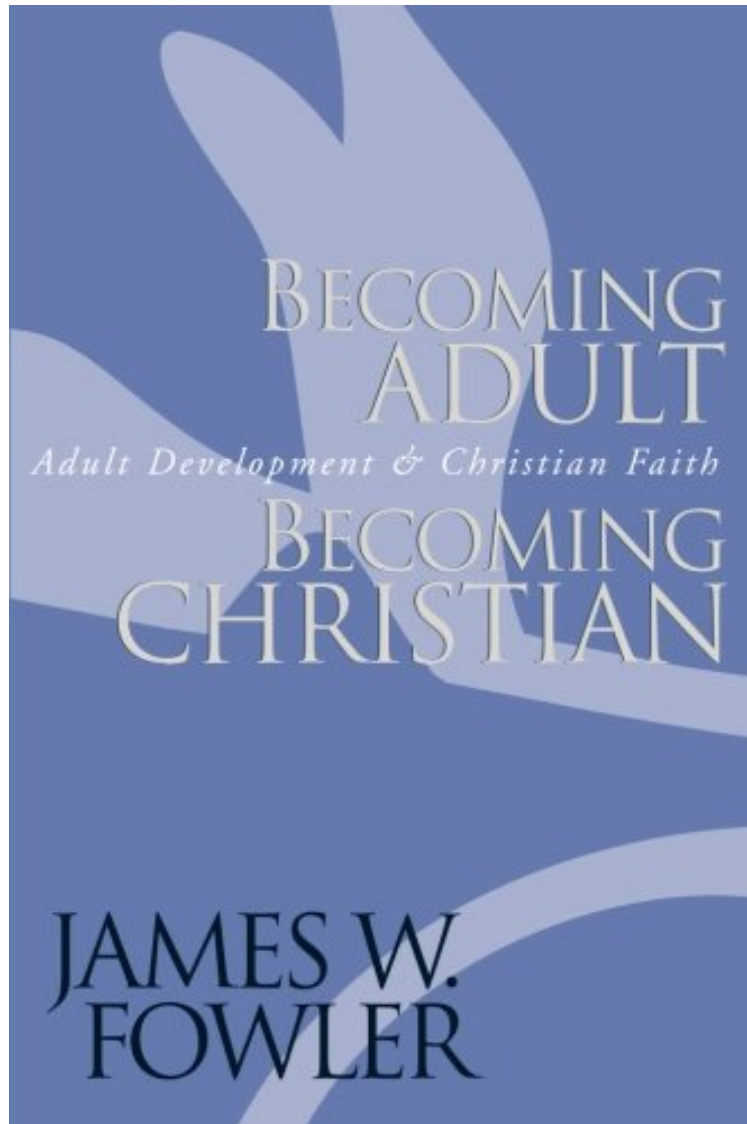


(Download) *Becoming Adult, Becoming Christian : Adult Development and Christian Faith*

Becoming Adult, Becoming Christian : Adult Development and Christian Faith

James W. Fowler

*ePub | *DOC | audiobook | ebooks | Download PDF*



DOWNLOAD



READ ONLINE

#129375 in Books Jossey-Bass 1999-11 1999-11-12Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 8.80 x .70 x 5.90l, .44 #File Name: 078795134X176 pagesGreat product! | File size: 77.Mb

James W. Fowler : Becoming Adult, Becoming Christian : Adult Development and Christian Faith before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised *Becoming Adult, Becoming Christian : Adult Development and Christian Faith*:

