

*Those of our schools which publish "newspapers" include in them not only articles written by members of the faculty, but essays by students as well. At the end of the school year the writing of both tends to be of the reflective kind. Ninth graders are of course in a position to reflect on ten whole years of school life. Have you ever wondered how they perceive those years? That they will learn eventually to appreciate their schooling is sometimes simply taken for granted by us. But how about now, when they've not yet taken their last exam, and have not yet walked across the platform to receive their diploma? What's their perspective of it all from that kind of close range? Adams' most recent Announcer had in it several essays which give evidence of remarkable maturity on the part of our young people. Let's look at one of them, an essay entitled "Growing Through Spiritual Lessons," written by Rick Spaman, valedictorian and president of Adams' class of 1986.*

Our stay here at Adams Street has been a lengthy and spiritually enriching one. What we have learned has affected the way which we look towards our teachers, parents, classmates, ourselves, and fellow Christians.

We have learned that we must obey and respect our teachers, whom our parents have chosen to be an authority over us, who teach us of God's grace and covenant. Not only in Bible, but in every subject do we learn of the greatness and power of God.

We have learned to obey and respect especially our parents, since God has set them over us. They have guided us in God's word. They have disciplined us when it was necessary. Most importantly, they have sent us to a Protestant Reformed Christian school for which we are grateful to them. We have learned through that Christian education that we must help them as much as possible and not complain about it. We have grown up physically and spiritually in the Christian fellowship of our classmates. We have been taught to help one another

with our problems. We have learned to treat others as equals and not to look down on a specific person because he or she is different.

We have learned that we are special because we have the Word of God and are His children. We mustn't boast of this, though. We must, whether in work or play, at church or somewhere else, show our light instead of hiding it under a bushel. We must witness for God's cause. We have learned that we must do our work not for our own gain, but to glorify God through it. We have also learned that, if we have a problem, we must first look to the Word of God.

We have learned that we and our fellow Christians must praise God to the best of our ability. We must teach each other spiritually. We must prepare one another for when we shall enter into the perfect reward of our salvation, the kingdom of God.

In conclusion, we have learned to serve God and act as children of God do.

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