

(AM)

CHAPEL - January 30, 1931

-- President Wright

Scripture lesson: 111th Psalm

"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom" is the last verse of this 111th Psalm. I sometimes think that we have fallen short in the interpretation of the word "fear" as it is quite often used in the Bible. It doesn't mean ^{to} look upon Jehovah with holy terror. It doesn't mean that kind of fear. It means "I do not wish to do this thing for fear it will offend my Father" Quite often you have felt just that about your earthly father. I think this is the interpretation we should put on this word fear in most places it is used in the Bible. Strive all the time with the fear we will fall short of making our lives harmonize with the great spirit that rules the universe. That spirit of harmony, the feeling that makes one want to work with and in cooperation with Jehovah is the highest spirit that can enter into a human life. It is filled with love, hope, and based in part upon faith, ^{this is} and ~~it~~ not only is true in one's religious life, but is true in one's everyday life. The spirit of cooperation is the spirit of working together; is the spirit that has made your college what it is. The spirit of cooperation is the thing that will make any public school anywhere a better public school. You may put one teacher in any kind of organization, I don't care whether a university or just a standard elementary school or anywhere between the two, one person who is actively against the organization and who is actively talking against the organization, ~~always~~, probably, with a little grain of truth in it, ~~and that~~ ~~person~~ will very materially lower the efficiency of his organization. We have such a person in the United States, and he has just caused the

United States to send a note of apology to Italy. He is a man of considerable ability, a man of considerable power. But he is not working with as he should; just out of touch. He is just like a lot of other folks ~~that~~ I know in this world. He talks too much, and says things that he doesn't know are true, and sometimes, even when a thing is true, it's a good thing to keep one's mouth shut. The point I want you to get is the value and importance of working with. Suppose you do not believe in the organization, whether ~~of~~ college or something else, and feel that something should be changed. How are you going to do it? By keeping your mouth shut? No, that isn't the way to do it. You can approach a problem that needs to be solved in the right way to get your views heard and adopted, if worthy of being adopted. Don't go into the newspapers with it (I wasn't thinking, when I said that of the article that appeared in last week's Tecu Echo) but go to the person in charge. Come and see me and talk it out with me if it's something that concerns the college; if the Student Government Association go the president of the S. G. A.; if the dormitories Miss Morton will always be glad to listen to you, or go to Miss Morris if there is something about the Infirmary you feel should be changed. The point is this: always, there is someone to go to and talk things over with. Don't go with a chip on your shoulder, but say "I have ^{go to} been thinking about this, what about this method instead of the way we are now doing -----" The way we approach a thing has a great deal to do with the result. If you want to build up anything it must be done by working with other people and ^{in part} surrendering your views and accepting a part of theirs; by welding together and blending views. (Some of you, at least, are going to get married and don't make the mistake of thinking you can make him do just as you want him to, for you can't, but if you use that feminine quality to lead you can make the poor goose do anything you want him to.) The American people can be led to do any right thing on earth

and you can't drive them one inch; they simply won't drive. That is characteristic of the people of this nation and the person who has sense enough to use real good psychology and go after a problem in the right way is the person who is going to make good in life, and the other fellow is going to be a failure, and we might as well realize that. You can boost more things in this world than you can kick into success--~~even though girls are said to be guilty of a good deal of kicking.~~ A little boosting goes a great deal farther than all kinds of faultfinding.

We people in America love success. I think I have told you this before; I know the head of one of the best business colleges in America; I know when and how he started. He and his wife had two typewriters and two desks and started this school with the slogan "It Pays to Attend a Good School" and in twenty-five years he has made it one of the best business colleges in this country. Everyone who goes to that school boosts it. They say I go to X(I'm not going to call the name of the school) and it is a fine one. Say it as though proud of it. "We attend a good school". It has made this man wealthy, too; he and his wife have accumulated considerable wealth. It is the spirit of cooperation that has built up that college. That spirit of working together has made it what it is. Not kicking, but boosting, is the way to get the most out of life.

I am saying these things to you this morning because there has been so much kicking, so much faultfinding, so much complaint going on in this world during the last twelve months that I think the time has come for us to face about and realize that the other tack is the one that will get us out of the dumps we are in.

Be a booster and you will be a success if you work.