

When I was in seminary the situation was quite different from what it is today. I think about half the students in the seminary I attended came there because they wanted to serve the Lord. About half came there because their parents were ministers and they felt that this was the proper course for them to pursue. To go on and be trained to be ministers. Many of them were very worldly people. The seminary had both types of people and it was quite a mixture.

The Lord wants us to be sure we are truly growing in grace. They used to say that == there that a theological seminary can just become a cemetery. The institution I attended has become to a large extent a cemetery. It should be a place where we die to self. It should be a cemetery in that sense, but it should not be a place where we are learning things but we are drifting away from our loyalty to Christ.

I heard of a man just recently in a large theological seminary, a sound seminary, where a student came to him who was graduating second in his class and he said, My spiritual life is at its lowest ebb than it's been for many many years. He said to this student, What have ~~xx~~ you been working for? He said, I've been working for the A's. Well, he said, You've got the A's. You have gotten what you're working for, but you've lost that which is most essential.

So keep your eyes upon Christ here and don't ever think that just learning things, facts, or acquiring skills is worthy anything if you do not maintain your spiritual life. We must put our emphasis on that which we are here to train you in--that is learning to understand God's truth.

You're all familiar with the story of the disciples on the road to Emmaus. Those disciples had known Jesus Christ, many had known him intimately. These two we don't know just how intimately they had known him, but they certainly were devoted to him, and they'd seen him crucified. They had heard rumours that he was risen from the dead. As they walked along the road to Emmaus a stranger came near to them, and they didn't recognize him. They didn't know it was Christ. He said, What is it you're talking about as you are walking along? They said, Are you a stranger in these parts? Don't you know what's happened? What? They said, Jesus of Nazareth, the great prophet, the man who did wonderful works. He ~~xx~~ was taken and crucified. We thought he was the one who would redeem Israel, but now he's been crucified. But we've heard some stories he's been raised from the dead, but it's pretty hard for us to believe it, stories like that. He had told his disciples on a number of occasions that he was going to suffer terrible things, would die and be raised from the dead. Wouldn't you think he would have turned to them and said, Don't you remember what I said to you when I was here? Don't you remember the things I presented, and now you've forgotten it all!! In your excitement about what's happened you've forgotten it! He didn't do that. I think as a lesson to us he addressed them in an entirely different way. As you know we have the story from the 24th ch. of Luke. There we read what he said to them. He didn't say, Don't you remember what