

December 4, 1929

The lesson I read in your hearing this morning is a lesson that is well worthwhile putting into practice in one's daily life. Quite often I hear people say they believe this or that and stop with the believing. James carries this a step farther. In other words, you may believe but if you stop with that you are no better than the devil. I find a lot of people in this world who have faith in various and sundry things and stop with the faith. James draws the picture rather vividly. The girl who says I believe in getting this history lesson and stops with the believing makes a failure when examinations come. A girl who says I do not think chapel is conducted as it should be because the student body talks too much and who comes here and talks all the time herself is a failure. She may have too much lip. You see the point. It applies to us in everything that we do in this world. We must have faith, that is all right but unless we go beyond the believing stage we never get anywhere. The world is full of people who stop at the believing stage.

The progressive person is the one who does not stop. It is absolutely essential to success to keep on. It is absolutely essential to any task in this world and the doctrine that is set forth in this chapter is well worth our taking to heart. He tells us about the old patriarch who believed in God. The man who was willing to make a sacrifice of his only child because of his faith in Jehovah and he became God's friend. I do not know any higher compliment that can be paid to anyone on this earth than to say he was God's friend. It comes with faith plus works. It is absolutely essential. We must have faith in it to be sure but we must go farther than that and make the sacrifices that are necessary to bring it to pass.

You young people are training yourselves to teach. Personally I do not believe there is any higher calling with the exception of home making and possibly the ministry for human beings to engage in than that of teaching the young. You must go beyond the faith. You must have that spirit within yourselves that makes you willing to make the sacrifice to acquire the knowledge of subject matter and methods that will enable you to do the work and do it efficiently. It is being willing to give up the pleasures you want to engage in and sacrifice them for the thing that your faith tells you that you ought to do. Put the works back of your faith and if you will do that you will succeed.

You remember that I have said something about going on to college. Go on just as long as you can. I have told you those things because I realize that thruout the state of North Carolina there is an ever increasing demand to get teachers with an ever increasing amount of training. This last issue of School Facts that came yesterday brings this out. It is State School Facts, Vol. VI, No. 6 dated December 1, 1929. If you can I want you to read this. I want to show you a few things that this issue of School Facts reveal to us. The white teachers for the whole state for the year 1922-23 had 1.13 of a year of college training. For 1928-29 the average college education was 2.52 years. In other words, the average for the training of white teachers in both city and rural schools in North Carolina for last year was $\frac{1}{3}$ year more than two years of college work. In other words, it was $2\frac{1}{3}$ years. That means, if you get the significance of it, that the two year normal course graduates whom the people all over North Carolina have been hunting for as its teachers no longer have the average amount of training. They are no longer hunting for these. They are going beyond them.

In 1922-23 the teachers in the rural schools of North Carolina were .64 of a year of training beyond High School and in the city schools they were

2.72 years beyond High School. In 1928-29 in the rural schools the teachers had 2.19 years of training beyond the High School and in the city schools they had 3.44 years.

If you are going to do the best thing for yourself and for the work that you are going to undertake, it is going to be best for you to go to school as long as possible. We are face to face with a situation that is very encouraging. Our people are talking about how poor they are but they are insisting on the best. They are hunting for the best of everything. Just yesterday it was in the papers that the Ford Motor Company had raised its pay roll to the amount of approximately \$20,000,000^{so} a year. They are raising their wages and looking for higher grade workmen. They are looking for the high price person who is worth the price they pay. When Ford started that a few years ago people said he was crazy and they said he was going to go ~~busted~~^{broke}. The Ford Motor Company did not only not ~~go~~^{fail} ~~busted~~ but it made more money and that set the whole world to thinking and to realizing that the people who consume want the best.

I would like to carry this on but I believe in stopping on time as well as starting on time.

Robert H. Wright, President