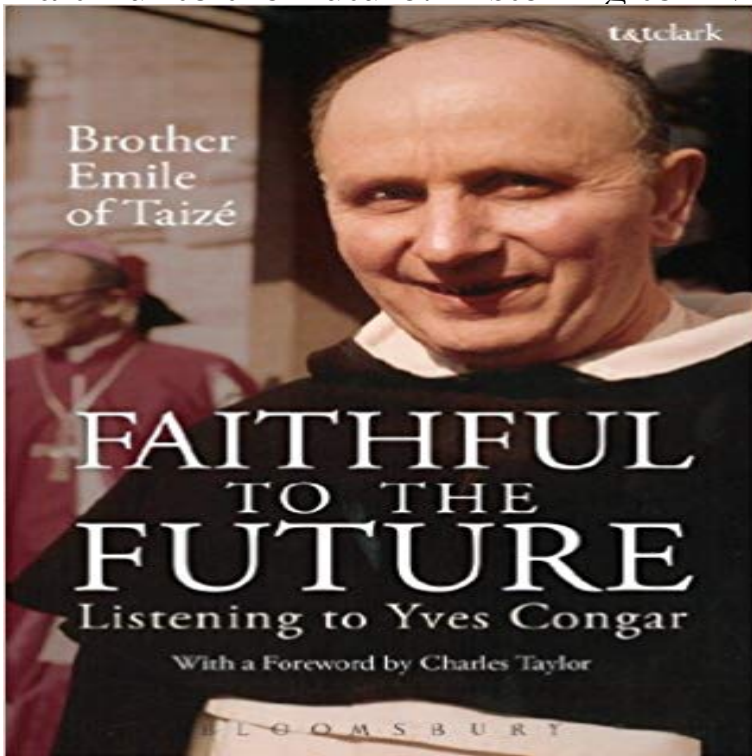


## Faithful to the Future: Listening to Yves Congar



Faithful to the Future examines the true nature of Christian Tradition and particularly how it implies a fidelity not only to the past but to the future as well - tradition appears to be inseparable from creativity and reform. Congar's sense of the future and his conviction that something very important is happening in history led him to re-emphasize forgotten dimensions of Christian tradition, especially those that value the human person. When Congar reflected on Church authority and how it is best exercised, he was not thinking about a power that curtails freedom. Seeking to rediscover what is specific to Christianity, he described authority as a reality that is at the service of growth, where paying attention to the unknown and the unexpected is of the utmost importance. Congar was one of the greatest artisans of Vatican II and his writings are characterized by the urgent call for the reforms made necessary by a changing world, and by an understanding of catholicity - a sense of the Church that is not sectarian, but that lives and thinks according to the whole. This volume explores the four themes that are prominent in Congar's writings, namely tradition, reform, catholicity and authority. The book does not assume a detailed knowledge of Congar's writings but addresses a difficulty that is frequently encountered in the present time - no one better than Yves Congar has shown that the Church is not a system.

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