

material. Occasionally I find students who ask questions in class that are hazy but we should make them get the solid material but we should develop this also. I think that is making a specific end in itself and we can make much further progress than we ever have before. I am anxious that we constantly keep in mind the developing the skill of understanding. I think a certain amount of exegesis

Then the fourth skill, I hesitate about make it a skill, could possibly be put under one of the others. And yet I think it is vital enough to make it a separate one, and that is the ability of gathering material. You can't think in a vacuum. We have our basic material that we want to get solidly but in any subject we are to take, in a sermon or a discussion you want to deal with, some problem that has ~~far~~ developed or in our future activity, there is material that is important. I think there are many students who go to seminary ~~x~~ who get a fine set of notes telling what the different professors have said on the subjects and they have these notes to refer to the rest of their lives. But problems are going to change, new problems are going to come up new insight is going to be discovered. And it is not so good just to get a set of notes as it is to learn how to go out and get the material for yourself. And so, practice in taking subjects and going and finding exactly what is available on it is important. Here there are two phases of this. There is the phase of careful research to see exactly what is meant. Take some rather abstruse point in theology which perhaps there might not be any full discussion on in most theologies. Or perhaps some point on which hadn't occurred to people as a problem before comes into attention now. Those in Hodge and Warfield and various other writers, and see what they imply regarding this subject and it is a matter of careful interpretation in their work to see exactly what it is. And of course looking over several ~~pages~~ pages to pick out the things that are vital and then carefully analyzing them. A second part of this skill that is equally important I think is the ability to gather a lot of material as quickly as possible. For this I think it is important that we stress the skill to be acquired by the students, the skill of reading rapidly. As far as I have been able to gather there are two things that enter into this. One is whether your eyes take in a letter or a little space for every eye motion and the other is the actual ~~practically~~ practice of pushing yourself to gain material quickly. I think we can cover the first very easily and a little reading is helpful. But the second one is a matter

I have given an assignment in church history that I meant to take two hours and students have said that it took five hours. Two was all that was intended for that assignment. But for the man to learn to push himself to get what is vital and so I think to get skill rapid reading is one that is worth working on. And then there is a third ~~that~~ thing that I think enters in the gathering of material and that is filing. Some of our students have purchased the Memoromatic ~~xx~~ system which I think they spent about \$60 for maybe seven or eight dollars of material. The system as a whole seems to me not at all well adapted to theological studies. But I am inclined to think that any system