

to ask somebody about this particular matter.

I remember hearing about some men who were being urged to go and work on the Panama Canal when it was being built early in this century. This man told how they were to be careful in their considerations, whether you really want to go. He says, YOU know it's up to ~~120°~~ 120° in the shade down there! One man came to him and said, "If we do down there will we have to work inthe sahde?" He signed up to go. There are questions that will occur to you that you will want to know the answer to. But you won't be ~~abp~~ apt to think of them unless you put down what you do know. List the things about this particular area, about this particular type of work. This particular thing. As you make the list you will think of other questions you ought to get an answer to before you are in position to make a definite decision.

But just as important as this is (2) the second area in which you need to list the known facts. That is about yourslef. That's one reason why it is so important that you get experience in various kinds of Christian service. That you see how you do in different kinds of work. Even if you have no taste for it. Make an effort. Make a trial. See if you can develope some expertize in it. You will be surprised how k often something that was at first unattractive to you when you got into it, you found you had a particular knack for that sort of thing. You had a particular ability you did not realize that you had.

Get different types of experience, particularly different kinds of effort in Christian work, in order to s-e what your real abilities are. God has ~~not~~ made us all different, each one from the other. He has give you perhaps the particular quality, qualifications for a certain post that you don;t even know you have. You need to learn to think and to experience and to try yourself out and see what your strengths are~~xxxx~~ and what your weaknesses are. Someone has said, Crossing the ocean never made a missionary! If you cannot lead people to Christ and show them how He wants them to live in this country, don't think that learning another difficult langauge and going to another country is going to make you a missionary. Find out what abiliaties God has given you.

I have been amazed, particularly during these last 3 or 4 years to learn more about myself ~~in~~ in a way than I had known before. Because there are qualities in each of us that are different from anybody else. We learn how we are different. What our strengths are and what our weaknesses are. The sooner we k learn that the sooner we can use it in a helpful==as a help in making vital deicions. But now under this point: List all the known facts, I give a warning.

Just list them. Do not try to reach a conclusion at this point. It is so easy to say, Oh, here's this fact. Oh, here is where I get Here is thés quality, or this weakness that I have. No, I should not go to that place. I should not do that type of work. Just get the facts as the sixth point, and do not try to make deicions. If you do you are apt to overlook others things that are of tremendous importance that you might not even think of. Jus t make a list, but make the list as comprehensive as you can. If a thought comes to you that seems bizzare, that seems to have no purpose write it down. It might lead you to something that would have importance. So I believe this is very important in making any decision-- list all known facts without trying to draw conclusions. About the work, the particular things connected with it, and about your own particular abilities, your own relation to that. The abilities you have that might go well, but also the weaknesses