

Church in the Local Community

Christianity
Practices

What Christians do to help out in the community:

- food banks
- Street Pastors
- raising money for charity
- coffee mornings/events aimed at people who need support
- youth clubs
- outreach missions for the homeless
- meeting rooms for use of community
- services of memorial/celebration for locally relevant events
- provide a place of quiet reflection.

Foodbanks are:

a place where stocks of food and non-perishable items, are supplied free of charge to people in need

Street Pastors are:

Street pastors are trained volunteers from local churches who care about and volunteer in their community

Foodbanks and **Street pastors** are important because...

- They support those who need it most
- *They carry out the teachings of the church*
- They may encourage people to become Christians or go to church while doing so
- *Christians are called to love their neighbour and their enemies*

Why Christians help out in the community:

What Jesus did –

He helped those in need: healed the sick

He practical supported people: feed the 5000

He spent time with people.

What Jesus said -

- Parable of the Sheep and Goats shows those who help those in need will be rewarded in Heaven
- Parable of the Good Samaritan (love your neighbour)

The Bible teaches us we have a responsibility and duty to help those in need. We must do more than just believe in God.

The Church:

There are two ways of understanding what 'The Church' is. It is a building where Christians pray AND the body of Christ (people who do God's work) on earth

Parable of the **Sheep and Goats** They did practice acts to help others.

'Feed and gave water'- Food Banks

'Clothed' – Christian Aid

'looked after' – Street Pastors

This is doing God's work: 'what you did for the least of my brothers you did for me'

When the Samaritan saw the man, he took pity on him. He bandaged him and cleaned his wounds. He then put him on the back of his donkey and took him to an innkeeper, whom he paid to look after him. The parable ends with Jesus giving a commandment to **go out and do the same as the Samaritan had done.** 'Love your neighbour'

The Bible teaches that, 'Faith itself without action is dead' James 2:17

The Bible teaches that the Church (the people) are the body of Christ, so they must do his work. 'God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, **which is his body.**' Ephesians 1:22

Agape:

A word used in the Bible that describes selfless sacrificial, unconditional love that encourages Christians to help others.