

CHILD THEOLOGY

Diverse Methods and Global Perspectives

Marcia J. Bunge

“For much too long, Christian theology has had a blind spot in relation to the experience of children. Child Theology challenges us to consider what children can teach us about God, Jesus Christ, creation, being human, sin, and salvation. It offers reflection on the traditional foci of Christian theology from a child-attentive lens and in conversation with a variety of disciplinary discussions.”

—Aristotle Papanikolaou, Fordham University

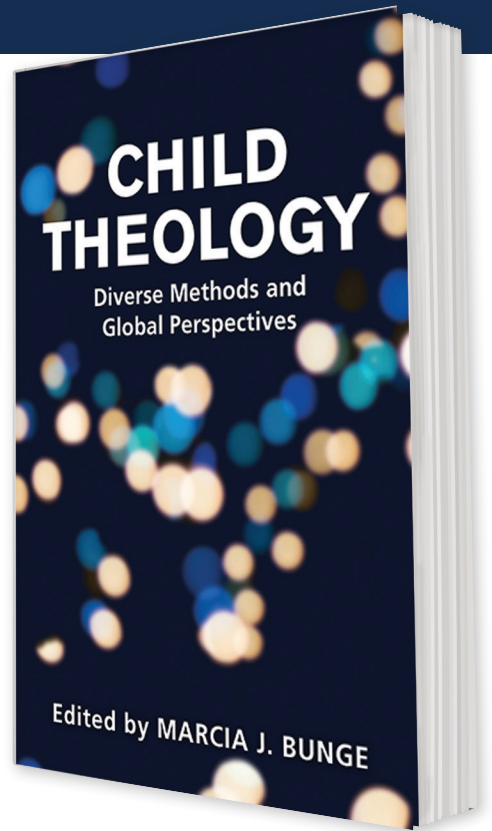
“Marcia Bunge has done it again! She has placed the child in the midst of a worldwide theological conversation. I listened with gratitude to the lively and diverse voices gathered here.”

—The Rev'd Dr. Jerome W. Berryman, author, *Children and the Theologians*

“An amazing array of scholars address the question: What would our churches and theology look like if we acknowledged children’s full humanity and placed ‘the child’ at the center of our theological reflection? . . . I highly recommend this reframing of theology and ecclesial practice that provides important lessons not only for our churches, but for the world.”

—Mary Ann Hinsdale, IHM, PhD, Boston College

Marcia J. Bunge, PhD., is Professor of Religion and the Drell and Adeline Bernhardson Distinguished Chair of Lutheran Studies at Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter, MN, and an extraordinary research professor at North-West University, South Africa. Her books include *The Child in Christian Thought*, *The Child in the Bible* (both William B. Eerdmans), and *Children, Adults, and Shared Responsibilities: Jewish, Christian, and Muslim Perspectives* (Cambridge University Press).



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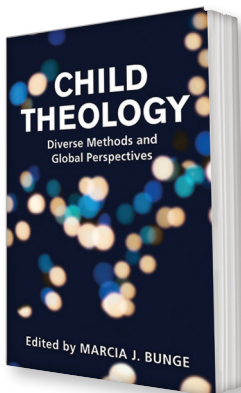


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Twelve highly respected Roman Catholic, Protestant, and Orthodox theologians from six continents aim to strengthen Christian theology and the church's commitment to children by rethinking central doctrines and practices with attention to the strengths, vulnerabilities, and full humanity of children.

Like feminist, black, and other liberating forms of theology, child theologies re-evaluate and reinterpret current understandings of Christian faith and life in the light of those who are often voiceless, exploited, or marginalized—in this case children.

Taking diverse approaches and building on a range of sources, including Scripture, tradition, the social sciences, literature, and the experiences of individuals and communities, contributors offer new insights into key theological topics, such as God, creation, theological anthropology, Christology, sin, salvation, the church, mission, and hope.

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