



Antonio Autiero

MORAL THEOLOGY AS INSPIRED BY VATICAN COUNCIL II

Born in 1948 in Naples, Italy, Antonio Autiero’s theological education took place at the time of **Vatican Council II**—and, as a result, the direction of his theological profile and life vocation has been marked distinctly by it. Inspired by the council and especially by *Gaudium et Spes*, Autiero went on to understand his work as a moral theologian as a way to reflect on the condition of the human person in the world.

Autiero began to view moral theology as a way for himself to be *more* present in the history of the world and its people, not as a way to escape from concrete life. Rather, he increasingly understood the ‘secular’ value of the theologian’s work, an idea that he explored more through the “**theology for the city.**”



This focus on life and its secular nature led Autiero to consider **the centrality of the body** (against any form of spiritualization and abstraction) and the importance of lived experience—that is, life stories—as a subject of moral reflection. Gender sensitivity helps theological ethics in a very peculiar way.



In recent years, however, Autiero’s focus has shifted from the *Gaudium et Spes* to the *Dei Verbum*—this means affirming the primacy of the Word of God and its dialogic, relational presence in human history. Hence the urgency of a renewed relationship between bible and theological ethics. However, Autiero has taken care not to fall into a fundamentalist view of ethics, earning him a prestigious commemorative in *Fluchtpunkt Fundamentalismus?* at his retirement.

In his commitment as a member of CTEWC, Autiero has found that the platform helps him to feel the solidarity and companionship of many other theologians, men, and women from different **local churches** around the world. It is with great enjoyment and satisfaction that he joins this conference in Sarajevo.

