

AGENCY: ISTOCKPHOTO.COM



BOOKMARK

88 Theologians in Their Own Words by Derek R. Nelson, Joshua M. Moritz and Ted Peters, Fortress Press, Minneapolis. 288 pages

Theological reflection is often considered a solitary act. Perhaps it is, but this book allows for it to be a com-

munal act in which one learns from others engaged in conversation. There is a wide variety of voices represented here, telling their own stories of the great adventure of theology. Some are living and others are dead, which also reminds one of the vast company of those who have gone before us and whose insights are still alive in the quest to understand God and God's ways among us. The sheer diversity is remarkable; from Clark Pinnock to Letty Russell to Kathryn Tanner to Huston Smith to Harvey Cox to Alister McGrath to Nancy Murphy and Martin Marty. One can imagine sitting with these persons in a large circle listening to them share how each engages God. One might use this in a Christian formation class or with adults who want to go deeper. A clergy group exploring theological reflection would do well with this book, too. It's not that often that one gets to hear these folks describe what it is about God that so compels them to spend their lives exploring the depths of the mystery.

— ROY W. HOWARD
Outlook book editor