

January Just Grace Book Discussion

We invite you to join in a discussion of Reggie Williams' *Bonhoeffer's Black Jesus: Harlem Renaissance Theology and an Ethic of Resistance* on **Saturday, January 6, 9-11 am** or on **Wednesday, January 10, 7-9 pm**.

In this book, Reggie L. Williams seeks to explain how, well before the Nazis' mobile death squads and concentration camps killed six million Jews, "[Dietrich] Bonhoeffer was unique in his insistence that Christians in Germany publicly and adamantly oppose Nazi race hatred." Williams asserts that Bonhoeffer's ethic of resistance was the result of the Christology he learned in Harlem's churches—a Christology featuring a Christ who stands with the oppressed and who suffers with African Americans in their struggle against systemic injustice and racial violence. Williams employs prominent Harlem Renaissance figures like W. E. B. DuBois, Langston Hughes, and Countee Cullen to reveal the African American perspective that "racism prohibits authentic Christian discipleship."

"*Bonhoeffer's Black Jesus* argues that the black American narrative led Dietrich Bonhoeffer to the truth that obedience to Jesus requires concrete historical action. This ethic of resistance not only indicted the church of the German *Volk* but also continues to shape the nature of Christian discipleship today."