fronts for sex-trafficking).
- Voting with our dollars directly affects others' lives.

## The 5 Ways Our Program is Unique

### 1. LIVE LIKE A LOCAL

We give you instruction on the San Franciscan way to dress, eat and take public transit. We'll introduce a few local missional leader friends, who will share about their incarnational work and host a Q&A time for your group.

### 2. WEEK DESIGNED AROUND THE INWARD AND OUTWARD JOURNEY OF FORMATION

Each day focus on a theme from the life of Jesus and the balance between doing (action) and being (contemplation).

### 3. LEADERS ARE EXPERTS ON SAN FRANCISCO AND SPIRITUAL FORMATION

Learn about the history, culture and spiritual landscape of San Francisco from authors Mark and Lisa Scandrette and Relmagine program director, Dani Scoville. Engage in an intensive which compiles some of the best exercises from our year-long formation program.

### 4. WE HANDLE THE DETAILS

Our curriculum is time-tested and planned out, so you can focus on your participants and learning experience.

### 5. SERVICE IS RELATIONAL

You will participate in justice and service work that tap into the complexity of being an agent of healing in the world: submitting to unlikely leaders, the transformational nature of small acts of care, connecting across different backgrounds and how we vote with our dollars.

## We Will Book Your Lodging

We have a partnership with a Methodist urban retreat center located one block from Haight Street in the historic Haight District. It is equipped with an industrial kitchen, dining room, full bathrooms, dormitory-style accommodations and 3 private rooms for group leaders. Price of lodging is included in cost of the weekend.

<p>Can't come for a week? Choose from one of our other offerings:</p>	<p>One Evening</p>	<p>Day Intensive</p>	<p>2-3 Day/ Urban Weekend Retreat</p>
	<p>Experience hospitality in a local home and discuss a variety of topics such as discipleship, community, service, etc.</p>	<p>Day 1 Learning to See program (including "Resonate" prayer walk).</p>	<p>We design a program based off the needs of your group by selecting activities from the week-long curriculum.</p>
	<p>Hear stories and thoughts from ReImagine staff on practicing the Way of Jesus in the context of San Francisco followed by a time for Q&amp;A.</p>	<p>Understand San Francisco with a thorough orientation to its neighborhoods, history and spiritual climate. Receive tips on how to best interact with the city and its locals during your time here.</p>	<p>Experience an urban retreat that weaves inward and outward practices to help your group wrestle with what this balance looks like for the long haul of their spiritual journey.</p>
	<p>Cost is \$250-300 flat fee, depending on group size, includes dinner and dessert.</p>	<p>Cost \$35/person, includes handouts, training and dinner. Minimum of 12 participants, Maximum of 25. Have a smaller group? Email us.</p>	<p>Cost varies on group size and needs of your group (lodging, groceries, etc). Email us to discuss options.</p>

**Actions:**

- Service to local nonprofit in the Tenderloin district.
- Human Trafficking Awareness Teaching and Walk.
- Conversation with [Shalom of Oakland](#) Executive Director, [Nate Millheim](#).

**DAY 3: CULTIVATING IMAGINATION**

Example from the Life of Jesus: Jesus uses creativity to teach.

*"Jesus spoke all these things to the crowd in parables; he did not say anything to them without using a parable. So was fulfilled what was spoken through the prophet: 'I will open my mouth in parables, I will utter things hidden since the creation of the world.'" Matthew 13:34-35*

**Learning Objectives:**

- Art is a way of embodying our prayers, longings and reflects the way we see the world and God (theology).
- Symbolic versus direct communication.
- Jesus' ministry as symbolic and creative.
- Economic, creative and sustainable cooking.

**Actions:**

- Exploring the DeYoung Museum.
- Creating Prayer Flags.
- Cooking Dinner together.
- Conversation with local missionary from [InnerCHANGE](#), [Claire Howard](#).

**DAY 4: BECOMING THE BELOVED COMMUNITY**  
Example from the Life of Jesus: Jesus stresses the importance of reconciling relationships.

*"So if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift." Matthew 5:23-24*

**Learning Objectives:**

- Living in reconciled relationships with one another.
- Serving one another well.
- Small, sustaining service makes an impact.
- Crossing groups, getting out of comfort zone, to create relationships.
- Submitting to the one who knows the population.

**Actions:**

- Barrio Libre Campaign - hang up signs.
- Garfield Park service - trash pick-up and light gardening.
- Cook, serve and eat with clients at homeless dinner at [First Baptist Church](#).
- Conversation with Twist-tie Joe (head chef at First Baptist and formerly homeless).



*"ReImagine's week-long learning intensive has been an indispensable tool for teaching my students what it means to be holistic followers of Jesus. These intensives are a singular opportunity that provide both vision and imagination for how the Christian faith can be lived creatively, passionately, and sustainably across a lifetime."  
- Rev. Dixon Kinser, Associate Rector, St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, Nashville, TN.*



## Day 5 PRAYER & CELEBRATION

Example from the Life of Jesus:  
Jesus took time for solitude and rest.

*"But now even more the report about him went abroad, and great crowds gathered to hear him and to be healed of their infirmities. But he would withdraw to desolate places and pray."* Luke 5:15-16

### Learning Objectives:

- Importance of silence, solitude and prayer for your well-being & your service to others.
- Learning how to practice stillness prayer.
- Poetry is a form of lament and contemplative prayer.
- Celebration & reflection of the week.

- What do you want to integrate into your life at home from this week? How will you go about doing this?

### Actions:

- Stillness prayer exercise.
- Time for silence and solitude.
- Dinner celebration and discussion.
- Q&A time with ReImagine staff.
- Poetry Slam!

Depending on the dates of your trip, the order of events may shift, since some offerings are on set days of the week (ex: First Baptist dinners are on Wednesday evenings). Featured speakers may also change based on availability. If you are flying into San Francisco, you will need to add a day on to either side of your week for travel. Feel free to contact us for advice on planning and

*"Working with ReImagine has always been the highlight of The Mount's trips to San Francisco. Our groups are shaped in challenging and creative ways that get us past the stock and trade missional experiences you find in a big city."*

Chad Whitehead, Pastor, The Mount Church, Salt Lake City, UT

Interested in bringing your group?

Email us for more details at [info@reimagine.org](mailto:info@reimagine.org)



The practices that you'll experience during the week are featured in two of Mark Scandrette's books. To get a fuller understanding of our formation approach in the context of the city, check out *Practicing the Way of Jesus* and *Soul Graffiti*.

