

124
November 22.

8 Ch. of Mark and reading through the 38th verse the end of the chapter.

I wanted to talk to you this morning- the last Saturday in Educational Week- on good citizenship. I don't know whether I am going to be able to do it not, because I am almost all to pieces from realization of the fact that we have students in our college who haven't been conducting themselves in a way that makes toward good citizenship. Young friends, if we can't train ourselves in college to be good citizens, honestly, I don't see much hope for us to properly conduct ourselves when we get out of college.

I want to re-read to you the passage of scripture that I read you this morning. It is Jesus doing the talking. It is the Master talking to his followers. (Scripture lesson)

There is one of the best lessons in citizenship that is to be found in the Holy Bible. What will it profit a man in an effort to save himself though he gain the whole world, own all of it, but in order to own it all shall lose his own soul. What shall a person give in exchange for his own soul?

We are growing up into citizenship- we are already citizens- but we are coming to the point where we are going to exercise in every way the rights and privileges and duties of American citizenship. Are we going to be willing to come up and face the courts and face our fellow man, face our own conscience in a way that we can say with a clear conscience, I have done my full duty as best I know how, or are we going to dodge this, dodge that, try to slip by this and slip by that, in the hopes that we may get gain or pleasure out of life. If it is the latter, you are trying to save your life, and the result will be you are going to lose it.

I don't mean that you will lose your physical life, but you will lose your spirit life- your soul the essence of all life. Are you going to be a good citizen and have the backbone to do what you believe to be right, or are you going to yield to temptations, and when you get through with it lose your self-respect, and develop within your own life the character of a poor citizen. It is before you and it is your responsibility. The best that this college can do for you is to put you in the most favorable environment we can to counsel you and advise with you, and that's about as far as we can go. If you respond then you will get something out of it that is worth while. If you refuse, frankly, there is nothing that we can do, and the sooner we get rid of you the better it will be for you, not for the college, we all know it will be better for the college, but young friends, the burden that rests upon the administrator of the college is a great deal heavier than you can possibly understand. I realize that because I know that in every college every where there is some student in that college who is getting worse than nothing out of his or her stay in that institution, and that's the reason my heart is heavy this morning. I realize that there are some students in this college who are not being improved by having residence here, and if we are not helping you we are hurting you, and it hurts me to know that we are not being of real service to every one who comes here. If this environment is not helping you to make a better woman out of yourself; if this environment is not stimulating in your life the best that there is, now, in justice to me as President of the college, in justice to the college, in justice to your homefolks, and in justice to you, I ask you to withdraw and get out of this environment. I do not want to be a party to the pushing down of the life of any young woman in this state of ours.

If you can not whip yourself into line and enter with the right kind of spirit into the true and upright principles ^{that} of this college stands for, please withdraw from it, because we are not helping you, and I don't want to spend public money unless it is going to be of some service to every one who receives or attempts to receive the benefit thereof. Are you so conducting your life that you are getting something out of it here? If so, then be active in your college life for all that is for good, and I believe nearly all of you are getting a great deal out of it. Some one asked me just a day or two ago; How is the college this year? I said we are having the finest college this year we have ever had. I think we have the finest student body I have ever worked with in my life. Is everything moving along all right Mr. Wright? So far as I know it is, and we are doing a great year's work. Well, he said you ought to be a happy man. I said my life is full of joy and happiness to me, because I believe we are really helping over 500 North Carolina girls to make something out of their lives, and young friends, I believe every word of that. I believe it this morning, but there are a few who it seems will not fall in line. All right fall in line or fall out, and I am saying that with a spirit of love for you. If we can not be a band of workers and do that that leads to good citizenship then there is no justification for them and this institution. If we can not work in here as a body for the uplift of human society, and for the advancement of human civilization. If we can not work together here for what is called good citizenship, then there is no justification for our being here. If we can not put the best there is in our lives into the work we are to do here, then we owe it to ourselves to go where we can put the best that is in our lives into the work. Young friends you are not going to be

college girls but once in all of your life. You are not going to go through the experience of college training but one time. O, some of you may go on to other schools, I don't mean that you are not going to continue, but as you go through college you go just once, and you get out of it all you are going to get out of college experiences while you are going through it. From the accumulation of things you gather in college you go on in life working and accomplishing things, but you are going to live your freshman year but one time, at least I hope you are not going to fail and have to go through it again, and your Sophomore year, and your Junior year, and your senior year, or if you are in the second year normal course or the college course. What you get out of it then is going to shape what you are going to do with it after that. And let us close this Educational Week with the hope that every student who comes here will go away from here a much better citizen than you were when you came. That is my earnest prayer for each one.