

The Role of Teenagers In Developing An Understanding of Christian Families (Case Study In Class 12 High School Odd Semester)

THE ROLE OF TEENAGERS IN DEVELOPING AN UNDERSTANDING OF CHRISTIAN FAMILIES

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ABSTRACT

The family plays an important role in Christian religious education for teenagers. Parents are responsible for teaching Christian teachings from an early age through activities such as reading the Bible, praying together, and attending church services. Apart from teaching, parents must set an example of living according to Christian values so that teenagers can see and apply them in their daily lives. Christian religious education in the family does not only focus on cognitive aspects, but also affective and psychomotor. A harmonious and mutually supportive family environment is very influential in this educational process. The success of Christian religious education in the family also requires cooperation between parents, churches and other educational institutions to ensure that children receive a complete and quality education.

Keywords: Family, Parents, Children, Christian Values.

1. INTRODUCTION

Adolescent Christian Religious Education (PAK) and Characteristics is an educational program designed to provide knowledge and understanding of the values of the Christian faith as well as develop positive morals or character in adolescents. The aim is to help teenagers in spiritual, moral growth and the formation of good character in accordance with Christian teachings [3].

PAK Youth and Character Education is education that emphasizes the formation of Christian character in teenagers. PAK Teenagers and Characteristics provides a solid foundation for teenagers to build a self-identity that is rooted in Christian values, so that they can face the challenges of the times with firmness and integrity. PAK Youth and Ethics not only teaches theoretical knowledge about the Christian faith, but also provides practical training to apply Christian values in everyday life. This is very important to help teenagers develop good manners. PAK Youth and Character is a valuable investment for

the future of the church and society. By instilling Christian values in teenagers, we prepare a generation that has strong moral and spiritual integrity, and is ready to become agents of positive change in society. PAK Teenagers and Characteristics does not only aim to produce teenagers who are obedient to worship, but also to form strong characters, such as honesty, integrity, social awareness and responsibility. This is very important to build a harmonious and dignified society.

Thus, PAK Teenagers and Characteristics is a very important educational program to help teenagers grow in faith, morals and positive character in accordance with Christian teachings. This program is considered a valuable investment in the future of the church, society and nation. Adolescent Christian Religious Education (PAK) and Characteristics have a very important role in the lives of adolescents and society. PAK Adolescents and Characteristics play a role in shaping the character and morals of teenagers in accordance with Christian values. This program teaches principles such as honesty, integrity, love, and respect for others. This helps teenagers develop good manners, which is very important for their personal and social lives. One of the main roles of PAK Pemuda and Budi Pekerti is to support the spiritual growth of teenagers. This program provides knowledge about the Christian faith, deepens a relationship with God, and encourages youth to develop a consistent life of prayer and worship. This spiritual growth is very important to shape character and direct teenagers' lives. PAK Teenagers and Ethics teaches life values that originate from Christian teachings. These values include love, forgiveness, justice, peace, and respect for life. Understanding these values helps teenagers face life's challenges and make wise decisions.

2. RESEARCH METHODS

This research uses qualitative descriptive research methods. The descriptive method is a method used to describe or analyze research results but is used to make broader conclusions. The discriminatory method is a fact search with a fixed interpretation. The data collection technique is to listen and record the things needed for this journal. Validity techniques use triangulation techniques, data reduction, data display, and drawing conclusions.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The PAK Adolescent and Character Program also plays a role in developing adolescent life skills, such as communication skills, leadership, problem solving and teamwork. This skill is very useful for teenagers in interacting with other people and facing challenges in the modern world. By instilling Christian values in teenagers, PAK Pemuda and Budi Pekerti

contribute to building a harmonious and loving community. Teenagers who have good character and morals will become responsible citizens and play an active role in creating a better society.

PAK Teenagers and Characters prepare teenagers to face future challenges by providing a strong foundation of faith and morals. Teenagers who have positive character and values will be better prepared to face various situations and make wise decisions in their lives. The family is the smallest unit in society which has an important role in shaping individual character and morals. In a Christian family, this role is increasingly crucial because it is a place for the formation of Christian faith and values. An exemplary Christian family is a family that is able to be an example for other families in applying the teachings of Christ in their daily lives. From an educational perspective, parents also play an important role in their children's religious education [4].

Parents can help their children understand Christian teachings. They must be partners in the child's learning process and help answer questions that arise. Supporting Christian religious learning in children has many positive benefits that can help children's spiritual, emotional and social development. The main benefit of Christian religious education for children is that it forms a foundation of children's values. By introducing students to the teachings of Christianity, they can: Develop a moral and ethical understanding of important values in everyday life. This will help build a strong foundation of values for face various situations and make good decisions. Introduction to God and Faith: Christian Religious Learning Support helps children get to know God and develop a personal relationship with Him. They learn about God's love and mercy and how faith can be a source of strength in life [5].

