



# The Essentials of Tres Dias

## Essentials - Preamble

Tres Dias endeavors to bring Christians to

- A closer, more personal walk with their Lord Jesus Christ

and encourage them to

- Christian Leadership and Apostolic Action in their environments

# Essentials - Paraphrase

- Follow Christ
- Under Christ's Leadership,  
Work With Christ  
to Christianize the World

# Essentials - Preamble

Main teachings of Tres Dias:

- God's unqualified love for each of us through grace
- Grow in
  - Piety
  - Study
  - Action

# Essential of the Movement

- Christian Movement
  - Objective to strengthen and extend the Body of Christ
  - Not change Tres Dias to accommodate non-christians
  - “For the purpose of these Essentials, ‘Christian’ is intended to refer to those who are seeking a closer relationship with Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior”

# Essentials of the Movement (Cont'd)

- Christian Ecumenical Movement

All Tres Dias organizations shall:

- Seek participation of all Christian denominations in the community's environment
- Stress those things which denominations have in common
- Respect those things which are different
- Duty and authority to protect ecumenical structure

# Essentials of the Movement (Cont'd)

- Lay led movement
  - Clergy participation essential and encouraged
- Non-profit movement
- Not assume role of a denomination
  - Not church substitute
  - Worship and serve in home congregations as leaders
- Not a service organization
  - Tres Dias organizations shall limit their activities to those related to carrying out the Tres Dias method

# Essentials of the Method

- Three sequential phases for individual involvement
  - Pre-weekend
    - Purpose is to prepare the individual for the Weekend
  - Weekend
    - Purpose is to prepare the individual for the Fourth Day
  - Fourth Day



# Essentials of the Pre-Weekend Phase

- Candidate sponsored for all three phases NOT just the weekend
- Sponsored by a member of the Tres Dias community or a similar community approved by Tres Dias
- Candidate have desire for closer relationship with Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.
- Candidates be accepted from all Christians denominations

## Pre-Weekend Phase (Cont'd)

- Candidates be at least 21 years of age  
However, if sound and compelling reason (such as spouse or military), at least 18
- Candidates have not previously made a Tres Dias or a similar experience

# Weekend Phase

## Weekend characteristics:

- Christian community
  - Activities and teachings meant to lead to a fuller personal commitment to Christ
- Personal witness but not a revival meeting
- Group dynamics but not sensitivity training or group therapy
- Theological instruction to encourage candidate to study own Christian beliefs but not doctrine

# Weekend Phase (Cont'd)

## Weekend Characteristics (Cont'd)

- Period of silent introspection, but not a retreat
- Renewal experience not a conversion experience
- Asks for basic faith, openness and a seeking attitude by the candidate; but involves dedication, prayer, and careful planning by the team
- Encounter with the Holy Spirit ; not charismatic

# Weekend Phase (Cont'd)

## Weekend Characteristics (Cont'd)

- A tool of God, not an end in itself
- No permanent effect without Fourth Day

## Weekend Phase (Cont'd)

- Spiritual Directors be qualified to teach and counsel in spiritual matters
- At least one Spiritual Director be ordained and authorized to regularly celebrate communion by his/her denomination
- Men and women attend separate weekends. Spiritual Directors are exempted

## Weekend Phase (Cont'd)

- Team members represent a spectrum of Christian denominations
- Team members must have made a Tres Dias or similar experience recognized by Tres Dias
- Rector a lay person, responsible for all aspects of the weekend, under authority of the local sponsoring secretariat

## Weekend Phase (Cont'd)

- Team: Meet prior to weekend; promote community; instructions on dynamics; critique ALL rollos
- Weekend - 3 days - approx 72 continuous hours
- Cloistered environment entire weekend
- Lay talks not by clergy;  
Spiritual Director talks not by lay persons



# Weekend Phase (Cont'd)

- Begin in evening
  - Introduction by Rector
  - Silent retreat to end after chapel
  - KNOW YOURSELF meditation by clergy
  - PRODIGAL SON meditation (or alternatively on a women's weekend, the Hosea-Gomer account as recorded in Hosea 1-3, or the account of the woman caught in adultery as recorded in John 8:1-11) given by clergy

# Weekend Phase (Cont'd)

- First day agenda
  - THREE GLANCES OF CHRIST meditation clergy
  - IDEALS rollo lay
  - GRACE rollo clergy
  - THE CHURCH rollo lay
  - THE HOLY SPIRIT rollo clergy
  - PIETY rollo lay

# Weekend Phase (Cont'd)

- Second day agenda
  - THE FIGURE OF CHRIST meditation clergy
  - STUDY rollo lay
  - SACRED MOMENTS OF GRACE rollo clergy
    - Followed by Holy Communion
  - ACTION rollo lay
  - OBSTACLES TO GRACE rollo clergy
  - LEADERS rollo lay
  - Table chapel visits afternoon second day

# Weekend Phase (Cont'd)

- Third day agenda

- CHRIST'S MESSAGE TO THE PESCADORES  
meditation clergy
- ENVIRONMENTS rollo lay
- LIFE IN GRACE rollo clergy
- CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY IN ACTION rollo lay
- REUNION GROUPS rollo lay
- LIVING THE FOURTH DAY rollo lay
- Table chapel visits in the morning
- Apostolic Hour - - - Closing

## Weekend Phase (Cont'd)

- Table discussion follow each rollo except **LIVING THE FOURTH DAY**
- ALL rollos/meditations follow dynamics and outlines authorized by Tres Dias
- Holy Communion each full day
- Diversity in planning weekend and forming tables
- Respect candidate's freedom of self-determination

## Weekend Phase (Cont'd)

- Lay rollos be informal talks witnessing/sharing
- Friendly creative Christian environment, not coercive or manipulative
- Allow time for informal personal contact
- Closing well prepared
- Local secretariat encourage community to participate with spiritual and service palanca

# Fourth Day Phase

- Reunion Groups  
(THE METHOD to change the world)
  - Local secretariats encourage Reunion Groups
  - Local secretariats use  
“The Working Reunion Group”  
to carry out activities of Tres Dias Movement

# Fourth Day Phase (Cont'd)

- Secuelas

- Local secretariats sponsor regularly scheduled Secuelas; preferably once a month
- Each Secuela include time for “The Floating Reunion Group”
- Each Secuela include a “Fourth Day Talk”



# Local Secretariat Organization

- Function of local secretariat is to conduct an effective program in accordance with the TRES DIAS method
- All members of local completed a weekend
- Organizing document approved by membership
- All Pescadores in the community eligible to serve as voting members and officers of the local
- Periodic election of officers
- Sole sponsor of weekends in their community
- At least two weekends per year (unless waived)