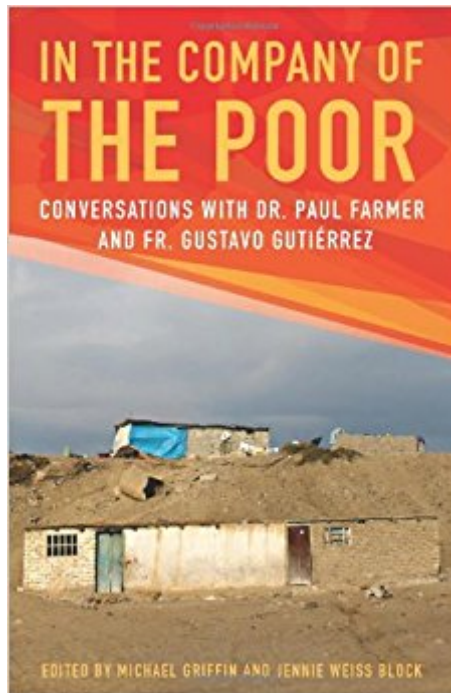


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# In The Company Of The Poor: Conversations With Dr. Paul Farmer And Fr. Gustavo Gutierrez



## Synopsis

This book reflects intersection between the lives, commitments, and strategies of two highly respected figures Dr. Paul Farmer and Fr. Gustavo Gutierrez joined in their option for the poor, their defense of life, and their commitment to liberation. Farmer has credited liberation theology as the inspiration for his effort to do social justice medicine, while Gutierrez has recognized Farmer's work as particularly compelling example of the option for the poor, and the impact that theology can have outside the church. Draws on their respective writings, major addresses by both at Notre Dame, and a transcript of a dialogue between them.

## Book Information

Paperback: 192 pages

Publisher: Orbis Books; 1 edition (November 1, 2013)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1626980500

ISBN-13: 978-1626980501

Product Dimensions: 0.8 x 5.2 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 8.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

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## Customer Reviews

The articles, speeches, and interviews in this volume open a way to look at the relationship of the rich world to the poor world with both compassion and expertise. One of the first liberation theologians, Gustavo Guti rrez, is in dialogue with Paul Farmer who has done much in medical work in Haiti, Peru, and elsewhere. Worth careful study.

This is a helpful look into how Liberation Theology informs modern work with the poor. The book is a bit dense and incorporates new material and older texts in a way that seems to leave some holes, but the book's timing, coming as Pope Francis begins his tenure, bringing an understanding of the gospel that seems synthesized in the best teachings of Liberation Theology, makes it helpful to "get up to speed" on a modern look at what has been too long a distrusted and unexplored theology in

the West.

I have been influenced by both of these men in different areas of my life and was excited to see this collaboration. I was encouraged to see the connections made between theology and global health. This seems very natural to me but I do not see this often enough. It was nice to see a deeper view about the impact liberation theology has made on Dr. Farmer and PIH as well as how his beliefs have grown since that first reading years ago. Highly recommend.

A great text. The book goes back and forth between Dr. Farmer and Friar Gustavo Gutierrez. In this text Farmer comes out and says it all. He reinforces and builds on his philosophy for helping the poor and destitute sick or rather accompanying them. He does this by referencing many outside texts and some older texts of his own, it is in this book Farmer "comes out" as a christian. While I believe this has always been evident in his prior texts, they always seemed more secular. The appeal of this book is that even if you are not Catholic or Christian for that matter you can get on board with their philosophy, in fact Farmer bluntly welcomes those from all faiths.

Authenticity of both Gutierrez and Farmer and the intelligence of their analysis. Their humanity and love for each other and for the poor was evident throughout.

This is fairly serious and scholarly stuff, compared to what I usually read. But I found propositions put forth by Father Gutierrez and Doctor Farmer to be compelling reminders that we all have certain responsibilities to each other -- being neutral is not an acceptable option -- and that there are many ways to practice liberation theology with medicine Paul Farmer's particular choice.

While multi-authored books can sometimes be uneven, *In the Company of the Poor*, is strong throughout. The critical analyses offered greatly help understanding Better Liberation Theology and its critical contribution to the ministering to the poor by the Roman Catholic Church. A most important theological text, especially given the new pontiff's emphasis on ministering to the poor.

The insights of the conversation between Paul Farmer and Fr. Gustavo are enlightening and make for fascinating reading. If only more people would get to read this book.

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