

think it is much better to get a hearing than to think how very proper it is for you to stand and whisper and get nothing across!

Lift up your voice with a shout. Lift it up. Do not be afraid. Say to the towns of Judah, Here is your God. See the Sovereign Lord comes with power, and his arm rules for him. See his reward is with him . . . He tends his flock like a shepherd . . . he gently leads those who are with young." The power and the mercy of God. We need both.

The preacher's challenge. We're speaking about the preacher now. His preaching. That's not all he does. I remember years ago a minister ~~was~~ telling me, if the ~~x~~ sermons arn't any good, if he goes and visits the people then they feel they will have to return the call and come to his services. I don't want people coming just to return a call! I think the pastor's work is tremendously important but his preaching should be such that people want to come and hear him. I believe there is not a speaker anywhere who could not double his effectiveness with proper thought and care

God has given us a marvellous message to give, but what a responsibility we have to get ~~a~~ it across. So visiting is important. But in this seminar we're talking about preaching. Preaching is very important. Personal work is very important. Preaching alone won't do it. I remember hearing R. A. Torrey say, You give a message ~~aa~~ and the person in the front row passes it back to the next row, and he passes it on back to the next row, etc. He said, You talk with an individual and he knows you are talking to him. Remember what Nathan said-- thou art the man!

Torrey once said he was speaking in a church and the people said there is going to be a business man here tonight who is very pious but he does all kinds of rotten tricks in his business and won't you expose that kind of business. Torrey said he preached a sermon on the rotten business tactics and how wicked it is, and how we must stand for truth and righteousness. He preached and he thought the man would be so angry he would never come to hear him again, but he felt it was the Lord's message to give. When he finished the man got up and headed toward him and he thought, Is he going to hit me? The man said to him, Dr. Torrey that was one of the most wonderful messages I ever heard. Would you let me print that? He said, I then spoke to him and told him what I meant face to face and the man said later, It hurt but I deserved it. He said in a personal contact he got the message across.

Personal work is very important. Without it we will not accomplish what the Lord has called us to do. But we are commanded to preach. There is a challenge we all need. A challenge to meet the difficulties of an entertainment filled time. When I was in college the minister where I went to church said, I have tremendous fears for the church because there is so much entertainment now. He said people have their phonographs and their comic books and all these things and they won't be attending church like they used to.