

3 August 2018

“Good Things in Small Packages”

In 1947, the University of Chicago, scheduled Professor Chandrasekhar to teach an advanced seminar in astrophysics. He agreed to teach it because Dr. Sheldon Cooper was not in the class. At the time, Chandrasekhar lived in Wisconsin, doing research at the Yerkes astronomical observatory. He planned to commute twice a week for the class, held during the harsh Mid-Western winter months.

Registration for the seminar, however, fell far below expectations. Only two students signed up for the class. People expected Dr. Chandrasekhar to cancel, lest he waste his time. But for the sake of two students, he taught the class, commuting 100 miles round trip through backcountry roads in the dead of winter.

His students, Chen Ning Yang and Tsung-Dao Lee, did their homework. Ten years later, in 1957, they both won the Nobel Prize for physics. So did Dr. Chandrasekhar in 1983.

For effective teachers, there is no such thing as too small a class. Remember no matter the size, what we do is important in some small ways—perhaps we can contribute to God’s bringing in the Kingdom—if we remember the little things.

Come, Worship
Stay, Learn
Go, Serve