

or when they were along in years. Many did not have a Christian background at all. They come from many different backgrounds and they are trained to make their lives count for Christ. When you graduate you're going to find people who say, You could not work in our group if your hair comes below your ears. Or you will find people who say, You can't belong to our group unless you have exactly this belief about eschatology. Or you can't work in our group unless you use this particular type of form or ceremony. I don't think God is interested in what forms or ceremonies we use.

I think he is interested in whether we know Jesus Christ as Saviour; whether we are used of God to lead others to know Jesus Christ. But you will find as you enter upon your life's work that you will have to cooperate with people to whom these issues--some of them at least, are very important, some are very minor seem very important. You have a problem that is good to think through now.

If you know of a particular group, particularly with connections in many parts of the country that has viewpoints that you can hold precisely with and you can just fit into it and help to advance and strengthen it and enlarge it, you are perhaps fortunate. But I don't think most of our students are in that precise situation. I think there are some of you(as I mentioned last time) who are like the man from Chilocothe who can start out from nothing and build up a church meantime supporting yourself. But most are not able to do that. sort of thing.

So it is wise to think now about things that are now unseen but will be very real when you graduate, as to what group you will work with, what connections you are going to make, how and where you can serve God most effectively. You will come face to face with a problem. What you think is most important some people will not think is so important because they will be so ~~xxx~~ obsessed with the importance of certain matters of lesser importance or perhaps of very minor importance.

So I'd like to urge everyone while you are here to think of what you're going to do afterwards. Think not merely of what you are doing now, of the course you are taking now, but of preparing yourself for a life of serving Christ. Think of what will help that objective. I wish we could make a requirement that every student could get at least one summer in full time Christian service during his serminary course. Economic conditions make that situation imposssible at present. But it has been obvious--it was even obvious when I was in seminary--that if a person went out and spent his summer in connection with the problems of an actual church, under the direction of the pastor of that church, he got an understanding of the problems he's going to face later on which made his nextyear in seminary many times as valuable to him as it would be without that experience.

Think now of how you are going to use later the training you are getting today. The unseen has two aspects. It has that which is a present truth and is veryvital. But it has that which