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Preserving Nyack Heritage

There is always a course that we enjoy most because we do not feel pressured and are encouraged by the professor. The Nyack Heritage course was among the most beautiful journeys I have had since the beginning of this semester. Reading about the creator of Alliance University, previously known as Nyack College, was a thrilling adventure. He taught me many things about God and his son and how we should fully accept their presence in our lives. Learning about important figures that played major roles in our lives can help us understand our purposes and what some events that happened in life mean to us. A. B. Simpson paved the way and did something beneficial for Alumni and students because he believed in the power of God.

Reading the *Fourfold Gospel* by Simpson and the first two chapters of *Living Your Calling* was particularly the most enjoyable moment of this course for me. We are closer to God than we can think; we should imagine things beyond what we can see, and we know about it but choose to ignore and focus on the meaningless events in our lives. This course helped me understand that I matter to God and that he had a purpose before I was even familiar with him. I should cling to that knowledge and wait for my time to accomplish what was planned for me. Simpson taught us to be patient and not hesitate to rely on God because he will catch us when we

feel like falling. In the six weeks of this course, we learned about the events that led Simpson to build this institute, along with other leaders who followed in his footsteps. These people worked hard to bring Nyack College to its success; they were encouraging, shared their knowledge of the Gospel of God, and did not close their doors to people who wanted to learn more about Jesus. We hung on to what we are capable of; some people used their gifts and talents to define themselves, and some used theirs to help others find meaning in their lives. During our lecture about the Key figures of Nyack College, we could see how those people were determined to help others find themselves in a society full of judgments.

The six chapters of the Fourfold Gospel taught me that God is the rock that defines our lives; if we fail to notice his actions, we are not ready to enter his kingdom. A. B. Simpson made it clear that Jesus had been the one who keeps us from losing all connection with the heavenly father. It is easy to forget about all the good things someone has done for us when we are not pleased with the outcomes of our lives; when something does not turn out well for us, we will often cry out to God as if our actions did not lead us to unwanted consequences. Jesus is our savior, healer, and sanctifier; he will come a second time to save us from our sins, and through his sacrifices, we gain a place in God's heart. Throughout the readings of the Fourfold Gospel, we had the most delightful journeys with God and Simpson's teachings.

I have always tried to find what I was good at and what my talents were. Or, if I had any, how could I develop them? I tried sports and realized I am bad at physical exercises; I have always been attracted to music and sometimes would be chosen in high school to play for important events, but I did not see it as a gift. And now I regret not enjoying this gift God had handed to me. When I discovered Alliance University and all the options it could offer a student, I felt like God specifically made me cross paths with this beautiful community to have an

opportunity to accomplish my purpose. I am majoring in Biology, but sometimes my family and I feel like I chose the wrong path; even though I can change my major at any moment and study what I am good at, I still love what I chose and do not feel compelled to take anything else. One of the great specs about this university is that we can still embrace what we love while doing something that matters to us. So the heavenly father encouraged me to submit an application at Nyack and keep leading the way for me in the heritage of Nyack College, although it is virtual. Music is my passion, so it is easy to express how I feel through what I listen to when words have long gone their way. I feel like God is calling me to be his messenger by sharing my thoughts with others through my music. I am not a singer, but I used to play the piano; being a student at Nyack College will help me expand my knowledge about the instrument, and then I could teach others or write some pieces that can be inspiring to others. But at the same time, I am not sure that is what I will be called to be or to do; in the meantime, I believe that this is my mission and that I should do it correctly.

Being part of something so important can make us doubt our gifts because we see them as insignificant, but we should always believe in what God has prepared for us. He is the one who makes everything possible and bearable in our lives; we should worship him and accept that what he has done for us is for our peace. The heavenly father is the source of our lives; without him, we would be lost and without objectives. He promises to be there for us and keeps his promises; we have made a covenant with him but cannot have it in us to respect it and do something right without messing up.