

the way that we'll do it is to take that three hours and have it for the first half semester at least, all of it under supervision. And then later on maybe some of it will be your own study. But still all through the year a great part of it will be under supervision. Now this point for instance of the letters - the first task in Hebrew is to learn the letters - now this is a skill which has to be learned with practice. There's no other way to do it. When I learned Hebrew, the last part of that year, I spent five or six hours a day looking up words we were reading. I'd take a word, I'd look in the dictionary, I'd hunt through those letters, I'd find the meaning of the word, I'd write it down, then take another. And it took hours till I had the whole group looked up and sometimes in the course of three hours I'd look the same word up four times in the dictionary. I wouldn't remember I'd ever looked it up before. Well what is gained by that sort of thing? To take a word and learn to know its fine points, study its various usages, see what the dictionary says about that is of value, great value. Just to look in the dictionary to get a simple meaning for a word, what's gained by wasting that time hunting in the dictionary? The only thing I can see that you're gaining by it is you're getting your eyes more used to the letters in finding the word in the dictionary. And I think you can develop that skill more easily in another way. And so one of the big essential points of the system of teaching Hebrew that I worked out 27 years ago was abstracting the vital, essential points that were vital to all reading and getting them solidly. And that's just what we're going to do now except to carry the same principle a little further. And so as you face the problem of Hebrew, you find a big obstacle facing you right at the start and that is the obstacle of getting your eyes used to the letters. And I believe that ~~XXX~~ instead of saying here are the letters, we'll spend two days learning them, then we go ahead and learn a lot of points about the language which are difficult for you to learn because you have to imagine them in these letters that are not familiar to you, and you look at a page in the Hebrew Bible and you read very slowly because you're not familiar with the letters and so you can't look and pick these points out ~~XX~~ as they come, and so on, as you could if it was English or some other language using English letters, I be-