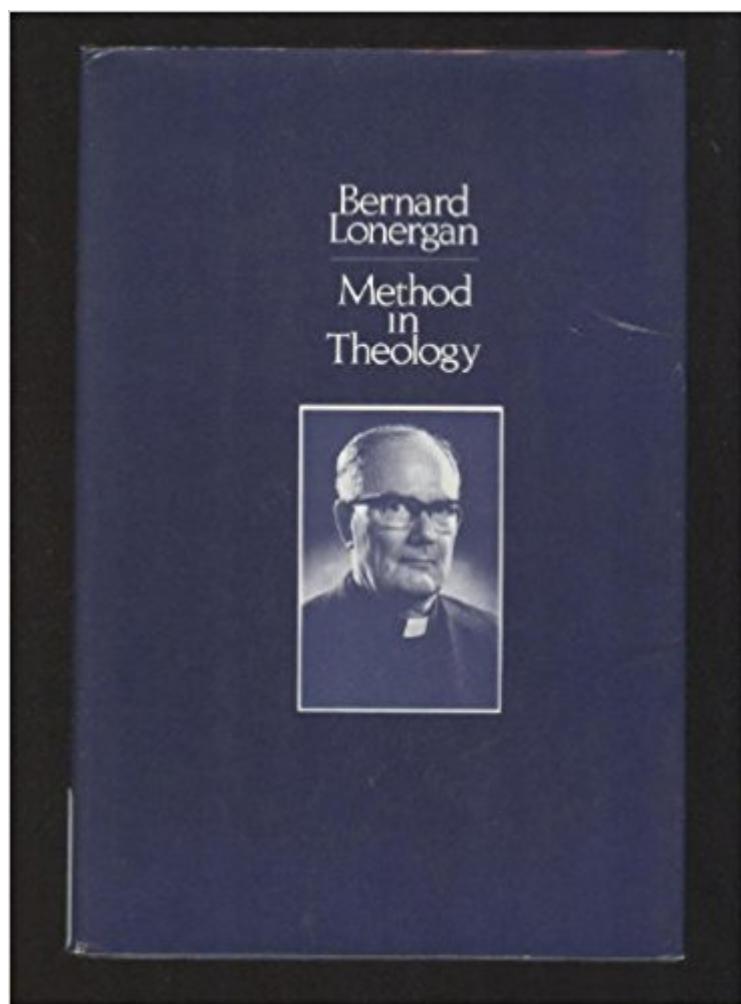


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# Method In Theology



## Synopsis

Method in Theology stands, with *Insight*, as Bernard Lonergan's most important work. It is Lonergan's answer to those who would argue that in this time of cultural change and dissolution the believer is afloat on a sea of multiplying theologies, without rudder or compass. Lonergan was resolute in his refusal to be defeatist on this point. While agreeing that theology must continually change to mediate between religion and culture, he worked out an integral method to guide and control this ongoing process. This is a reprint of the 1973 edition. A new annotated edition of *Method in Theology* will be published eventually as a part of the *Collected Works of Bernard Lonergan*. Bernard Lonergan (1904-1984), a professor of theology, taught at Regis College, Harvard University, and Boston College. An established author known for his *Insight* and *Method in Theology*, Lonergan received numerous honorary doctorates, was a Companion of the Order of Canada in 1971 and was named as an original members of the International Theological Commission by Pope Paul VI. --This text refers to the Paperback edition.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This book was introduced to me 14 years ago, in an undergrad theology class called, "Struggle and Transcendence" (at Georgetown). The class looked at the African-American experience and sought solutions to the concrete problem of living in that community and the human community in general. At the time I was an international relations major. My friends and I constantly debated political theory, social policy, foreign policy, etc. We were wondering, What is the best way to live in this increasingly global community? Debates were heated. Often the debate came down to the question, How do you know? On issues from genocide, (neo)colonialism, and development, to

abortion, welfare, medical care, different people emphasized different sources of truth: experience, reason, feelings, tradition, culture, scripture, science, love, faith, belief, imagination, experts, etc. When I read Method, I thought, the debate is over; this is how you know. Lonergan values all of the above sources of knowledge, and goes further to show how all of the ways are related and involved in anything we do, from playing soccer to doing theology. The other thing I loved about Method was its emphasis on love. Studying the causes of international conflicts led me to think that the root of conflict was a personal lack of self-love, or a conditional ground for self-love. "I will love myself IF I have these people's respect, or this pretty wife, or money, or property, etc., or IF I'm better than this person or all people." We put other people down to raise ourselves up. I believed that right relations among humans needed to be founded on unconditional love, on a right relationship with God and oneself.

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