

The work deals with spiritual guidance. Concept of spiritual guidance and related concepts is defined first. Next the spiritual accompaniment is defined against the sacrament of reconciliation on the one hand and to psychological counseling on the other. The paper tries to show that the concept of spiritual accompaniment is rooted in the tradition of Christian spirituality. It is possible to interpret some biblical stories from this perspective. But some personalities of the history of spirituality also contributed to the current conception of spiritual accompaniment. Own chapter is dedicated to them. The following is a more detailed analysis of the content and typical forms of spiritual guidance, requirements for accompanying and specifics of various categories of accompanied. Some pathological phenomena in the context of spiritual accompaniment appear are mentioned also.

The results of field research in selected communities of different denominations are a separate part of the work. They have demonstrated whether the concept of spiritual accompaniment is known and whether it is used and by whom. An important question is also characteristic of the typical accompanying. The research results are summarized in the conclusion and in the annexes.