

Board of Review Guide for the Pope Pius XII Program

“The members of the board of review should keep in mind that the review is not a reexamination and does not require the participants to show their knowledge in which they have been previously examined. The review should be a friendly “talking it over” between the participants and some individuals who are interested in his or her future. It should be enjoyable for the participant as well as for the reviewers. The nervous participant should be put at ease, the tongue-tied encouraged to talk. The review should strengthen their confidence in their maturity and faith growth.”

“Perhaps the most important part of the review is to determine the attitude of the participants toward the following:

- 1) Do they have a better understanding of their Christian commitment?
- 2) Have they learned to understand, support, and apply Christian principles to the problems of our day?
- 3) Have they thought about their vocation in life, a vocation to the priesthood, religious life, marriage or single life?
- 4) How has their relationship with their Church grown?
- 5) What are their attitudes toward Scouting and the ideals of the programs?
- 6) How does their relationship between Scouting and the Church compare?
- 7) As a result of the program, have the participants grown in their understanding and living out of their faith? (Faith growth)”

This information is taken directly from the Facilitator Manual (page 50) and is the only guidelines that I have. I rely on your past experience with the Pope Pius XII program and your honest opinion of the participant’s growth in faith by their completion of the program. Sometimes it even surprises them that they have grown in faith, and how their opinions on the Church, their parents and their faith have changed or been modified by participating in the program.

As a side bar this group has not been the most vocal group that I have had. There are a couple of shy Scouts and some very vocal young ladies- one in particular who is rather “mad” at the Church and its “Chauvinistic” attitude toward women. I know... but please this is not a reason to not pass her, everyone is entitled to their thoughts and opinions...at least she is thinking about the Church seriously, and that is really what the program is about in my opinion and not a discussion on Church Doctrine.

Well that is the end of my disclaimer: please feel free to edit, add to or not use any or all of the above questions as you see fit. I have 5 definite reviewers currently and am waiting to hear from the group from Immaculate Heart to see if some of last years group will be able to help. There are 14 participants so I will divide them up in groups depending on the number of reviewers that I have, ideally there should 3-4 reviewers to a group.

General review of the Pope Pius XII chapters:

Chapter One: In the Beginning

Participant Manual Goal: To examine the individuals I have chosen to associate with, and explain the implications of these choices.

Chapter Two: God and You

Participant Manual Goal: To explore what it means to be called by God through the Sacraments of Initiation, and how these calls continue in and affect my life.

Chapter Three: Life Choices

Participant Manual Goal: To examine and discover various “life states” to which God may be calling me.

Chapter Four: “9 to 5”

Participant Manual Goal: To examine various professions or occupations, and seek to discover the ones to which God may be calling me.

Chapter Five: Here I am

Participant Manual Goal: To examine various ministries, and seek to discover the ones to which God may be calling me.

Chapter Six: A Melting Pot

Participant Manual Goal: To examine the church’s definition of vocation and how it and god’s calls intertwine in an individual’s daily life through life state, occupation and ministry.

Chapter Seven: Putting It All Together

Participant Manual Goal: To aid the participants in a realization that our faith and call from God affect our daily life and how our daily life affects our faith and call from God.

Facilitator Manual Background Prep: What do you think of when someone asks you about vocations? This is not an easy question to answer. Your answer will depend on the questions's context. Our society today looks on vocations as how I earn my money. This is a valid consideration and will be discussed in Chapter Four.

Facilitator Manual Background Prep: This program is designed to help its participants discover some of their lifestyle, occupational and ministerial options, and, to help them in making these life choices. For us as Catholics, these choices are to be guided by God and His call. The primary call of all Catholics comes in Baptism. The universal call of the Sacrament of Baptism is to the universal priesthood, to prophet, and to kingship.

Facilitator Manual Background Prep: In this chapter we attempt to accomplish three things.

1. Create a group atmosphere where discoveries can take place in an open, trusting, respectful manner, i.e., a safe environment for youth to express their inner feelings.
2. Begin to examine how relationships of respect, trust and friendship come into play in every organization and group to which they belong.
3. Open or reopen trusting relationship with the Church.

The Church for centuries has talked of vocations solely as priest, religious, and laity. For the life of the church these are important considerations and are discussed in Chapter six.

Vatican II however gave us a new, more historical approach of life states (promised, vowed, committed single). The Diocesan Vocations Office now has a broader arena. They are now concerned with the vocations of the whole church, not just recruiting priests and religious. Each of us is called to be priest, prophet and king.

**All three of these views on vocations are correct. Our vocational call comes in all three areas of human life: our "live state," our occupation, and our ministry. This chapter examines our life state vocational call. We have chosen to use the term "life state" in this text to reflect the specific relationship commitment one is called to in the Catholic Church.