

January 7 to 13

Senior Citizens' Work

All who are led by God's Spirit are God's sons and daughters. (Romans 8:14)

Resist the bustle with a firm "No".

Whose spiritual child are you? In Goethe's Faust one talks of the "Spirit of constant denying". Aren't we today more likely to be driven by the spirit which never denies anything? Being driven around by the spirit of the age? Things to do, appointments to keep; demands and claims on our time; through work, family and church, we are expected by others, and ourselves, to react quickly. To be up-to-date as one so nicely puts it; to be informed, competent, to be clear about where we stand. To be sound in our decisions – and always to remain relaxed. Constant demands for both speed and precision sometime just leave me breathless!

In the middle of this daily bustle, this verse from Romans 8 makes me stop to take my breath: "All who are led by God's Spirit are God's sons and daugh-

ters". They let themselves be led by the Spirit of God, so that he can guide them in the right direction. He gives me the security and the orientation I need – without pressurizing me or hurrying me. So that I won't become a slave to my diary or to the computer. No, the Spirit of God allows me freedom. I am a child of God, with all the fullness which that brings.

Whose spiritual child am I? My desire is to use the freedom, which God's Spirit grants me, to succeed in my daily grind; to resist the bustle of this world with a firm "No" or a "something instead of it"!

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I GIVE THANKS

- for those breaks for reflection in the daily grind.
- for those who take time for others who are caught up in the stress of this world.
- for the many people who put so much energy into the work of our church.
- for all the creativity and imagination put into the work with senior citizens.
- for the many new ideas which make these later phases of life worth living.

I PRAY

- for the decision makers in politics and business, that they may be led by God's Spirit.
- that in our churches both young and old may accept each others' strengths and weaknesses; and to shape the future together.
- for all those who in different ways volunteer their time.
- for those who want to end their commitment or do so because they have to.
- for people who look to the future with anxious questions, that they may find hope.

Senior Citizens' Work

The EmK Training Work promotes adult training in our churches through a variety of activities. An important part of this work is that which is involved with pensioners. This means visiting pensioners' get-togethers as well as church seminars; through work assistance or reading material, like our magazine publication, "Horizonte" ("Horizons").

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