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SPIRITUAL ACCOMPANIMENT IN VMY

Published on 18/07/2025

One of our Association's objectives is to accompany young Christians in their growth in faith until they reach Christian maturity. On this journey, spiritual accompaniment becomes essential because it awakens young people "to the things of God", broadens the horizon of their activities, and, at the same time, strengthens their faith and the inexplicable joy of being a Christian and of feeling so loved by the Father.

Spiritual accompaniment, whether from the perspective of the one who receives it or the one who offers it, becomes a journey along a path on which the same beliefs are shared. During this journey, which must be done side by side, it is essential that young men and women do not feel alone when speaking about doubts or raising difficult questions. Rather, they should feel accompanied spiritually and invited to explore other paths and other directions so that at each step, they can establish an intimate relationship with God ... a relationship that blossoms into charitable activity on behalf of their brothers and sisters

These spiritual "guides" --- if this is what we can call the individuals who accompany a young person or a group of young people --- have to reinvent themselves ... just like teachers who use and adapt the most varied strategies so that their students are able to resolve problems and confront everyday challenges. This work or ministry (as I prefer to call it) allows those young men and women who are being accompanied to reinforce their Baptismal commitment, and through the Word that is prayed upon and reflected upon, these same young people make new discoveries. Therefore, I believe that every young adult and/or Christian adult, even with a certain maturity, needs spiritual accompaniment that helps them respond to the needs and challenges that surround them.

It is in this sense that I like to view spiritual accompaniment as a journey, made side by side (young person and formator), with the Bible in one hand and a newspaper in the other... growing in holiness and participating in the greatness of God's Love.