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Final Integrative Paper
Social Work and Christianity
Professor Carlton Jean
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a. Describe your purpose and meaning of life as professional social workers with Christian

faith.

My purpose and meaning of life as a professional social worker with Christian faith is to be as Christ, as Christians we are filled with the love of Christ as we were first loved by Christ; so naturally I feel like the work of social work is what I suppose to be doing; helping people and communities' work through challenges they face in everyday life. I personally feel fulfilled in helping people, as individuals we can make money in a bunch of different ways, depending on the right dedication and focus, it's simple, if you can put your mind to figuring out new ideas, then you can become successful in it whatever that is, but I prefer to help people, I love people I love human beings. Human beings is not an easy group to work with, many times we as a people can let one another down or hate on one another for no nonreasons, yet the love of Christ make you want to love those who come against you, and also make you don't want to give up on a person, but rather see them prosper to their next stage in life. I feel like Social Work is the title, but servitude behind that title is what really matters, that servitude to help people comes from the Christian faith.

“We love because he first loved us.” – 1 John 4:19

b. Discuss your understanding of the integration of personal Christian faith with social work

practice.

I always felt personally that I would rather do service out in the field instead of inside of a Church home, that's where I feel called to. Integrating my personal Christian faith with social work practice is my part of being the salt of the earth, we are called to do God's handiwork, He given us a task to be a missionary tin the world ; and in this calling, I try to not be a super Christian and come off as very religious, but I try my best to apply everything that I was taught through the Christian faith and the love that I was shown by Christ; then apply that out into the social work practice. The practice of social is a title, but it's a title that carries a lot of baggage behind it, and one of the main baggage is being selfless and another is pouring our heart into our service for people who need it. A Christian obligation is just to follow those same principles that Christ left to his disciples, and that's how I understand the integration of personal Christian faith with social work practice.

“For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance

for us to do.” (Ephesians 2:10 NIV)

C. Discuss the relationship between Christianity and Social Work profession that includes

Christianity and Social Work are basically same thing, the job of both is to better the situation of humans' well-being and help respond to the need of the people, The profession of Social Work started in the 1900's. A mass number of Social Workers practitioners were called to become social workers because of their faith. Christian's contribution to Social Worker is evident by how they led a program called the Charity Organization. The COS mission was to help understand and resolve the problems of inner-city areas that struggled with poverty. Christianity and the Social Work practice exercises the action of selflessness, while serving the community.

The compatibility of NASW code of ethics with scripture charity and Justice. The mission of the Social Work profession is to enhance human-well beings and help meet basic human needs. This principle of charity is similar to the commandment that Christ teaches, for us to love our neighbor as we love ourselves. (Matthew 22:39) The Code of Ethics principles also command that Social Workers promote Social Justice and Social change on behalf of clients; which means being committed to justice and alleviating the cause of problems. This principle is compatible with the scripture in Isaiah 1:17, which states that, we must Learn to do right; seek justice, and defend the oppressed. The ethical principles are based on social work's core values is also parallel to the Catholic Church seven principles of social teaching;

The challenges of confronting ethical dilemmas can be from conflict that can result in losing a job for challenging what we believe to be wrong, such as discrimination in a workplace, sometimes when you are the inferior race in the workplace, other individuals would use this situation to treat another individual unfairly. My plan of resolution in this type of situation is to try to communicate with management on areas where I feel discrimination. The NASW Code of Ethics states that in a situation of incompetence with a colleague, Social Workers should consult with that colleague when feasible and assist the colleague in taking remedial action.

d. Discuss your understanding of Competent, Compassionate, Catalysts in Christ that includes:

The competency to know what is required from us in service and understanding what God word say in all that we do and apply it to our service in the world. The compassion assignment that I did throughout this course was one of my favorite assignments. The topic of compassion itself takes true authenticity, I learned and discussed the importance of being selfless and putting our time to the side for others, and how The Christian community is not driven together, but drawn together. The life of a Christian is an individual who's willing to separate themselves away from the world way of following and doing things, but to be consecrated with God, that we may have a heart of Christ compassion, and then attach ourselves to those same places that need that same compassion.

My understanding of serving Christ has grown in areas of understanding the logics of what's happening and ways to respond to the need of service. I believe before entering this course, I was more naive to what it takes to strategically be effective in my works of service, for example, I thought just being a Christian and allowing the Holy Spirit to lead me is all that it takes to truly serve, but that's not true, I know now that Christians must also do their homework and understand the problems from a micro or macro view and then find ways to alleviate the problem. Another lesson I learned in this course is to not just be ready to preach the gospel with our words, but also with our actions; especially in organizations that doesn't welcome religious beliefs.

The discovery of what I learned from this course helps me acknowledge that there's more to social work practice than I imagine, but most of all I believe that to be successful in this field of work, it will take an individual to be wholeheartedly involved. The NASW code of ethics is something I want to learn and other things also. I believe that social work is based on learning and applying, which is similar to any other field of study, but the difference is that social work practice deals with issues in the clinical background and also in the forefront of communities.

e. Discuss what you have discovered about yourself through the course.

- I can honestly admit that I have to be more equipped for this job of work. The main skills I struggle with are discipline for time management and self-care, which are two things I want to work on. A positive thing that I noticed is the resiliency to keep going and never giving up; much thanks to Professor Carlton who kept pushing me to keep going.

f. Conclude by naming one or two questions emerging from this course that you hope to pursue as you continue to grow into a competent, compassionate catalyst in Christ.

- The two questions I hope to pursue are " How do I find balance in the practice field and at home? " and " what does it take to reach that next level as a profession?".