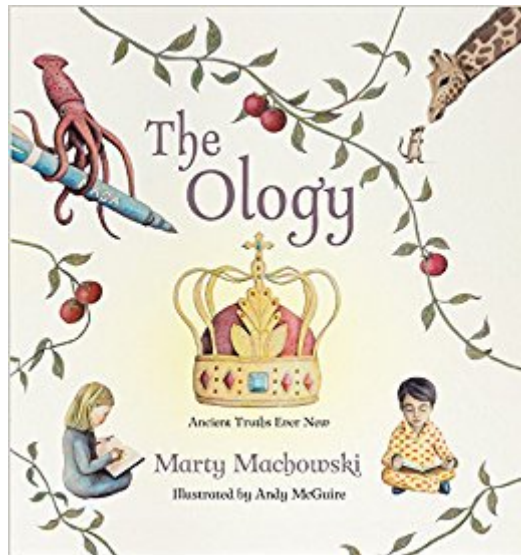


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The Ology: Ancient Truths, Ever New



Synopsis

A Page-Turning Storybook of Theology for Kids In the cellar of the old stone cathedral, Carla and Timothy uncover a life-changing treasure, a carefully wrapped ancient book known as The Ology. What adults might describe as a beautifully illustrated storybook of systematic theology, the kids discover to be a story of adventure, mystery, and wonder that leads them to the truth about God, themselves, and the world around them. Truth is for kids, not just for adults! So The Ology gives kids of all ages a beginner's theology book to help them understand who God is and how we, as his children, relate to him. Arranged within a traditional systematic theological framework, each truth in The Ology is also connected to the larger redemptive story of Scripture. The doctrine of God, for example, is presented in the larger framework of creation, where the attributes of God are on display and easier to understand. Designed for six-year-olds through preteens, this flexible resource includes built-in adaptations for use with younger or older children, so that entire families can enjoy it together. Read The Ology to preschoolers, read it with grade-school kids, and let older kids discover the hidden truths by reading the corresponding Scripture passages for each section. However you read it, The Ology will give your children a gift that will last a lifetime a solid foundation of life-changing biblical truth that will point them to the God who loves them and gave himself for them. A beginner's book of systematic theology in the form of a beautifully illustrated storybook. Clearly explains life-changing theological truths with everyday examples and simple language that kids can understand. Uses illustrations, analogies, and word pictures to help kids understand God, the world, and themselves. Designed for six-year-olds through preteens, with built-in adaptations for use with younger or older children, so that entire families can enjoy it together.

Book Information

Hardcover: 224 pages

Publisher: New Growth Press; First edition (October 21, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 194257228X

ISBN-13: 978-1942572282

Product Dimensions: 8.7 x 0.8 x 8.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 108 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #4,963 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #28 in Books > Children's Books > Religions > Christianity #30 in Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Children's & Teens #883

