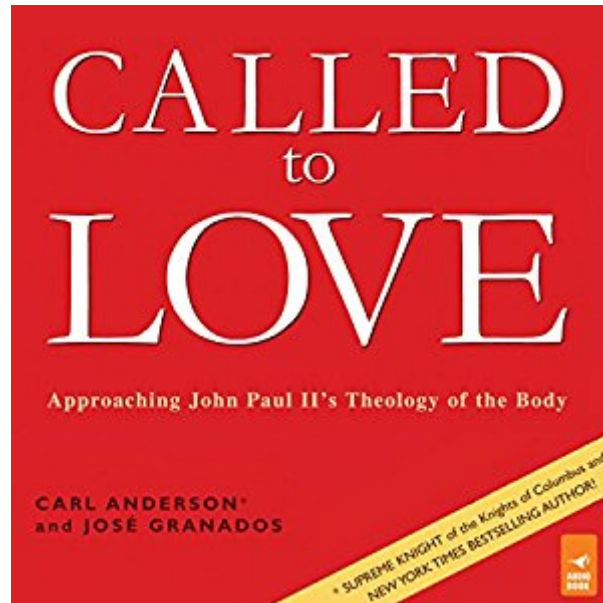


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# Called To Love: Approaching John Paul II's Theology Of The Body



## Synopsis

Forty years ago, Pope John Paul II offered a major breakthrough in religious understanding of the body/soul connection. This book explores the late pope's theology of the body, in language both poetic and understandable. It can influence the listener's views on sex, love, and marriage in profound and practical ways.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I've read other works on John Paul II's theology of the body before, but what set apart "Called to Love" for me was the authors' interweaving of the pope's other literature, as well -- specifically, his poetry and plays. I must say I came away with an even greater appreciation for the late pope and his commitment to marriage, families and upholding the dignity of the human person. Clearly, he was steeped in this love. I think "Called to Love" achieves a nice balance between giving the layman a thorough -- but accessible -- introduction to JP II's teachings on love and human sexuality, and providing a "where do we go from here" approach for those already familiar with theology of the body and want to bring that message of faith-filled love to society. I'd definitely recommend it.

Carl Anderson and Father Jos  Granados have done an amazing job interpreting and explaining Pope John Paul II's "Theology of the Body". Mr. Anderson and Fr. Granados have presented in Called to Love, a mature and all-encompassing understanding of the "Theology of the Body" that underscores the true subject of Pope John Paul II's catechesis: the vocation of every Christian

person to love. In this reviewer's opinion, the authors here have one up on Christopher West-- Mr. West presents a kind of introduction to the "Theology of the Body" that gets your feet wet. Here is the rest of the story. Carl Anderson and Fr. Granados have presented the main attraction: how the vocation to love transforms and informs our understanding of human sexuality and human love. My favorite aspect of Called to Love is that the authors incorporate not only Pope John Paul II's Wednesday Audiences which comprise the "Theology of the Body" but Mr. Anderson and Fr. Granados also reference Pope John Paul II's poetry, his plays, and his other major work on love (the real point of the "Theology of the Body"): Love & Responsibility. Mr. Anderson and Fr. Granados see that the "Theology of the Body" is not just the Wednesday Audiences of catechesis, but that this vision extends throughout the whole of Pope John Paul II's theology; it permeated everything he wrote. The "Theology of the Body" is the manner of understanding human sexuality and love in the light of Divine Love. Called to Love is then able to present a fuller view of Pope John Paul II's "Theology of the Body" based on the nature and meaning of love.

I started reading this book because a friend of mine had such a transformation in her life, going from promiscuous to joyfully chaste as a result of a slight study of Theology of the Body. Expecting a discourse on why we are not to have sex before marriage, I have been shocked at the journey God has me on to discovering His deep Father's love for all of us, and the dignity that love imbeds into my being. This book is rich, deep, insightful, and poetic. The author uses amazing word pictures. I can see the gospel according to the yelling evangelists from the Protestant Church was not, in fact, the whole or true gospel. We were brought forth to know Him, to love Him, to be known by and loved by Him. We got entangled in sin and Jesus Christ comes to free us from original sin to return us to Original Innocence, Solitude and Unity- all places of loving Him and being in AWE of His faithful care. This is THE BOOK OF BOOKS if you want to grow closer to Christ and those around your life.

I have read many books and listened to many CDs regarding Theology of the Body from Christopher West and others. This CD set blows the others out of the water in its clarity, depth and comprehensiveness. The authors do a stupendous job of explaining a very complicated "Theology of the Body" with many examples especially from JP II's play "The Jeweler's Shop". This book/CD makes JP II's "Theology of the Body" come alive in power and depth. If you have any interest in JP II's "Theology of the Body", this is the best and most profound resource I have found. I can't recommend it highly enough especially given the scarcity of quality material on this powerful and profound theology. I am studying for a Doctorate in Ministry and I can tell you that you don't have to

have a graduate degree to understand this but if you did have a graduate degree you would appreciate the depth of JPII's theology and recognize that you need to find a way to incorporate it into your professional work or research. - Keepin' It Real

After reading the TOB and hearing Christopher West and Jason Evert through the years, I was not expecting to find such refreshingly new insight into the Theology of the Body. If you are looking for a probing and thoughtful analysis of the TOB, this book should be in your top 5 (along with Saint Thomas' articles in the Summa regarding the soul's relation to the body). It does \*not\* provide a cursory summary of TOB, nor does it take the counter-puritan approach of Christopher West. Instead, it seems to span more broadly, helping us to shift our entire way of seeing the world. As Fr. Thomas Loya often says (who himself is a wonderful proponent of TOB), this is more about rediscovering a truly sacramental worldview; a Catholic ethos; the way of interfacing with the world that God intended for us, but we somehow lost along the way.

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