

Now that's where we get into the whole situation, not only in the local church, but in the relationship with other churches. In our Presbyterian set-up, we ~~try~~ try to give help to each church, by the relation to the other churches, and there, there is the danger of the two extremes to which you can go. There is the attitude of feeling that this is just a get together, enjoying each others' fellowship, and that's all we have. It doesn't amount to anything more, and there is the other attitude that here's a bunch of courts and they rule. You hand down a decision and that's it. ~~You~~ ^{We} have got to follow it, and the ~~the~~ higher authorities speak and we ...9½...., well, now, that's not true Presbyterianism. That may be old-fashioned episcopalianism. But it is not true Presbyterianism. In the Presbyterian system it is in between. The local church is what does the work in the local area, and the local church makes its decisions itself. And the local church works out the details of administration in the local situation, and nobody has any right to interfere with it. But it is recognized that the local are apt not to have the proper training and background to make proper selection of a minister. That is, they, in our Presbyterian system, it is not like the Methodist and the Episcopal, where, especially the Methodist, where the bishop can put a man in. He is there there and they put him. In our system the people have to call the man. And Oh my what difficulties we get into because people hear a man, and, Oh, he's a wonderful preacher. We want him, and we'll do anything to get him. I had a friend who was up at the National Bible Institute quite a few years ago, and he was in charge at that time of practical work. And there was a church which was empty, and they wanted a good sound man, and he recommended them two or three fellows that he felt were just wonderful fellows. Oh they really knew things. But they weren't the best speakers in the world. They were fair. But this church heard another man, who was a good sound Christian fellow, been in the church about 8 years, a different church, and they heard him, and after they heard him, the only thing they cared was could they get him. That was the only question him. Oh, my, if we could only get him. And this fellow tried to tell them, why, he said, these two fellows I recommended, they are far better than this other men. They have more depth. They are more under-