

I knew two fellows once. One was one of the finest evangelists I ever knew. He could go out and speak on the street corner. He could lead people to come to Christ. A wonderful evangelist. But he saw as I hope you'll all see the terrible attack of unbelief on the Scripture. The higher criticism, that very people know anything about but our whole population is affected by it. It tears down faith in the Word of God. And he saw the great need of Semetic scholarship in order to answer the attacks of the higher criticism. He went to the University of Berlin.

Instead of the 3 yrs. that most men take in getting the Ph.D. there, he took six. He stuck to it, and did a good job in that area. I know many others who could have done a far better job with half the work he had to put into it, and the work he could have done as an evangelist was left untouched. And then I've known others who did not have the gift of an evangelist at all who **have** might have been first class Semetic scholars who felt that nothing but evangelism was worthwhile.

God has different gifts for different people. Find out what your gift is. I think it is insane to start in the beginning of your course and think you have to decide whether you are going to be a pastor, whether you are going to be a teacher, whether you are going to be a minister in this country or whether you are going to work in Angola, or in Siam, or in some other county. The 3 yr. ~~xxxx~~ course that we give is planned to be useful to Christian workers in any type of Christian work that you can do and wherever that you may go.

If a person concentrates too soon, they loose things that they need. God gives us various gifts, but we don't know what they are immediately. He wants us to try different areas, but our course here is aimed to fit a solid foundation that is useful for every type of Christian work.

A third factor here, which I will take a little more time on, is our training. We've mentioned the grace of Christ--that which is most fundamental. We have mentioned our service which is extremely important. You are here for training, and in vv.14-16 we have the stress on the training. That we should grow up into him who is the head, who is Christ. That we should learn so that we will no longer be tossed to and fro like a wave subject to the cunning craftiness of men in their deceitful schemes. So we can take our part in the body as every part of it is held together as God has a work for each of us in relation to those others whom he has called.

And to the many outside we don't know who He will call. There are people I could never reach for the Lord that you can reach, and there are people that you could never reach that I can reach. But we don't know who the **wone** is who can reach a certain person until we try. So God wants us to sserve Him, but He wants us to become trained so we will not be easily led astray and so we can protect others from being led astray.