

Talking 'Simply Catholicism' with America's most complicated cardinal

John L. Allen Jr. | Oct. 7, 2009 NCR Today

Chicago's George says both liberals and conservatives focus too much on bishops, not enough on Christ

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Historically, American cardinals have rarely been preoccupied with the intellectual life. By reputation, they're known more as pragmatists — bricks-and-mortar men, or pastors, or political powerbrokers — as opposed to the European model of the theologian-bishop. Chicago's Cardinal Francis George, however, has long been an exception, and his new book *The Difference God Makes: A Catholic Vision of Faith, Communion and Culture* (Crossroad) offers a classic illustration of the point.

Read Allen's full interview with Cardinal George here: [Cardinal George's plan to evangelize America](#) [1]

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