

Student: Gap year expectations

- adventure
- learning
- growth
- preparation

YWAM: meeting the real needs

- to know the real God
- learn to grow mentally
 - **Delaying gratification:** Sacrificing present comfort for future gains.
 - **Acceptance of responsibility:** Accepting responsibility for one's own decisions.
 - **Dedication to truth:** Honesty, both in word and deed.
 - **Balancing:** Handling conflicting requirements. Scott Peck talks of an important skill to prioritize between different requirements -- bracketing.

What we have to offer:

- A safe place
- Fatherly wisdom, brotherly love
- Community (dealing with the four stages (Peck))
 - **Pseudo community:** This is a stage where the members pretend to have a *bon homie* with one another, and cover up their differences, by acting as if the differences do not exist. Pseudo community can never directly lead to community, and it is the job of the person guiding the community building process to shorten this period as much as possible.
 - **Chaos:** When pseudo community fails to work, the members start falling upon each other, giving vent to their mutual disagreements and differences. This is a period of chaos. It is a time when the people in the community realize that differences cannot simply be ignored. Chaos looks counterproductive but it is the first genuine step towards community building.
 - **Emptiness:** After chaos comes emptiness. At this stage, the people learn to empty themselves of those ego related

factors that are preventing their entry into community. Emptiness is a tough step because it involves the death of a part of the individual. But, Scott Peck argues, this death paves the way for the birth of a new creature, the Community.

- **True community:** Having worked through emptiness, the people in community are in complete empathy with one another. There is a great level of tacit understanding. People are able to relate to each other's feelings. Discussions, even when heated, never get sour, and motives are not questioned.
- Outward expressions
 - Work duties
 - Walking in the light
 - Outreach
 - Life after YWAM