

great work in Minneapolis. Then the time came when he was asked to become the dean of Moody Bible Institute. He said he did not want to leave Minneapolis. He had many good friends there. He had all sorts of connections there. He knew the Lord was wonderfully using him there. Yet he had studied in Germany after he finished his education in this country. He graduated from Yale University and he would enjoy working with youth at Moody.

What should he say? He ~~took three days and~~ spent three days praying and striving to free himself of personal desires, personal feelings and he got into the situation where God's will and His will alone was what mattered. He said after the three days he was able to consider the opportunity of service in both places. To consider his particular abilities or his particular weakness and see how they might affect his work. To consider all the various circumstances involved and to make a decision as to what he believed the Lord would have him to do.

That is the first and most important principle of guidance. Make absolutely sure that it is God's will and His will alone that we are seeking. Rid ourselves of these strong forces that are in everyone of us that would pull us in this or in that direction. That is the most important ~~parssss~~ step in guidance.

The second is to be sure that our minds are so filled with Scripture that we have its principles and purposes in our minds. We must make this primary in making our decision.

Then we must get the judgment of other people as to how well we would work in certain areas or in certain types of things. It is amazing how even among fine Christians you make a little criticism of them, immediately they react to excuse themselves and to explain just why you have misunderstood them. That they meant something entirely differently from what they ~~wayxxx~~ the way that you took it!

You may have misunderstood them or you may not. Others may misunderstand you or may not. But it's not half as important whether people understand you right or whether people get a wrong impression of you, is not half as important as finding out how you appear to other people and learning what other people feel about your particular abilities, or about your particular weaknesses. God may give us means like this of learning what we'd never learn by our own experience. God wants us to try every type of Christian work, because we cannot tell what hidden talent we might have until we've gotten into something.

I often have students come to me and they say, I feel the Lord wants me in teaching. I feel I should go into the pastorate. Maybe He does. On the other hand in many cases I think there are people who have this feeling, if I teach I get a job with an organization, and they raise the money, they pay my salary, they take care of my situation. If I go out into a church as pastor, if I do well the money comes in, if I don't do well the money doesn't come in. I think there is that feeling that you are more on your own in the pastorate, but I don't think that should