

Christian Religious Education as Catalisator and Mobilisator of Movement in the Church

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Abstract. The church has a responsibility to humans (congregation) spiritually and physically. Ideally, the church is an educational center for the community because the church teaches, fosters, and assists the assembly from birth to the elderly (from children to the elderly). This discussion provides an understanding that Christian religious education in the church is the center of education for the congregation. This study uses a literature review method, namely the data obtained from theories in various journals and books related to this discussion. This study aims to provide an understanding and awareness to the church that the church in carrying out its role is not just lecturing on Sundays. Still, there must be a program that must be implemented to form the congregation spiritually and physically. The church teaches, educates, and accompanies the congregation for spiritual life; it is also crucial for physical energy.

Keywords: Christian Religious Education; Church; Education; Congregation.

1 Introduction

The church is not just gathering, singing, listening to sermons, giving offerings, and finishing there. It will become a routine in the church environment to make the congregation bored, bored, and even lazy because the activities are seen as routine. The church is a center for non-formal education. Why is the church called non-formal education? The church is responsible for teaching, fostering, educating, accompanying, and facilitating human beings (congregations) from birth until death. Apart from giving sermons or lectures, the church must also prepare programs covering all aspects. As an educational center, the church prepares the congregation from the physical, spiritual, and leadership characteristics. Therefore, Christian Religious Education, abbreviated PAK, is the most important forum for congregational development (Runtung, 2015). According to Boiliu and Passaribu, the church has an essential role in human life spiritually and physically. It means that the church's role is to humanize humans according to God's will (Boiliu, 2020). Boiliu said PAK in the church is an education that emphasizes living fellowship with God to acknowledge and glorify God at all times and places. The primary purpose of PAK in the church is to guide congregation members to believe and know the Bible, renew behavior, become wise people in Christ, leading to the stage of perfection in life.(Boiliu, Widjaja, & Sidabutar, 2021). Desi Sianipar said PAK in the church must be implemented through various programs and teachings to mature the faith of all members of the congregation (Sianipar, 2020). It can be understood that the church as an

educational center is undoubtedly responsible for providing teaching, education, mentoring, motivation, and facilitation of the congregation through programs prepared by the church.

This study refers to several previous studies relevant to this discussion: (a) Ramelia Dalensang and Melky Molle about the church's role in the development of Christian education for young people in the era of digital technology. This study uses a qualitative method. The results show that the church has a vital role in the digital age. The development of Christian education is hampered by the development of technology. The church has not utilized technology. (Dalensang & Molle, 2021). (b) Paulus Purwanto about Christian education in the church as the basis of actualizing Christian missions. This research uses descriptive qualitative methods. The results show that Christian education in the church must use a continuously taught curriculum to regenerate the congregation that continues to carry out the great commission. (Purwanto, 2021). Referring to previous research, it was found that the discussion emphasized the role of PAK in the church in the digital era and the actualization of the mission of the Great Commission. Of course, previous research is different from this research. This study examines PAK in the church as an educational center for the congregation, from children to the elderly.

2 Method

The method "used in this research is a literature study containing relevant theories related to the problem." The type of library research or library research is research carried out by collecting data or scientific papers as objects of study or data collection of a library nature "or review carried out to solve a problem and in-depth critical study of "relevant" library materials (Hadi, 2011)." Literature review refers to studying the concepts and theories used based on the available literature, especially from articles published in various scientific journals. A literature review builds "concepts or theories that form the basis of studies in" this research (Sujarweni, 2014). This study aims to examine texts, books, and journals whose discussion follows the concepts and problems in this study. Data collection was carried out using various national scientific journals and books. Data processing, searching scientific journals, textbooks, reading, comparing, processing, describing, and drawing conclusions.

3 Results and Discussion

3.1 Christian Religious Education as an Education Center in the Church

One of the strategic tasks of the church is the task of education or coaching for its people or congregation. This task is considered vital because it can help every church member (Harianto GP, 2012) understand their responsibilities in society. Thus, this kind of duty is always inherent in the church community (Nuhamara, 2008), to give doctrinal lessons and provide training in divine behavior according to the example of Jesus Christ (Anthony, 2012). In addition, PAK in the church can also guide church members to believe and know the Bible, renew behavior, and become wise people in Christ who lead to perfection in life. And equip them for effective service (Daniel Nuhamara, 2007).