9 of 9 people found the following review helpful. Ideas come of ageBy P. L. Catron-pingThis is a summary of Fowler's theory of the development of faith, and it reflects the clarity and completeness of an idea that has matured and

been shaken down to the basics. Also, the discussion of vocation in the last chapters is inspirational and well articulated. 8 of 10 people found the following review helpful. Too deep, for a newbie. By Matthew Morine I was hoping that this book would be more basic in the approach to faith development, but it read like a thesis. He interacted with many of the leading voices, but I was too new to this study to engage completely. There are some helpful elements, but unless you are well versed in this field, the book will be over your head. 27 of 35 people found the following review helpful. Reconciling Fowler's 'Faith' and Christian 'Faith' By Alex Tang Fowler's Faith Development Theory is commonly being used to describe Christian spiritual growth. Yet, when it was first formulated, Fowler described faith as 'seeking meaning in our lives' and universal, thus not limited to Christianity. This theory, which arises out of Piaget's cognitive and Kohlberg's moral development theories are descriptive and did not take into consideration the supernatural/spiritual. This book was Fowler's attempt to reconcile his development theory to the Christian theological concept of salvation and sanctification. His approach to integrate this is by the concept of vocation which 'is the response a person makes with his or her total self to the address of God and to the calling to partnership'. He defined this partnership as synergy between the human potential and the work of the Spirit which he called 'grace'. Fowler defined blockage to this synergy as sin and unblocking this synergy as salvation. The aim of this partnership is 'in God's work in the world' which Fowler elaborated as partnership with God the Creator, with the governing action of God and in the liberative and redemptive action of God. However, what Fowler was describing are a series of behavioural patterns. Any description of spiritual growth must include a new creation, inner transformation and fruit of the Holy Spirit. One needs to differentiate between descriptors and contents. Fowler then went on to describe vocation, relationship of vocation and Christian communities and the Christian story. While I agree that our vocation is a call by God for His purpose, I do wish Fowler had explained how the different stages of his theory can be directly linked to the redemptive work of Jesus on the cross, justification by faith and the work of the Holy Spirit to sanctify us into Christian maturity (Christ-likeness). In the final chapter, he did try again to integrate spiritual maturity and development theories but surprisingly, he used Levinson's seasons of life theory instead of his own. In the end, Fowler did not give a clear picture of the integration of his faith development theory and theology.

In this updated reissue of his 1984 classic, James Fowler applies his groundbreaking research on the development of faith to Christianity. In his revised first chapter Fowler locates his approach to the study of human and faith development in relation to the contemporary conversation about identity and selfhood in postmodernity. Fowler invites readers to explore what it means to find and claim vocation: a purpose for one's life that is part of the purposes of God. Reclaiming covenant and vocation as ideals for responsible, mature, Christian selfhood, Fowler shows how a dynamic understanding of what vocation involves can both inform and transform lives.

"Here we have Fowler's own and explicitly Christian word on the interface of faith development research and the particularity of Christian covenant/vocation. A gift to us and an invaluable resource." --Thomas H. Groome, professor of theology and religious education, Boston College "No one, we believe, has provided more valuable scientific findings and theoretical formulations for those whose care for others is focused principally on the growth of the spirit, and of the person as a whole, than James. W. Fowler." --James J. Gill, editor-in-chief, Human Development "Becoming Adult, Becoming Christian is an excellent resource for pastoral ministers and religious educators, offering practical insights based upon solid research." --Barbara J. Fleischer, director, Loyola Institute for Ministry, Loyola University From the Publisher A groundbreaking look at the development of faith that points the way to responsible, mature Christian selfhood. From the Inside Flap Explore Yourself-in Spirit and Faith In this updated reissue of his 1984 classic, James Fowler-author of the bestselling Stages of Faith-applies his groundbreaking research on the development of faith to Christianity. Grounded in developmental psychology, theology, and practical ethics, *Becoming Adult, Becoming Christian* shows how communities of shared beliefs can support and nurture individuals as they shape themselves, and are shaped, in spirit and faith. In his revised first chapter Fowler locates his approach to the study of human and faith development in relation to the contemporary conversation about identity and selfhood in postmodernity. Fowler invites readers to explore what it means to find and claim vocation: a purpose for one's life that is part of the purposes of God. Reclaiming covenant and vocation as ideals for responsible, mature, Christian selfhood, Fowler shows how a dynamic understanding of what vocation involves can both inform and transform lives.