

Summary

1. Title of doctoral dissertation

The knowledge and acceptance of religious-moral values. A catechetical-sociological study in the light of research on high school graduates of the Przemyśl archdiocese.

2. Summary of dissertation

The religiosity of young people has been the subject of frequent discussion in theology and the social sciences in recent years. In many places in Poland, the phenomenon of students leaving the Catholic Church or unsubscribing from religion lessons at school is increasingly noticeable. These processes are taking place in different ways throughout the country. Young people have some transcendental references, but are characterised by varying intensity of religious practice. In the minds of most young people there is a separation of faith and morals. Increasingly, moral legislation is prescribed for an individual person or society, but not for God. This phenomenon is associated with an attitude of moral relativism, characterised by the dependence of a person's behaviour on individual tastes, opinions or various socio-cultural conditions. Taking into account the south-eastern region of Poland, the pace of this phenomenon is not as fast as in other parts of the country, however, even here it is noticeable that the dynamics of religiousness changes have accelerated in recent years. An important manifestation of the Church's concern for contemporary youth is school catechesis.

At a time of crisis in the family, which consists of: institutional upbringing of children, without the help and authority of grandparents and elderly people, putting more emphasis on individual professional development than on the good of the family, upbringing in incomplete families, the role of school catechesis is very important, because in the near future it may turn out that it is the religion classes will be the only space in which the importance of religious and moral values is conveyed.

The main subject of this dissertation was to answer the question: what religious-moral values do high school graduates in the Archdiocese of Przemyśl prefer? In order to solve the research problem undertaken, a method dedicated to pastoral theology was applied, which is the paradigm of the three stages of the theological-pastoral analysis. Answering these questions required an analysis of the results of a survey conducted among secondary school graduates of the Przemyśl archdiocese, research of sources on the issue of axiology, documents of the Catholic Church, as well as consultations with both academics dealing with the issue under study and catechists who work with young people on a daily basis. The research on the indicated issues had an interdisciplinary character. The results of the scientific reflection are presented in five chapters.

The first chapter focuses on a discussion of religious-moral values in the curriculum assumptions of high school religion teaching. The curriculum content was analysed in terms of showing attitudes towards the truth of the Catholic faith, Catholic liturgy and prayer, and Catholic moral principles.

The second chapter included a description of the method and characteristics of the research group, which consisted of high school graduates from the Archdiocese of Przemyśl. It also discussed the importance of empirical research in pastoral theology, presented the research tool used and the sampling of the research sample. The last issue discussed within the chapter was a detailed characterisation of the Archdiocese of Przemyśl.

The third chapter showed the level of knowledge of high school graduates of the Przemyśl archdiocese in the field of religious-moral values in the issues of truths of faith, sacraments and prayer formulas and knowledge of moral principles.

The fourth chapter presents the attitudes of young people towards the truths of faith, moral principles, and shows their relationship with the Church, participation in sacramental life and prayer life.

On the basis of the analysis of the questionnaire survey, as well as the curriculum assumptions of school catechesis, conclusions were formulated and certain postulates were developed. These are presented in chapter five. It discusses the importance of religious teaching at school in the context of religious knowledge and faith, and presents postulates regarding the transmission of religious knowledge and the acceptance of religious-moral values. The postulates regarding the transmission of religious knowledge mainly took into account the selection of catechetical content and the need for pre-evangelisation, as well as the correct choice of catechetical methods. On the other hand, the postulates regarding the acceptance of religious-moral values by young people showed the importance of the need for evangelisation, the proclamation of the kerygma and the essence of the correlation of religious education environments.

The catechetical study carried out contributed to showing the current image of young people in matters of the system and hierarchy of values, knowledge of particular religious-moral values, and also showed the degree of acceptance of the form of school catechesis by young people.

Religious lessons on religious-moral values play a key role in the sphere of moral education of young people. However, this is an area that is subject to dynamic transformations and should therefore become the subject of ongoing scientific research and a place for the implementation of current catechetical postulates for the Church's concern for the religious and moral life of young people.

3. Keywords:

religiosity, values, catechesis, youth, evangelization

Ks. Pruszetof Szymolera