Customer Reviews

â œFew tasks are of greater importance than the discipling of children. Christian parents and Sunday school teachers, committed to biblical fidelity, cannot neglect the tremendous task of teaching children the great truths of Scripture. Marty Machowskiâ™s *The Ology: Ancient Truths Ever New* is a wonderful new book that will equip parents for the task of discipleship and also help children immerse themselves in the Christian worldview.â • --R. Albert Mohler, Jr., President of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminaryâ œI love good childrenâ™s books, and this one is truly beautiful, both in its words and pictures. Machowski meets children where they are and tells them the greatest story of all. The best part is, itâ™s true!â • --Dr. Joel R. Beeke, President of Puritan Reformed Theological Seminary, Grand Rapids, Michiganâ œThe *Ology* has quickly become my favorite introduction to Christianity for children. Machowski has brilliantly written this systematic theology as a storyâ”the great Story. He writes with a profound simplicity that children will understand, yet with a depth and beauty that will move adults to worship. And he makes the gospel crystal clear. This book is a wonderful resource for family worship or childrenâ™s devotions.â • --Jon Bloom, Chair & cofounder, *Desiring God*; authorâ œAppealing, truthful, and comprehensive, Marty Machowski has written *The Ology* as a systematic theology accessible to children. I can see parents reading this book while their children snuggle beside them or sit on their lap and listen. Little ones will enjoy looking at this beautifully illustrated volume as their parents read it to them. Itâ™s also the kind of book you can read to your children again and again. When they are old enough, theyâ™ll want to read it on their own. Can you ask for more in a Christian book for children?â • Don Whitney, Professor of Biblical Spirituality, Associate Dean for the School of Theology, The Southern Baptist Theological Seminaryâ œEvery childâ”and every parentâ”is already a theologian. The question is what kind of theologian we will be. Will our children grow up learning sound doctrine, rightly dividing the word of truth? Or will they end up fashioning a godâ”and a theologyâ”in their own image? There are many good theologians in the church today, and many teachers who love children. But few are a combination of both like Marty Machowski. I am delighted to commend this engaging resource to help all of us know and worship the God of the Bible!â • Justin Taylor, Managing editor, *ESV Study Bible*; coauthor, *The Final Days of Jesus*â œThis marvelous book works on every level: It is thoroughly biblical, doctrinally sound, gospel-centered, well written, and

exquisitely illustrated. Though intended for children, The Ology will also be of immense help to their parents, relatives, and friends. I intend to buy this book for my grandchildren and read it together with them over and over and over again. I can't give The Ology a higher endorsement than that!

• Gregg R. Allison, Professor of Christian Theology, The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary; secretary of the Evangelical Theological Society; pastor and author

œ This well-illustrated book clearly and logically introduces theology for children.

• Andy Naselli, Assistant Professor of New Testament and Biblical Theology at Bethlehem College & Seminary in Minneapolis

œ The Ology is a great answer to the dilemma of how parents can introduce their children to biblical theology. We must go beyond Bible stories and "be nice" morality. Memorizing a catechism seldom works in today's world. Marty Machowski brings solid reformed theological truth into a most attractive and understandable format. Parents everywhere will rejoice to see their children "get it" as they work through The Ology together.

• Gerry Breshears, PhD, Professor of Theology, Western Seminary, Portland

œ From the beginning God revealed himself to his people that they might know him, love him, and be his beloved children. Theology was for all of God's people, not just seminary professors! The Ology takes us back to this earlier understanding, using story and art to make scriptural truth understandable and real to all of God's children, regardless of age. I eagerly look forward to reading The Ology with my grandson!

• R. J. Gore Jr., DMin, PhD, Professor of Systematic Theology and Acting Dean Erskine Theological Seminary, Due West, SC

œ Marty Machowski has provided parents with a valuable resource to raise up their children "in the discipline and instruction of the Lord" (Eph. 6:4). The Ology is biblically saturated, theologically rich, clearly written, and helpfully illustrated. May the Spirit use this book to establish the next generation on the rock of God's Word (Matt. 7:24-27) and produce disciples who follow Jesus for a lifetime!

• Matthew S. Harmon, Professor of New Testament Studies, Grace Theological Seminary

œ The Ology: Ancient Truths Ever New is a special book. It provides a visual means for teaching a child the basic, biblical doctrines that we as believers love. With the need for greater biblical and theological literacy in the church today, I believe that The Ology can engage and teach both children and adults together. Children's catechisms are a great tool for memorizing theological concepts but The Ology, with its beautiful and creative art work, as well as its vibrant storytelling style, provides a sound learning tool in book form that will stimulate listening, learning, questioning, and discovery. God's truth will come alive to the families who use it. I highly recommend this solid work for use in teaching and training children in basic Christian doctrine. Children will enjoy learning theology from The Ology: Ancient Truths Ever New!

