

UPTOYOU FOUNDATION

A new way of educating and living

P. José Victor Orón. Sch. P

Director of UpToYou Foundation



UpToYou is a non-profit and social interest foundation of the Province of Emmaus created in 2017 with a vocation of service to all educational institutions, schools, families, and universities.

At a Piarist congress, Father General Pedro Aguado declared: "only an integrated educator will be able to form in an integrated way." The *raison d'être* of our foundation is to contribute to the personal formation of the educator, whether teacher or parent.

We focus on the educator as a decisive element in the educational process.

We are convinced that the quality of education is not determined by methodologies but by the quality of the relationships that educators can offer to their students. Only an educator, teacher, father, or mother can promote creativity in students if they are creative in their life. Or he or she can only help to live in complexity if he or she lives the complexity of their life constructively.



In short, we focus on personal growth. With this expression: personal growth, we understand the development of self-knowledge and decision-making. This knowledge always starts from the lived reality because one only grows by embracing reality and discovering the complexity of life in it. Decision-making is centered on being and not on doing, with the improvement of personal relationships on the horizon. For this reason, gratitude and forgiveness are fundamental.

I propose seven phrases that guide our work and distinguish us from other proposals. We propose:

1. Work-based on lived reality because it is impossible to grow without accepting reality. That is why we start with emotions because they refer to what has already been experienced and needs to be integrated. And we do not intervene based on ideals.

2. We want to awaken people's authorship; that is to say, we want them to be responsible creators of their actions. For this reason, we work a lot on educational criteria and do not offer recipes.
3. We want to help personal self-knowledge; we want people to discover the complexity of all the aspects that explain their individual situation, the genesis of these aspects, and the weight of personal relationships. Therefore, we place ourselves in front of people and their needs and do not start with problem solving.
4. We want people to access their inner selves and discover that there are always traces of humanity in them; excellent and healthy realities of the person are not annulled, even in the most chaotic situations. Therefore, we suspend all judgment and strive to search for such traces of humanity.
5. We want the person to act from within and open up to trust and others. That is why we propose decision-making centered on being, not on doing. We work on personal identity by defining the relationships we live in with others.
6. We believe that the person's uniqueness corresponds to the uniqueness of their relationships. Therefore, there is no such thing as individual growth because one only grows by improving relationships. This makes gratitude and forgiveness the central issues of the proposals for growth.
7. Only an educator trained in the above can promote this integration in the learner. For this reason, we are committed to long training processes so that people have time to carry out these personal processes.

I invite you to get to know our training courses tailored to the reality of each school. Although we are a young foundation, we have already trained more than 2000 educators from Spain, Mexico, Brazil, Cameroon, Colombia, and Ecuador. The foundation's website is complete to get to know us in detail.

We remain at your service,

www.uptoyoueducacion.com

jv.oron@uptoyoueducacion.com

