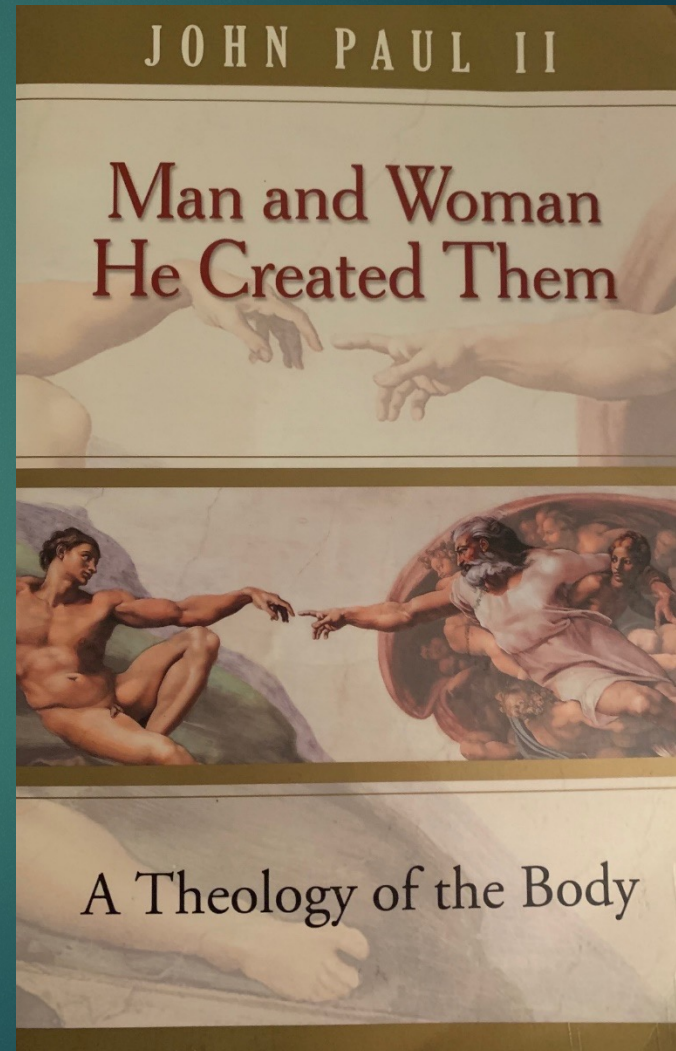


Theology of the Body

- ▶ A way of seeing...
- ▶ Christian anthropology
(vision of the human person)
- ▶ Rooted in a close analysis
of the scriptures
- ▶ Proceeds by way of
careful attention
to human experience



Karol Wojtyła / Pope John Paul II

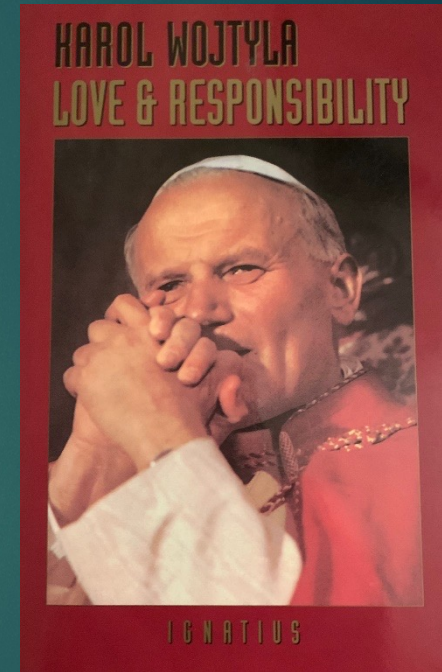


Key principles from Theology of the Body

- ▶ Affirms the goodness of being human:
the person as a unity of body and spirit
- ▶ The body reveals the person
- ▶ The body speaks a language
 - ▶ communication is *mediated* by the body
- ▶ Love: the supreme act of interpersonal communication

Key principles from Theology of the Body

- ▶ Love: willing the good of the other;
a decision, rather than a sensation
- ▶ The opposite of love is not **hate**, but **use**
- ▶ Key scriptures:
 - ▶ Genesis 1-3
 - ▶ Matthew 19
- ▶ Christ appeals to “the beginning”
 - ▶ Called or accused?



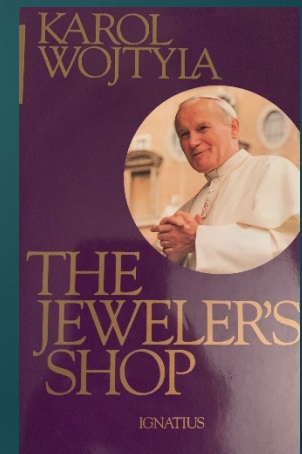
Living the Theology of the Body

- ▶ In this life:
 - ▶ Complementarity of man and woman
 - ▶ Being “for the other”
 - ▶ Giving vs. grasping; aspirations vs. inclinations
 - ▶ Exclusivity / indissolubility of marriage
 - ▶ Fruitfulness of married love
 - ▶ Celibacy and marriage: witnesses to one another
- ▶ In the life to come:
 - ▶ Joining in the exchange of love that is life in the Trinity

Benefits of understanding the Theology of the Body

- ▶ Perceiving the Christian vision of what it means to be human helps to reveal our identity
- ▶ Once we know who we are (identity), we have insight into how we should live (vocation)
- ▶ “Every person has been given an existence and a love. The only question is: how to build a sensible structure from it?”

*from The Jeweler's Shop,
a play by Karol Wojtyla*



Learning more about TOB

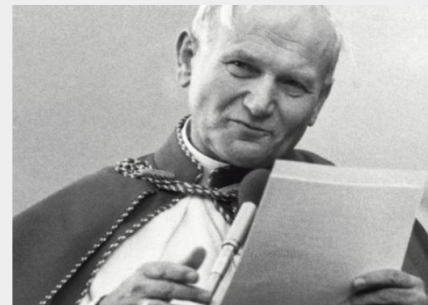
<https://doxaweb.com/jp2>

Saint John Paul II

Theology of the Body

John Paul II on Love and Responsibility

Good summary of the themes of the Theology of the Body (compiled as a brochure by the Love and Responsibility Foundation)



Male and Female He Created Them

Wednesday audiences delivered by Pope John Paul II between 1979 and 1984 (translated and with an introduction by Dr. Michael Waldstein)

Love and Responsibility

Drawing from his own pastoral experience as a priest and bishop before he became Pope John Paul II, Karol Wojtyła has produced a remarkably eloquent