

In *Evangelii Gaudium*, Pope Francis presents the Gospel as an encounter that changes the entire direction of a person's life. He emphasizes that joy is not something we create on our own, but something born from meeting Jesus. Without that encounter, faith can slowly turn into routine, obligation, or even frustration. Francis warns that one of the greatest dangers today is an individualistic sadness that comes from comfort, consumerism, and living closed in on oneself. When people lose a sense of purpose and belonging, they begin to feel empty, disconnected, and unsure of who they are. This reality speaks deeply to the experience of many young adults who are constantly asking questions such as "Who am I?", "Where do I belong?", and "What is my purpose?"

These ideas connect directly to my ministry with young adults. Many of them are not rejecting God, but they are tired, confused, and searching for meaning in the middle of pressure, expectations, and uncertainty about the future. *Evangelii Gaudium* reminds me that my role is not simply to organize events, but to help create spaces where young adults can encounter Christ in a real and personal way. Pope Francis insists that the Church must be a Church that goes out, willing to leave comfort behind and meet people where they are. This challenges my ministry to be rooted in accompaniment, mercy, and authenticity. When young adults experience that they are seen, loved, and welcomed, joy begins to return. From that joy, mission is born. Rather than forming passive participants, my ministry seeks to form young disciples who understand that their questions, struggles, and stories are not obstacles to faith, but the very place where God desires to meet them and call them forward.

Another point that stood out is Pope Francis's insistence that evangelization must always be rooted in mercy and patience. He reminds the Church that God never grows tired of forgiving, but that people often grow tired of seeking mercy. This reality is especially present among young adults who may carry wounds from past experiences with the Church, family struggles, or personal failures. Many feel unworthy, disconnected, or afraid to return. Francis challenges ministers to avoid becoming gatekeepers of grace and instead be witnesses of God's tenderness. For my ministry, this means creating environments where young adults feel safe to be honest about their doubts and struggles, knowing that the Church is not a place of judgment but a home where healing and new beginnings are always possible.

Pope Francis also emphasizes that true evangelization is not about attracting people through pressure or obligation, but through joy and authenticity. He explains that the Church does not grow by proselytism, but by attraction. This is particularly meaningful when working with young adults, who are highly sensitive to inauthenticity and empty language. They are drawn not to perfection, but to real witnesses who live their faith with humility and hope. My ministry should focus less on having all the answers and more on walking with young adults as they discern their vocation and role in the Church. When young people experience genuine community, meaningful accompaniment, and a joyful faith that speaks to their real lives, evangelization becomes something natural. It becomes an invitation rather than an imposition, and the Gospel begins to feel once again like good news.