Parents and children should communicate openly about religion and beliefs. Parents should give space to children to ask questions and express their thoughts freely. Open communication between parents and children has many positive benefits that have a significant impact on parent-child development and relationships. Here are some of the main benefits of open communication, including:

1. **Increased understanding:** Open communication allows parents and children to understand and respect each other's opinions, feelings and points of view. This helps build a deeper emotional bond and strengthens their relationship.
2. **Increased self-confidence:** When children feel like they are listening to everything and are open to everything, children become more self-confident and confident in discussing the problems and worries they are facing.
3. **Social Skills Development:** Through open communication, children learn social skills such as listening well, speaking politely, and expressing opinions clearly.
4. **Because these skills are important for healthy social interactions, through open communication, parents and children discuss problems and conflicts that arise and work together to find solutions in an intelligent and constructive way. In this case, parents can take their children to church, religious retreats, or other religious events. For example, such experiences can strengthen children's understanding and**

appreciation of Christianity. **Spiritual Development:** Religious experiences open the door for children to develop the spiritual dimension of their lives. This helps children understand the concept of divinity, spirituality and the deeper meaning of life. Helping to shape character and personality, religious experiences shape children's character and help them live their lives with integrity and responsibility. Religious experiences enable children to understand and appreciate the cultural and historical values that are part of their religion. Children who are involved in religion are often taught to be grateful for the blessings they have and to appreciate everything they have in life [6].

Building a strong foundation of faith in a Christian family is essential. Religious education plays an important role in this process, instilling Christian values and guiding children to know and love God. The following are several important topics that need to be discussed in Christian family religious education:

1. Get to know God and the Bible
 - a. Introducing Allah as creator, savior, and lover.
 - b. Read and discuss Bible stories to instill moral and spiritual values.
 - c. Teaching children about the meaning of prayer and how to pray sincerely.
 - d. Learn the basics of the Christian faith, such as the Trinity, sin, and salvation.
 - e. Applying Christian Values
2. Encourage children to show compassion, kindness, and forgiveness to others.
 - a. Teaches children about the importance of honesty, integrity and responsibility.
 - b. Get children used to helping others and serving the community.
 - c. Discusses moral and ethical issues from a Christian perspective [7].
3. Cultivate Worship Habits
 - a. Attend church services regularly with family.
 - b. Pray together at home every day.
 - c. Read the Bible and meditate on God's Word personally.
 - d. Celebrate Christian holidays with meaning and enthusiasm.
 - e. Involving children in church activities and ministry [8].
4. Building a Relationship with God
 - a. Encourage children to build a personal relationship with God through prayer and Bible reading.
 - b. Teaches children about the importance of listening to God's voice and following His leading.
 - c. Helping children to face their doubts and questions of faith.
 - d. Providing support and encouragement when children experience difficulties in their faith [9].
5. Be a role model for children
 - a. Parents must show exemplary examples in implementing Christian values in everyday life.
 - b. Demonstrates compassion, patience, and forgiveness in interactions with children.

- c. Talk honestly and openly about faith with children.
 - d. Demonstrate a commitment to following the teachings of Christ in all aspects of life [10].
6. Adapting religious education to the child's age and stage of development
 - a. Use learning methods and materials that are appropriate to the child's age and stage of development.
 - b. Provide explanations that are easy to understand and relevant to the child's life experiences.
 - c. Involve children in the learning process and encourage them to ask questions and discuss.
 - d. Create a fun and interactive learning atmosphere [11]
 7. Involve your partner and other family members
 - a. It is important to build good communication and cooperation between parents in guiding children in the faith.
 - b. Involve other family members in religious education activities, such as grandparents, aunts, and uncles.
 - c. Create family traditions that center on faith, such as praying together before meals or reading the Bible together.
 - d. Provide support and encouragement to each other in an effort to build a strong foundation of faith for the family.
 8. Seek Resources and Support
 - a. Take advantage of the various resources available, such as books, websites and religious education applications.
 - b. Join a Christian community for support and exchange of ideas.
 - c. Consult with a priest, religious guide, or Christian counselor if necessary.
 - d. Attend seminars and training on family religious education.

Building a foundation of faith through religious education in a Christian family requires commitment, patience and cooperation from all family members [12]. By applying the important topics discussed above and utilizing the various resources available, Christian families can guide their children to know God, love others, and live lives full of meaning and purpose [13].

Building a foundation of faith through religious education in a Christian family is not without challenges [14]. Here are some challenges you may face:

- a. Parents are often busy with work and other activities so they don't have enough time for their children.
- b. Social media can bring children closer to secular values that conflict with the teachings of Christ.
- c. Parents may not have enough religious knowledge to guide their children.

Here are some solutions to overcome these challenges:

- a. Parents should spend quality time with their children, even if only for a short time.

- b. Parents should supervise children when using social media and guide them to choose positive content.
- c. Parents can attend seminars, read religious books, or discuss with other people to increase their religious knowledge [15].

4. CONCLUSION

Parents have a big responsibility in educating their children spiritually, especially in Christian religious education. The Bible as God's word gives clear instructions to parents to teach the truths of God's word to their children consistently in daily life (Deuteronomy 6:6-7). Parents are commanded to lovingly educate their children in God's teachings and advice (Ephesians 6:4), and introduce them to Christ from an early age so that they can know and experience God's love (Matthew 19:14).

The main role of parents in Christian religious education is to be a living example that reflects Christian values. They must demonstrate humility, love, forgiveness, and integrity in every aspect of their lives. Apart from that, parents must teach the word of God and Bible truths to their children consistently, both through formal teaching and in daily conversations. Parents also play a role in providing discipline and loving reproof in accordance with God's teachings, as well as creating a family environment that supports children's spiritual growth, such as praying together, reading the Bible, and worshiping together.

In carrying out this role, parents need to collaborate with churches and Christian communities to support Christian religious education for children. By fulfilling this role consistently and lovingly, parents can help children build a strong foundation of faith and develop a closer relationship with God. Christian religious education provided by parents will be a valuable spiritual legacy for the next generation and help produce the next generation who have faith and Christian character.

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