

So we have these two vital aspects. We have this aspect of service for God and that is important. But if we get that aspect and don't get the other as Paul said that having preached to others you can become a castaway. You can make a great name and people can think you've done a tremendous service for God, and yet it can be nothing before God if you are not developing the fruits of the Spirit within you looking to God to develop the fruits of the Spirit, and to develop you into the sort of character that He wants you to be.

God wants us to push on and press forward. Here at the beginning of the last quarter of the year, I think it is particularly important in connection with our studies that we look forward and think, Am I going to get jammed at the last two weeks of school trying to rush work through? Or am I going to learn to plan now so that I get papers done in good time, perhaps ahead of time so that I don't take things easily and go lightly about things in the first half of the remainder of the year and then get jammed at the end.

If a person comes running into the church to preach his sermon only half prepared as many a minister does, he never accomplishes what he should for the Lord. To learn to do things on time so as to be ready. To learn to look ahead and not get jammed at the end is valuable training even apart from what you get in the lessons in their preparation in the work. It's time right now in the middle of the semester to think of looking ahead and getting the work in good shape so that you aren't rushed at the end. As a matter of fact if a person tries to cram during the last two or three days before an exam, I've known people who say, Don't shake me, don't shake me, I don't want to lose everything I've learned, before I write it down.

Anything that is that will not last. Will not last. But if you can be ready in your subject ahead of time so that during the exam period you can relax, you'll do twice as well as if you are trying to jam and to cram. So look ahead and press on and figure how you can make your life count for the Lord.

I'd like for a minute to go to the beginning of this verse: "I want to know." I want to know. I would apply this personally. I wish I could know each one of you personally and well. I wish I could be of any possible help to each one. I'm greatly hampered by this as you know because I have great difficulty in remembering faces. I often get two people mixed that look even slightly similar. A strange weakness of mine, because in most things I've always had a good memory. If I hear some facts about you the chances are I'll remember them the rest of my life. But I may not recognize your face. Up until a few years ago I had no difficulty remembering names. Most people have great difficulty with names. I have a little more than I used to have. But I'm still pretty good at remembering names.

Any fact about any of you with the name connected I'm apt to remember that. But if I don't recognize you you may think I'm unfriendly. So please if you talk with me tell me who you are.