

A church without a youth club?



Wish:

Our youth group is well integrated into the community and our work is appreciated. We are happy in the community!

A church without a youth group (youth group leader) is like honey bread without honey!

That's a bit thick, isn't it? Hopefully you won't stick to it, because ...

A youth group (youth group leader) without a church is like honey bread without bread!

So there we have it. Honey and bread belong together. Bread is the basis and it tastes great with honey! If butter is added in between, in other words if the relationship is nurtured, then you're in for a treat. So let's prepare a honey bread together with the focus of the year 93 and enjoy it after the work is done ... and taste it.

The reality

It wouldn't be good if the Ameisli, youth group and teen leaders were always the center of attention. Because pride comes before a fall! The real situation already ensures that this is not the case. This is made clear by some of the voices of youth leaders:

We are supposed to stall for everything. If people are needed for any task, we are expected to put in the extra effort. We are the stopgap everywhere.

People are happy that we do the work, but they don't ask for it.

We are only asked how we are doing when difficulties become public.

Our youth group is well integrated into the community and our work is appreciated. We are happy in the community!

We are often overwhelmed because the demands placed on us are often superhuman. In addition to our work or school commitments, we are also expected to act as scapegoats for our parents' parenting mistakes. Sometimes we get a little frustrated when we have to take the rap for problems that we didn't cause.

We are grateful that we have the full support of the church leadership in our difficult task. It is a great help to us that we have a place where our concerns are taken seriously!

Without the support of the congregation, without the sustaining prayers, I would not be able to do my job!

Yes, that's everyday life. There are positive, pleasing statements but also resigned voices. What picture did a survey conducted by BESJ reveal? Around 10% of BESJ youth groups were asked about **integration** into the community, **information** in the community, **coordination** in the community and **financing** of the youth group. We are aware that this has created a one-sided picture, as the church leadership should also be asked about this. However, every parish and every Jungschar can take a close look at its own situation. You will find the results of the survey in the next article.

How integration, information, coordination and financing can be organized in concrete terms is described in the following articles. The detailed information from the survey will also be included. In the detailed information, we were informed of the exact regulations so that we have a wealth of options. Of course, every concern, every question, every problem can be solved and regulated differently. There is no one absolutely good recipe.

0 Parish without Jungschar

References:

Contents: Annual focus 1993 "Community", Peter Blaser, Siegfried Nüesch, Martin Bihr, Hansruedi Tanner, Ueli Obrist, Johannes Wallmeroth, Peter Schulthess

copyright: www.besj.ch

Cover picture: Clipart courtesy of the publishing house buch+musik ejw-service gmbh, Stuttgart - www.ejw-buch.de