The church as an educational center is a deliberate, systematic, and continuous effort to convey, generate or acquire knowledge, attitudes, values, skills, sensitivities, and any consequences of that effort. (Groome, 2010). In this case, education guides congregation members to understand the art of life. The art of life is defined as the complete achievement of

various activities that reveal the potential of members of the congregation to deal with the actual environment (Nuhamara, 2018). The role of PAK as an educational center in the church is to educate members of the congregation so that they become the temple of God. First, "You must be perfect just as your Father who is in heaven is perfect" (Matt. 5:48) (Robert R Boehlke, 2012). Second, then, to lead the congregation members to grow in spiritual life, be open to God's Word, and gain knowledge of God's deeds through the Bible and other readings. All of this is to gain wisdom from God Himself (Robert R Boehlke, 2012). Third, to involve all members of the congregation, especially young people, to study regularly and in an orderly manner so that they are aware of the sin and freedom that God has worked out through Jesus Christ. Fourth, to equip them with various sources of faith to take part responsibly in the service of society, the state, and the church (Robert R Boehlke, 2006). Finally, to mature God's people. According to the Word of God contained in Ephesians 4:10 (Yohanes 2011). For "all students, young and old, enter into the fellowship of living faith with God Himself and through and in Him. They are sucked into the fellowship of His church which acknowledges and glorifies His name at all times and places" (Homrighausen, 2012). For ecclesiastical ministry in "educating members and prospective members to live the Christian life".

3.2 Christian Religious Education as a Form of Bible Study Development

The role of PAK in coaching in the church is the primary and foremost thing. PAK is based on the Bible. PAK is God's mandate, and God's order is contained in His Word. Therefore, the Bible is the only source of knowledge about the design of salvation that underlies the PAK philosophy, principles, curriculum, methodology, and activities (Budiyana, 2011). In the Old Testament books written, testimony about the Greatest things has been experienced by God's people under His leadership throughout the history of their lives. Likewise, the New Testament was written to teach Christians about the revelation of God in Jesus Christ and its influence on human life (Budiyana, 2011). Many biblical foundations can be drawn and woven into building Christian education to form a beautifully woven service work to Jesus Christ. The spools of thread that we use to weave are the efforts made (Ismail, 1998). Therefore, to study PAK, we must dig into the Bible, where God reveals the secret of His salvation to the Israelites. The Bible is our only source of knowledge about the design of salvation that underlies the PAK philosophy, principles, curriculum, methodology, and activities (Budiyana, 2011). The church is a place for Bible study or called PA, but now it is getting rare in churches. The busy schedule and the immediate demands of life make Bible study groups less attractive (W.Pazmino, 2007).

In this case, the congregation prefers to receive words from the pastor or pastor during worship rather than sitting together contemplating God's word in a PA group. Furthermore, many congregations feel they are not very good at analyzing Bible verses, so they are uncomfortable in a PA group. In addition, Bible study is considered only helpful for increasing knowledge, while sometimes many congregations feel dissatisfied with life's reality. It is the challenge facing the church today. Therefore, many churches stop or eliminate PA groups to replace other activities. To restore the function of PA properly, PAK in the church must play an essential role in revitalizing PA. The Bible is indeed quite complex to study in its entirety. However, God's word is a life that turns the older man into a new man. So there is no need to be afraid and doubtful if we are not experts on the Bible (Ismail, 1998). Instead, we need the Bible because there is life to believe. Therefore, studying the Bible is not just adding information but also finding the rhymes we will use in life.

3.4 Christian Religious Education as a Means of Introducing God's Work of Salvation

The role of PAK in the church is to introduce God's work of salvation to the congregation. Therefore, PAK teaching and learning are fundamental in the church. Implementing PAK in the church is an act of regeneration from the old generation to the new generation. Continuity of PAK teaching to the congregation is the responsibility of church leaders in seeking church growth. Therefore, PAK should be one of the main concerns of every church (Weinata, 2000). The role of PAK in the church is to introduce God's work of salvation through its teachings. In this case, through education in the church, church members (congregations) will know about God's work of redemption. Therefore, the church has a significant role in acting and introducing God's work of salvation to the congregation so that the assembly can understand and understand God's work of redemption.

As for the work of salvation, the church needs to introduce to the congregation, namely, the atonement: through the sacrifice and death of Christ on the cross, God has reconciled Himself to sinful humans. The relationship that had been broken between God and man because of sin was, through this atonement, restored. Redemption: through the sacrifice and death of Christ on the cross, God has redeemed humankind from the slavery of sin. Through this redemption, humans were freed from the power of sin and death. Justification: God justifies sinful human beings through Christ's sacrifice and death on the cross. Sinners who should be declared guilty and sentenced are declared righteous (justified) by God. So that through God's justification, humans who should receive God's punishment are freed from all the penalties of sin (Homrighausen, 2012).

