

now enter on a new stage of life's work, and new opportunities are opening before you. Permit me, then, to say that your future success will depend largely on a few things which I may be allowed to urge upon your attention.

1. Keep steadily before you the *right aim*. Many fail in the gospel ministry because they do not keep steadily before them the real nature of the work which they have undertaken. Men are perishing, and your aim should be to seek and save the lost, and then to train the saved for Christ. If you fail in this, however successful in other respects, your ministry will be largely a failure. But if you succeed, your success will abide forever; for the material on which you work is more enduring than marble or bronze. Human souls moulded into the image of Christ will always repay the labour spent upon them.

2. You need to employ the *right means* to reach the end at which you aim. It is scarcely necessary to remind you that the faithful presentation of God's truth is the only divinely appointed means of accomplishing your work. All down the ages, from the primeval promise to the present day, men have been saved by the knowledge of the truth. If we would secure abiding success we must fall in with divine method and seek to commend the truth to every man's conscience. You must give to the central truths which cluster around the cross that commanding place assigned to them in the New Testament. Whatever you omit, preach Christ crucified.

3. Seek a broad and liberal measure of *mental culture*. It should not be your aim to become distinguished as literary men or scientists, but wide reading in literature, science or history may easily be made tributary to the successful proclamation of the gospel. You will find it of great use to you in

your life work, to train yourselves to work up to the full measure of your powers. Many ministers, I am persuaded, fail because they do not keep up studious habits, and never study out any important question sufficiently to master it. They do not dig for hidden treasure and they find none.

It is very important while seeking all possible breadth of mental culture, to seek to study human nature, and the truth in its relation to the wants of the human soul. No amount of general attainments will compensate for a lack on the part of a minister of a knowledge of human nature, and of the skill which knows how to present the truth of God to meet individual cases.

4. Depend for success upon *power from on high*. It was not until the day of Pentecost had come, and the Spirit had been poured out, that the apostles might attempt to reap the harvest of the world. But that day is long since past. We no longer need to pray for the outpouring of the Spirit. The Spirit has been poured out, and we now live under the dispensation of the Spirit. Be assured your success in the gospel ministry will depend on the measure in which you realize, and consciously depend on, his living aid.

Gentlemen, you now go forth on your life-work. I almost envy you the privilege of dealing directly with the souls of men, and bringing to them God's way of life. I do not undervalue the work to which I and the other members of the Faculty have been called in training those who are to preach Christ to others, but it deprives us largely of the opportunity of dealing directly with living souls. We must preach through you and others. We will follow you with our sympathies and our prayers, and in your success will see our own. And whether you labour in the well-tilled fields of the older provinces, or sow