

Father into the woods to cut a tree. ~~Small~~ Small son ~~was~~ of five went along. Can I play in the water in the lagoon? Stay on the bank. He was picking up shells and digging a little well when a cry came, Hurry daddy, hurry. The father leaped with his ax in hand and saw the boy floundering in deep water with outstretched arms, saying the alligator got me. The father leaped in and about to sink the ax into the head of the alligator. He swished the water and bloody foam told the story.

How can we major on minors when people are sinking in sin. *Hurry, hurry*

*Hurry Da. Come to X tonight.  
Just gonna Major on your soul tonight.*

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MAJORING IN MINORS

LUKE 15:25-32

Introd:

- Any group of college or school students in conversation usually get around talking about their majors and minors in their class work. It is required that a student shall major in some special field, and minor in some other. Turning from books I recall hearing a mother say, "My daughter is majoring in minors" that is she is not putting first things first.
- "Blinded by fireworks it is easy to loose one's visions of the stars."

Nursery Rhyme

Pussy Cat Pussy Cat where have you been  
I have been to London to see the queen  
Pussy Cat Pussy Cat what saw you there  
I saw a little mouse under her chair.

This is true of many of us, we get lost in the thick of things. When the cat might have seen the queen saw only the mouse. We should be thinking of queenly objects and we are devirted to mouse size objects. That cat took a trip all the way to London for the purpose of seeing the Queen. Just like taking a sea gull which is meant for the ocean and putting it in a tub of water. This is one of the things Christ condemned the Pharisees for, they did not have any heart in their religion, they majored on minor things. It s a pathic sight to see a poor old woman picking up sawed off ends of lumber to keep warm by but in our Christian lives and churches we give too much attention to the scraps and the chips rather than the main thing.

- I'm tired of sailing my little boat,  
Far inside the harbor bar  
I want to be out where the big ships float,  
Out on the deep where the great ones are.

- Lets take a glance at one of the best short stories in the world. It the story about a man who had two sons. He gives a portion to the son who is tired

of restraints and want to live his own way. After spending all he comes home and is received in his father's love. Now the other bother was one who majored on minors.

I. CRITICISED HIM

V. 26 "servants"  
V. 28 "He was angry"

He censured him before his father and before the servants of his father, finding all kind of fault with him. Its like the old dead hound dog at the close of the Civil war. One said that the poorest dog I've ever seen, another said its the ugliest, another said its the meanest looking dog, but an old darkie said "He has the whitest teeth I ever saw." He found something good.

When Saul was dead some suggested that David strike back but David said "Is there anyone left of the house of Saul to whom I may show the spirit of kindness."

II.

II. LIED ABOUT HIM

V. 29 "Many yrs. served - man gave"  
V. 31

Criticism usually ends in lies. He lied about the father and the prodical. There are a thousand ways to tell a lie. You look at some of the signs in the city of Norfolk "Going out of business" "Must vacate" "Five dollar value for one dollar" "Fifteen dollar nationally advertised shoes for \$6.50" (a few odd sizes that nobody can wear. "Hats cut from \$5. to \$3. (a batch of hats that have been tried on so many times they are worn out.)

III. Slandered Him

V. 30 "Living with Harlots"

The other brother still majoring on minors and slandered him with the statement he spent his substance with harlots. He is blackening his reputation. Too many people have the inside dope, They say don't bring me in on this but so and so. We should be willing to further it.

Nothing hurts the church like the tongue. Too many times groups in our churches and societies are turned into gossiping rings. Sam Jones said "Some folks tongue are so long they can sit in the living room and lick the skillet in the kitchen." He also said the devil fumigates prediction every time a slander passes in. Let us be something higher than a society scavenger, a keyhold reporter and a grave digger.

In the olden days I am told that in one corner of the church there was a spot reserved where the mothers spread out quilts and put their babies, bottles and rattlers during the service, and that in the middle of the sermon often the babies would wake up and gort go to scraping over each others bottles and toys.

IV. JUST LEFT HIM ALONE

V-28 "would not go in"

He majored on minors, he stayed away from his brother when his brother needed him most. He was looking out for himself. Put him around - lets talk to him  
V. 32 - Bro Samuel  
He did not try to prevent his leaving, he just let him go. Like some of our churches who let people go without caring. This is the worse thing in the world that a church could do for sinners, is to leave them alone.

Salvation is for all, for the unfit. A man in Chicago on his way to the river to end all heard singing in a Mission. He went in and was saved. He stood and said men, it works, Christ saves. I was on my way to end it all and stumbled in here only to stumble into the arms of Christ.

We should try to put Christ in front of men that they might cease stumbling around in darkness.