• Dr. Rod Culbertson, Jr., DMin, Reformed Theological Seminary, Charlotte,

NCâ œSystematic theology can conjure up images of big, dusty books. Can it be engaging for kids? If you say no, The Ology will surprise you. Discover what election has to do with earthworm chunk ice cream . . . or eschatology with an ant flying a car. Marty Machowski is an artful storyteller. Andy McGuireâ™s illustrations are beautiful. Their childrenâ™s theology is both surprisingly winsome and biblically faithful. Thanks be to God!â• Jared Kennedy, Pastor of Families at Sojourn Community Church in Louisville, KYâ œI love Marty Machowskiâ™s books, and even better, so do my children. The Ology is another beautiful and creative book meant to expose children to the deepest and most important truths. I am reading it with my children, and would encourage you to do the same.â• Tim Challiesâ œMany parents struggle to teach their children systematic theology, or even lead family devotions. The Ology will help you do both. Marty has made another significant contribution to biblically faithful, gospel-centered, creatively designed, accessible materials that help parents raise their kids not merely to know about God, but to have a relationship with him through Jesus Christ.â• Bob Kauflin, Director of Sovereign Grace Musicâ œIâ™m always on the lookout for resources that will serve my grandkids, and Iâ™ve just found another one. Marty Machowski has done it again! The Ology takes huge truths about God, Scripture, and Christ and him crucified and makes them accessible and appealing to young minds. Iâ™ll be passing this one out to all twelve of my grandkids.â• C. J. Mahaney, Sovereign Grace Church of Louisvilleâ œThe Ology turns the study of what Bible students recognize as â^Systematic Theologyâ™ into lessons blended into a story for kids 6â“12 years of age. Covering all the major topics of the Bible in a comprehensive way, it draws kids in with vivid illustrations, both in words and pictures. I know this is going to be a big hit for parents who want a family worship tool, and for their children to grasp the key subjects the Bible raises. A perfect companion to Martyâ™s other books.â• Dennis Gundersen, Author, Grace & Truth Books The Ology is a beautifully illustrated book. That in itself will hold the attention of children. But the words carefully unfold the teaching of Scripture in a way that doesnâ™t talk down to children but talks to them, lifting up their understanding of the triune God as Creator and Redeemer. Marty Machowski has given the church a valuable resource for parents and others wanting to disciple the young. Richard B. Gaffin, Jr., ThD, Professor of Biblical and Systematic Theology, Emeritus Westminster Theological Seminary

Marty Machowski is a Family Life Pastor at Covenant Fellowship Church in Glen Mills, Pennsylvania, where he has served on the pastoral staff for over twenty years. He is the author of the Gospel Story for Kids series, which includes The Gospel Story Bible, Long Story Short, Old Story New, and the Gospel Story Curriculum, as well as the Advent devotional and curriculum

Prepare Him Room. He and his wife Lois and their six children reside in West Chester, Pennsylvania.

I really like this book for kids (and adults). Our daughter is three -- and though a bit of this is over her head we don't stop teaching. It just gives us as Mom and Dad, more of an opportunity to sit and read with her. It's really geared to start around kindergarten and 1st grade and I feel like that is accurate. Here are some reasons why I like this book (not in any specific order):

