

January 4, 1924.

First seven verses of the 12th Chapter of the Book of Genesis.

Have a vision and follow it regardless of where it leads. That is the topic I want to talk to you for just a little while. We have in this lesson I have read in your hearing this morning one of the world's great examples of a person with a vision, and of a person who was willing to follow that vision. Jehovah appeared to Abraham or Abram and told him he was going to bless him, and that his descendents would become a great nation, and that all the people of the world would be blessed through his descendents, and he told him to get up and get out of his own country and to go into another country. He did as he was told, he followed the vision, and he built an altar to Jehovah and worshipped it. Time and time again he was reassured of his vision, and time and time again he built an altar to Jehovah and worshipped him. Do you know you and I are living in a period of history when

in a measure at least of this great promise that was made to Abraham. We do see how the Jews became a great people, we do see how the Jews have been a blessing to the world. They have given to the world the religion of the one true God. It all came about because this man was willing to follow the vision that he saw. People today quite often say, oh, well that's all right for Abraham for he was a great man, and God doesn't work with people now like he did back there in Abraham's time. I have heard that often, over and over again. You know I believe that people today are just as good as when Abraham was living, and I believe God can work them just as well as he did then if we will follow the vision. I don't believe that those people who lived around Abraham were any better than the people that live around you. There are a few great characters like Abraham, men or women with a vision who are willing today to follow the vision that bring about the great changes in this world.

You take that man who came to this country a poor, almost despised citizen, worked his way, got interested in electricity, studied it, saw in it something that no one else, perhaps, had ever seen, connected himself with a great electric company, and they said how much shall we pay you, he says, I don't want any money give me a place to work and let me draw to the amount of money I want, and if I overdraw tell me. So he spent his life working in what we call electricity. He died not long ago the greatest electrician in the world. His company never told him to stop drawing. His company took out \$1500.00 of insurance on his life, and that's how much his estate was worth when he died, but he gave to the world many of the things that we have in electricity. He wasn't working for money, he wasn't working for fame. He had a vision and he was following it, and all he wanted was enough to take care of his physical body while he did his work, so Steimetz (?) will go down in the world's history as one of the great men and so on. I could name others who had a vision and have been willing to follow it regardless of where it lead them

Now you are going out into the world, have something to follow. You are going out into the world to teach children. Let them be different, but watch them; help them to develop their individuality. Have faith in them.

You know I am just as proud of this college student body this year as I can be. I talked to you and told you some of the things about regulations in other colleges, and told you that I didn't want to put a certain regulation in this college, then I left it with you, and young women you came back. I believe you did it because you wanted to, and I believe you did it because you knew we had faith in you. People in this world live up, in a large measure, to the faith that other folks have in them. A vision and faith enough to follow it will lead you to unlimited success. I want to repeat that, a vision with faith enough to make you follow it will lead you to unlimited success. Now of course you understand I am thinking only of visions that are of the right kind. Following the right kind of spirit makes life worth while; brings joy and happiness to you and to all of those with whom you associate. Oh, it is a great thing to have faith in your fellowmen. It is a great thing to be able to believe in those with whom you are associated; to have faith in them. It makes your life so much more enjoyable. It makes life to you so much happier, and it makes life to those with whom you associate happy. You went home Christmas and had a good time, I hope you did. It was marred or not in a large measure by the amount of distrust you had in those with whom you associated. It was made joyous in a large measure by the amount of faith you had in those people with whom you associated. Faith puts us all on the same level. If you have faith in a person you are glad to be with and associate with that person. Faith produces happiness. A vision leads to success, and faith causes us to follow the vision. Now I believe you catch what I mean. I want you to have faith in yourself as well as faith in other people. Did you ever hear a person say, oh, well I can't do that, so and so can, but I don't have the ability. You don't, how do you know you don't have the ability. Why, you don't know how much ability you do have until you use all that you have, and have faith to believe that it is going to become true. Why that's the way to get ability. You don't have to have so very much sense to make good in life, I know, I have tried it. Have something very definite that you want to do, and determination enough to make you stick to it and you will accomplish it. It is a vision and faith that makes success and I believe you have it. Some time next week I hope to give you your reports. I don't know how they are going to be, I haven't seen them, but I want you to take those reports as a starting place and determine that you are going to go forward from that. If you fail on a subject it won't do a bit of good to cry, that won't change the mark, and it won't do a bit of good to quit, that won't correct it. Just buckle on your armor a little tighter and knuckle down to the problem that's giving you trouble and you trouble that problem until it stops troubling you, and you will win. You know girls are different from boys, and I guess they are. If a girl fails on a study, she says I am so sorry for my teacher that I don't

know what to do. If a boy fails on a subject he says it is what I expected of the old rascal, I knew he was going to do that. I believe the girl's disposition is better isn't it? I like it better. Neither one of them is quite true, but the teacher of course is sorry and he is not an old rascal. It is your problem and your teacher is only the record keeper of what you are doing, and if you haven't done enough to get your passing mark then it is your problem to bring that mark up. A person asked me not long ago if I couldn't give a person credit for work done in another institution, she didn't take her examination. Oh, she did all of her work, but I says she hasn't made it.

It is our problem, it is your problem. Make good don't let a single opportunity go by in 1924 without your improvement is the very best wish I have for you.