Thus, the role of PAK in the church can convey the work of God's salvation in Christ for the congregation solely as a gift or grace of God. In His great love and grace to humans has taken the initiative (initiative) to act to save sinful humans. We (humans) accept God's work of salvation in Christ not because of his achievement in carrying out religious provisions and laws but because of his faith response to the creation of salvation. God. In faith, we believe that Christ died sacrificing Himself on the cross to save us (humans) sinners. Through His sacrifice and death, in Christ, we believe that God forgives our sins (Yohanes, 2011).

3.5 Christian Religious Education As Personal Development Supplies

The role of PAK in the church is significant in shaping the congregation's personality, which has a considerable impact and influence. From time to time, everyone always wants to have a good character, polite, well mannered, appreciated and wants to be happy and achieve success in life and be respected in their environment. (Groome, 2010). With PAK teaching in the church, the congregation can know a lot about various things, both good and bad. By studying PAK in church, we can only realize what is wrong and suitable by referring to religion. So that way, one's personality will grow. PAK teaching and learning that is carried out following good morality in the church will automatically produce a good and quality character. (Boiliu, 2020). With PAK teaching in the church, the congregation can know a lot about various things, both good and bad. By studying PAK in church, we can only realize what is wrong and suitable by referring to religion. So that way, one's personality will grow. PAK teaching and learning that is carried out following good morality in the church will automatically produce a good and quality personality.

As said above, that personality will first be formed in the family and church environment. So that someone who comes from a good family and is supported by the church will have religious values and can practice the fear of God in his life, then he will grow up with a good personality too. A good character will reflect the person of Christ in his life, a nature that applies Christian values (religion) well by people who believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, will eventually become a Christian person. Being a Christian person is not enough if you have not been able to

be a good example or role model for those around you. Sometimes to do good for the people around us, there are still certain people or elements who are not happy with our behavior.

Being someone who can reflect the person of Christ in his life is not easy. Even the Lord Jesus himself said that if we follow Jesus, we must be ready to take up the cross. It doesn't mean carrying the cross literally, but moving the cross here is having the courage to take all the risks for what we do. And show various kinds of responses from other people, especially people who don't know Christ, both positive and negative. PAK's role in the church is to "educate" the congregation. Construct solidarity among the get-together, equipped the member's everyday life. Educate the assembly to live capably beneath the sway of God.

Thus, the teachings of PAK in the church are aimed at (a) making the congregation members experience a change of faith (trust, faith, faithfulness) so that previously they did not believe, eventually turned into accepting, confident, and loyal to God. (b) Members of the congregation Get new hope, or someone will gain insight and certainty about the future. (c) Opening opportunities for members of the congregation to achieve a good end. (d) Teach the congregation members about the existence of perfect and eternal life in Heaven, which can only be achieved after humans die or leave this world. To achieve that perfect and eternal life, you must carry out God's will according to what is taught by PAK in the church. (e) The members of the congregation can love each other sincerely. Love is an action with universal similarities. Love existence creates concern relationship from one person to another, from a group of people to another community, and so on (Groome, 2010).

PAK in the church helps the congregation know, accept, and follow God. Everyone must follow God's commands to be obedient. Also, avoid the ban. Therefore, PAK must be able to change individuals whose personalities go against God's precepts. Change-makers can only improve lives with religious leadership. The church has the right and many powers to transform people into morally upstanding members of society wherever they dwell. It's in the Bible, God's Word.

4 Conclusion

Based on the description above, it can be concluded that the role of PAK in the church is vital. And because PAK is an educational center that must be prioritized in the church so that teaching and learning in the church can be carried out correctly and directs the congregation to experience growth in faith and experience spiritual encounters. Personal with the Lord Jesus. The role of PAK in the church is also significant to teach God's Word continuously to the members of the congregation in the church. Because PAK is an education based on the Bible, centered on Jesus Christ, and depends on the Holy Spirit. So PAK is in charge of the church to conduct coaching (PA). The role of PAK in the church is also significant to introduce God's work of salvation to Jesus Christ so that members of the congregation can understand and understand God's work of redemption and apply it in everyday life. Finally, the role of PAK in the church is the basis for fostering and shaping the congregation's personality so that the community's life can change from bad to good.

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