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Milo Rediger

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The Purpose of a Chapel Convocation Program at Taylor University (notes for a panel discussion)

Milo A. Rediger
Taylor University

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Notes for chapel - September 9, 1970

Panel Discussion

Title - The Purpose of a Chapel Convocation Program at Taylor University

The number one consideration is found in the nature of Christian higher education. To be Christian, higher education must be whole-person growth. The process and the experience must include the intellectual, the physical, the social, and the spiritual. The total Taylor program is intended to provide opportunities in all of these aspects of the individual's growth.

In the spiritual aspect of growth there are two important facets. The one has to do with the individual devotional life of the growing person. The other has to do with corporate and group experience in worship and other phases of religion-related experiences. This is where chapel and convocation programs belong.

Now we recognize that this is a complicated matter. We are aware of the fact that too much sameness in anything gets boring. We also recognize human error at the point of our failure to "ring the bell" for everybody on every occasion. We recognize that your individual differences^{also} greatly affect the total impact of the program. We believe, however, that there are many kinds of experience that can contribute to our spiritual development.

We also know that you have your hangups about good, better, and best chapel or convocation experiences. We recognize too that you have your personal likes and dislikes.

In the midst of this complexity we do our best to find the golden mean. We succeed and we fail, and so do you. We hope that you will come to these services and programs in the attitude of worship and we are convinced that if you do so, you will, in most cases, find the opportunity for worship and the experience of worship.

If we do our best to plan and to provide a high quality variety of such experiences with the intent of serving you in the best possible way, we are no more hypocritical when we expect your attendance than are you if and when you come only to accomplish a bodily fulfillment of the requirement.

I assure you that all ^{who} ~~the~~ work on these committees, faculty members, administrators, and students, are sincerely committed to the furtherance of the spiritual life of Taylor University people. The results depend as much upon you, your spirit and your attitudes, as they do on our efforts.