

# Stages of Faith: The Psychology of Human Development and the Quest for Meaning

By James W. Fowler

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Dr. James Fowler has asked these questions, and others like them, of nearly six hundred people. He has talked with men, women, and children of all ages, from four to eighty-eight, including Jews, Catholics, Protestants, agnostics, and atheists. In many cases, the interviews became in-depth conversations that provided rare, intimate glimpses into the various ways our lives have meaning and purpose, windows into what this books calls *faith*.

Faith, as approached here, is not necessarily religious, nor is it to be equated with belief. Rather, faith is a person's way of leaning into and making sense of life. More verb than noun, faith is the dynamic system of images, values, and commitments that guide one's life. It is thus universal: everyone who chooses to go on living operated by some basic faith.

Building on the contributions of such key thinkers as Piaget, Erikson, and Kohlberg, Fowler draws on a wide range of scholarship, literature, and firsthand research to present expertly and engagingly the six stages that emerge in working out the meaning of our lives--from the intuitive, imitative faith of childhood through conventional and then more independent faith to the universalizing, self-transcending faith of full maturity. *Stages of Faith* helps us to understand our own pilgrimage of faith, the passages of our own quest for meaning and value.

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### **Editorial Review**

#### Review

"The classic book on the subject of faith development....An extremely important work, integral to the understanding of the human condition and our sense of meaning."--M. Scott Peck

#### From the Publisher

Groundbreaking study shows how human life is progressively centered around a basic set of meanings and values that shape the faith people live by.

#### About the Author

James W. Fowler is widely regarded, along with his associate Lawrence Kohlberg and his contemporaries Carol Gilligan and Daniel J. Levinson, as a seminal figure in the field of developmental psychology. He has taught at Harvard University and Boston College and is currently the head of the Center for Ethics in Public Policy and the Professions at Emory University.

### **Users Review**

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As people who live in typically the modest era should be revise about what going on or info even knowledge to make these keep up with the era that is always change and move ahead. Some of you maybe will certainly update themselves by studying books. It is a good choice for yourself but the problems coming to you actually is you don't know what type you should start with. This Stages of Faith: The Psychology of Human Development and the Quest for Meaning is our recommendation to cause you to keep up with the world. Why, because this book serves what you want and need in this era.

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##### **Sophia Hartman:**

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