

East Carolina Teachers College

Nov. 3rd, 1923.

Scripture lesson- A few verses from the 12th Chapter of 1st Corinthians.

I want to say a word to you about going to Sunday School this morning. I mean I want to say a word to you this morning about going to Sunday School. There are a number of students in the college who are doing as they quite often do all through life as well as in college. After the fourth or fifth Sunday they begin to fall by the way side. I didn't select this passage of scripture this morning to make a talk to you on going to Sunday School but it will fit that. You are members of this college, and as individual members of this college the things that you do hurt or please, count for our good or our bad, just as the members of the body that are injured, the whole body suffers for it. What is true in your church is true of the college. It is true in your religion, it is true in the school you are going to teach, it is true all through life. That 12th chapter is a good chapter to read. Oh, I am not going to Sunday School, I don't feel like it. It won't make any difference. Some of you talk just exactly that way. They are the folks in this world that never do very much.

One of the brightest ministers I ever saw in my life, I had a good long talk with him one time, and he kept frowning, I said, Dr. what is the matter? He says, I have a headache. Well, I said, I couldn't tell it except for the knots in your forehead. Well, he says, it is unusually bad to-day, but I haven't been rid of the headache for over seven years, and he was one of the most influential ministers I ever spoke to. The man was suffering all the time, but he didn't quit just because I don't feel like it. He carried on his work in the midst of his suffering, and he built up a great church. He did it in spite of how he felt. The person who doesn't go to his daily task simply because I don't feel like it will be about as lazy as the old man I used to know down on the border of North Carolina and South Carolina. He was the laziest man on earth. He felt bad all the time. That man was so lazy that when he had some wheat cut ~~cut~~ on his farm and he went out to shock his wheat, they said he threw five bundles of wheat together and sat down and shocked them

rather than to move for two hours at the time. Why that man felt bad, and if you yield to those little feelings of physical discomforts you will never do anything in this world worth while. Now if you just don't want to go, of course, we can't give you the desire, but the churches want you to go Sunday Schools for the sake of the churches, the college wants you to go Sunday School for the sake of the college, and human society needs that you go to Sunday School for the sake of human society, for the sake of the influence that you are going to have.

I ran across something the other day that has just occurred to me since I have been talking to you this morning. It is something

rather interesting. It seems to have been taken from Gertie. Gertie said, talent may develop in solitude. Talent may develop in solitude. You may stay away from Sunday School and develop talent, but character is created in society. It is the fruit for fellowship. Genius may shine aloof and alone like a star, but goodness is social, and the more I have thought of it- I have been carrying them in my pocket and reading them every day for the last three or four days, and the more I have thought of it the more I see there is truth in it. You may develop to be a genius by living the life of solitude, but if you want to make character it is created in society. Goodness is social, so if you want to reach the highest plane in life you must be social you must do it through society, and simply staying at home is not going to Sunday School, and going to Sunday School is not going to church, it is just falling short of measuring up to your full opportunity. A sower went forth to sow, some fell on good ground. Those seed brought forth, some of them 300 fold, some fell among thorns, and the cares and anxieties of life choked them. Do not let your school activities choke your spiritual development, and some fell where the soil was shallow. Now I would hate to be called shallow. If you are just simply shallow you are in the wrong pool because it is a deep pool you are in and you will soon get drowned. You are in the wrong place if there isn't something in your life where the seed can be sown and take root and grow, then you are really out of place in college, and if you are not out of place don't play like you are.

Now listen young women, we don't require you to go to Sunday School, and we are not trying to make you go. It don't do you a bit of good if you are made to go. Your life is in your own hands, you are going to work out your own destiny. This college can only help you. You are going to make your place in life, and we can't force you to make any other place for yourself than the one you want to make, but you can make any kind of place for yourself in life that you really want to make. If you want to make it with a burning desire that causes you to be willing to make <sup>the</sup> a sacrifice necessary, but if you are living the kind of life that is just a little more slumber, a little more sleep, a little more folding of the hands, you may rest assured poverty will come, and you will never get any where with that as your burning desire

I would get mighty tired of just sitting and sitting with nothing to do nut just to sit there. Now if you don't believe that is the most tiresome job on earth go down to the Railroad station & find the train two hours late and just sit down and have to wait.