

If that's all you do there is little purpose in it. If it is to be worthwhile for you, that should only be a starting point to your mental activity. Like the Bereans you should search the Scriptures to see if these things are true. Superficiality is so much of our whole educational system today. Just learn what somebody else gives and write it out and forget it. Get his ideas. No! The world doesn't need the ideas of any man. What the world needs God has put in His Word.

He needs us to learn to study that Word and find what is there and learn to express it in a way that will get God's thoughts across to the human beings who need to know them.

Think over what the professor says. Do you agree with that? If you don't it may be cause you don't understand it. That's all the more reason not to just memorize it. What's the good of words if you don't understand the ideas? Think it through. Perhaps he has made a mistake. Or perhaps you haven't grasped what he is trying to give. Superficiality is the curse of our day. It is so easy for us to fall into it today. It is one of the tares that Satan is putting before us. Superficiality. Oh, if you would think over the matter that is given. Certain questions should arise. Go to the library. See what someone else has said about it. See what else you can find about this. See, get some questions in mind that you might ask ~~your~~ ⁱⁿ class that will clarify your own mind and may also clarify the mind of the professor. I've often had a whole ~~sub~~-subject illuminated as somebody has asked a question that just opened up an area of it that I had not thought of before. Think things through. Meditate upon them. Learn to interpret for yourself. Learn to go to the Scripture and to get what is there.

Oh we must avoid superficiality and procrastination. You can't if you become a pastor come into the pulpit and say, Oh excuse me, I don't have the sermon ready yet. Please come back the day after tomorrow and I will give the sermon then! You've got to get it ready ahead of time and you have got to have it ready on time! Oh how important it is that we learn to have things ready on time, that we learn to get prepared for it.

I remember Francis Schaeffer. Most of you I think are ~~w~~ aware of his name. I remember when he graduated from the seminary and went to his first church. He took a little church and he built it up tremendously just one year there. But he worked 18 hours a day at the task. He thought, What means can I use to reach people in a way they have not thought of before? A way that will remove opposition and win friendships and win them to learn the truths that he was presenting in a forthright way, but ~~to learn~~ to get the people to come and listen to him.

He worked very very hard during his time in that church. But after he'd been there a short time I invited him to come and speak in our chapel. He came and he told me. He ~~said~~ said, I have decided I must learn to speak well. So he said, I get my sermons