Student 6: High Not Achieved

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..and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, be warmed and filled," without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead. But someone will say, "You have faith and I have works." Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works. James 2: 16-18 (English Standard Version)

(1)

This biblical passage refers to the actions taken by Christians motivated by ethical principles like 'respecting life' and 'loving your neighbour as yourself', who are moved to engage in good works to help others like the Salvation Army, and who do so because of their faith in Jesus Christ.



The Salvation Army church started in England in 1878, by William Booth who was a Methodist minister. The Salvation Army arrived in New Zealand (NZ) in 1883, starting social services in Dunedin and then spread to other areas like Wellington, Christchurch and Auckland.

"In 2010 five centres and 14 clinics such as the Bridge Programme and Oasis Centre in Newtown, Wellington, provided professional counselling and treatment services for alcohol and drug addiction and problem gambling. A nationwide network of more than 30 community and family service centres provided food banks, budgeting advice, crisis counselling, advocacy and other services."



http://www.teara.govt.nz/en/salvation-army/page-2

One of the social services they provide is helping people with alcohol and drug addiction. The treatment involves providing a safe, integrated, high quality treatment service to people whose lives have been affected by the harmful use of, or dependency on alcohol or drugs.

There is a real need in NZ for these treatment programmes because there are many negative social and health consequences of alcohol and drug addiction. This affects all members of society because we drive on the roads and walk on the streets; we belong to families, communities, and live in homes so we can be affected by burglaries and domestic violence, and assaults.



The Salvation Army recognises three 'pillars' that provide a secure foundation for Christian faith and practice: the teaching of Scripture, the direction of the Holy Spirit, and the consensus of the Christian community. They consider that "Christian ethics is unintelligible without the Holy Spirit, because he makes our experience of the Bible and of Jesus Christ a personal one. In this way, Christian ethics becomes internal rather than external. It becomes a process inside us, rather than a code or set of rules outside of us that we take (or leave)."

The Salvation Army are motivated to help other people in need because they follow Christian ethics like 'respecting life' and 'loving your neighbour as yourself'. As they outline in their website "those who follow Jesus Christ recognise and experience him, through the ministry of the Holy Spirit, as not just another source of ethical guidance but the ultimate source."