1. Practical - I love how it uses up to date everyday life to incorporate the understanding of the big picture. For example, (page 152) "A delicious root beer float as only two main ingredients, root beer and vanilla ice cream. These two ingredients combine to form an amazing dessert. Did you know that faith in Jesus has two ingredients? To become a Christian you need to believe, which means trusting that Jesus is God, died for your sins, and was raised from the dead. And you need to repent, which means you need to turn away from your sin and from going your own way and follow Jesus. This is what the Bible means by faith -- believing and turning. Of course, even faith is a gift from God. We don't do anything to earn faith. The first time you turn to Jesus in faith, you become part of God's family. From then on, we have the Holy Spirit so we can keep believing and repenting whenever we sin. That's what it means to follow Jesus. Have you turned toward Jesus and asked him for forgiveness? [Acts 20:20-21, 2 Chronicles 7:14, Acts 17:30, Hebrews 6:1, Acts 2:38]" [Special note from me: There's more to chapter 42 that is not copied above. I only copied 1/2 of it.] So in this -- the author gives a simple illustration of the root beer float and brings it into a discussion about the topic of faith. This is something that we as parents can do in everyday life and bringing something that we are doing and use it as a teaching opportunity.
2. The questions in the back -- In the back of the book each of the chapters have questions that go along side of the text. For example, the questions in the back for the above portion of 42. Faith is, "How do we know we are truly children of God? What three things did Paul tell King Agrippa he did to make sure he was faithful to the message he was given?"
3. The answers in the back -- Oh the answers! Ever so helpful as we teach our little ones. There's a section for the questions AND a section for the answers. For example, the answers in the back for the above questions, "Question 1's Answer: We know we are children of God if we love him and carry out his commands. 1 John 3:9-10. Question 2's Answer: Paul preached that people should repent, turn their hearts to God, and demonstrate their repentance by their deeds. Acts 26:20."
4. Nicely organized in a logical manner -- There are 71 chapters (or points of topic) that the author covers and 11 major topics the author cover. The major topics are: a. The Ology of God, b. The Ology of people, c. The Ology of sin, d. The Ology of the Promise and the

Law, e. The Ology of Christ, f. The Ology of the Holy Spirit, g. The Ology of Adoption into God's Family, h. The Ology of Change, i. The Ology of the Church, j. The Ology of the End Times, k. The Ology of God's Word. I really like how the author organized it.⁵ Parents Guide -- As parents we are called to teach our children. The author has explained how we can use this book to best teach our children.⁶ Holds attention of myself as an adult and also my 3-year-old -- So I was reaching when I bought this book and was thinking that she would dive deep like I did. But honestly, when we were reading it for the first time she kept asking me to read more and she sat and listened.⁷ (Very important to me!) Thoroughly biblical, doctrinally sound, gospel-centered, ... well written and beautifully illustrated. -- Excellent! This book is staying TRUE to scripture and has the big picture in mind as it describes the details with such power and strength. This is huge for me -- it's hard to find good children's books that have some good "meat" and not watered down too much. I want something that is going to make my children think and learn about how awesome our God is! This book is an excellent teaching tool. Over all, I give this book my highest number of stars. I am looking forward to diving deeper and reading this book over and over again. The author did a beautiful job at creating a wonderful story that captures the mind and hearts of little ones and adults. It is a wonderful addition to our resource library for family worship and our family's books of devotion collection. I pray that this book ministers to you and your family as it has ministered to my family and me. Blessings to all.

I love this book and look forward to working through it with my grandkids. It addresses subjects that are essential to understand, but frequently are not covered in an understandable orderly method with children. Each subject has supporting scripture, which you can look up ahead of working with the kids to determine what is most appropriate for the age range you are working with. An excellent tool to draw the beloved children in your life nearer to God.

This is a really beautiful book with great illustrations. It seems like my children will gain lots of knowledge from this book and have fun doing so. I'm excited to begin reading this book!

Great devotional book for kids through age 12.

I love this book, and I am ordering my second copy. My first copy was ordered and mailed overseas at the request of my son and daughter-in-love who are missionaries in South Korea. They wanted a copy of the book for my granddaughter. I spend time with the book before mailing it, and it is a

doctrinally solid book for parents to use with their young ones. The book covers some theologically tough subjects with great care and thought. I want my own copy now.

The right amount of text per page, good talking points and illustrations, theologically sound! We've gone through at least 4 similar books and this so far is the best!

Truly a beautifully written and illustrated book that I will use in my Sunday School class to teach the Truth of the gospel to 4th and 5th graders.

Great book to teach theology to children. Probably appropriate for ages 6 through middle school.

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