

else, that can help them, do it. But if instead of helping them you are going to make them offended, talk to someone on the faculty and give us a hint about the way that other person needs help perhaps we can tactfully say a word to them.

We've all got a big job looking out for our own sin, but we have a mighty wonderful grace for which we praise our Lord Jesus. That is the great theme of this testament, in fact the great theme of the whole Bible-- is the grace of God through Christ. That should be our ambition to know Christ and Him crucified, to have Him live His life in us.

I don't care how much Hebrew you know, how much Greek you know, you learn. I don't care how much ability you acquire as a speaker, I don't care what advances you make in other ways --if you don't learn to know Christ personally-- first for salvation, then as your constant companion and as the One for whom you're ready to give everything in your life, you are wasting your time here. That is what really matters.

Every once and a while you'll find someone who will be with us a couple of years perhaps and do well in his lessons and seem to be a fine chap, and we are well impressed with him. Then we find some sin that beset him, some fault, some criticism, some act toward others which makes it impossible for his life to accomplish what it should. It's much better to find that out in seminary than after he's out.

If we can start right at the beginning with realizing our own sin, and our need of a Saviour, and realize that all we can do for Christ is absolutely nothing compared for -- to what he has done for us. What he has done for us deserves every bit of effort we could possibly give it. If you get that everything is worthwhile. If you don't have that nothing is worthwhile. We will deal with this much in our classes and in our chapel talks.

Let us go one to matters more directly related to our specific work here. In this chapter in vv.8-13 we have great emphasis on our service. The various gifts that he gives. It was he (v.11) who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, some to be pastors and teachers, to prepare God's people for works of service so that the body of Christ may be built up.

So God has service for everyone to do, and He has given us various gifts. I believe that everyone of us should be ready to jump in and do whatever ~~is~~ there is need of where we are. You will be surprised that some things you think you are not up to, if you see the need and you step in and you find you've got a gift there. You've got an ability there that you never dreamt you had. You don't know what your gifts are until you have tried them. But oh how ready we are to see someone else do something real well, and we think, That's what I ought to be doing. And God has given you a different gift. And you kind of downgrade the gift he's give to you that you've got to do that kind of work.