



Transforming Theology *... for church and society*

Theology After Google

[professional web 2.0 training for a new kind of public theologian](#)

We invite you to join us March 10-12, 2010 in Claremont for a first-of-its-kind national conference, "Theology After Google." Thanks to a generous grant from the Ford Foundation, we are able to keep registration costs low.

Why "theology after Google"?

Progressive and moderate Christian leaders have some vitally important things to say, things that both the church and society desperately need to hear. The trouble is, we tend to deliver our message using technologies that date back to Gutenberg: books, academic articles, sermons, and so forth. We aren't making effective use of the new technologies, social media, and social networking. When it comes to effective communication of message, the Religious Right is running circles around us.

Hence the urgent need for a conference to empower the up-and-coming theologians and church leaders of the next generation to do "theology after Google." Thanks to the Ford funding, we've been able to assemble a stellar team of cultural creatives and experts in the new modes of communication. We are also inviting a selection of senior theologians, as well as some of the younger theologians (call them "theobloggers") whose use of the new media (blogging, podcasts, YouTube posts) has already earned them large followings and high levels of influence. For two and a half days, in workshops and in hands-on sessions, in lectures and over drinks, these leading figures will be at your disposal to teach you everything they know.

The "Theology After Google" conference is not just about techniques, though — however important they are. It will also serve as a top-level forum in which the next generation of American theologians and church leaders begin to think together about the implications of these new modes of communication. Marshall McLuhan's famous "the medium is the message" may not have been completely on the mark; still, what we say *is* affected by how we say it. During the conference both the keynotes and the discussion sessions will struggle with the question of what it means to do theology after Google. How are the new media changing the nature of human existence and human social connections? How are they transforming human conceptions of God, Jesus, and Christianity? And what will (and should) the church become as a result? Mastering the new communication technologies is not enough (though it's essential); it's also crucial to understand what it means to be religious (and Christian) in a technology-dominated age.

Schedule and Costs

"Theology After Google" (TAG) will kick off with drinks and dinner on Wednesday, March 10, and will end with a closing party on Friday evening, March 12th. Rooms are available for a reduced conference rate of \$69 per night for two double beds at Hotel Claremont (which means you can share the room with someone else). Registration for the conference is only \$149 (which includes tickets to the evening TheoPub and lunch with conference leaders), or \$99 for the basic rate. Register now before the conference is full!

For more information and to register, please visit our website at transformingtheology.org.