

learn as much as we can about what He desires us to know, but we also must know that we reach a point where the thing to do is for us to start using for the utmost what we've learned.

We can use it in many different ways. Some as foreign missionaries; some may be evangelists; some may be pastors; some of you may be S.S. Superintendents. Wherever the Lord calls you into --whether it be what we call full time Christian service where you can give your whole time to the Lord's work, or whether you continue earning your living by secular activities you can still make your life count for far more as a servant of the Lord if you have mastered what we try to give in the seminary course here, than you could without it. He that is wise shall shine like the brightness of the heavens and they that lead many to righteousness as the stars forever and ever.

Notice how these two are put next to each other--to be wise and to lead many to righteousness. True wisdom is practical. We are anxious to train those who will lead many to righteousness. Lead many out of darkness into light and also to lead God's people. God wants every one of His people to be useful in both of these ways.

I'd like us to look at a few thoughts as to how we can be sure of being numbered among those who are wise and lead many to righteousness. I think we should start at the starting point. Be sure you really know Christ yourself. Even in an institution like this it is possible--though more probable in other institutions--but even in one like this it is possible there are those who have just drifted along with other Christians, doing the next thing in line enjoying the company of Christians but never truly facing the matter, Do I know Jesus Christ as my Personal Saviour?

It is important we know about him, but it is more important we know him personally as our Saviour. In this institution, most students who come to us--in fact I think every one gives what we consider to be a credible profession of faith but I think it is good for each of us to think repeatedly about that. We are saved once for all, but we need to keep our eyes on Christ throughout our lives.

Be sure you know Christ yourself if your life is to count for Him. Be sure you are growing in grace yourself. I have had part in training a great number of pastors and a great many of them have done an excellent work for the Lord. But it has been disappointing on a number of occasions to know a man who has been doing excellent work as far as we could tell -his church has been growing and he has succeeded in accomplishing much for Christ, then you suddenly hear he has left his wife or she has left him. There has come something which has wrecked his service for Christ. There has come something that has proven that while he seemed to be actively serving the Lord underneath he was going backward and backward and falling away. So it is vital you constantly think here in seminary as well as anywhere else be sure you know Christ yourself and be sure you are growing in grace yourself.