

Musar involves not only activity, it involves intelligent activity. It is not intelligence to sit in a class and listen to what is given and write it down and try to remember it. Musar requires that we think things through, that we try to understand them, that we see what possible objections we might raise or we've heard somebody raise that we go intelligently at the tasks that are before us. It is not only work, but it is intelligent work.

What a difference it makes if we learn intelligently to deal with situations and with problems. I had a student come to me once and he said, I find Greek grammar very easy to get. He said I have no problems with it at all, but I just can't remember those words. I found he had not made connection with ~~==xaxixax~~ at all with Greek words and English words. I pointed out to him that a great many of the Greek words are similar to well known English words. Even in the case of English words that are not well-known if you connect it with an English word, it usually makes it far easier to remember.

When I was a freshman in high school I had a Latin teacher. I could not remember her name. I just couldn't think of it. One day I said to my father, You know I can't remember that Latin teacher's name. My father said to me, Does she talk in several languages? Does she speak in several languages? I said, I suppose she does, I don't know. He said, Does she converse? And her name was Miss Converse! To this day I remember her name. I don't remember the name of any other teacher I had at that time.

When I was in seminary I remember one of the fellows said, I want to remember the Hebrew word for good. He said, The word is tov. We have a student, Mr. Good who works in the kitchen, and he works near the stove. So I remembered tov means good! Very far fetched, and yet it makes an impression on your mind far greater than simply trying to repeat a thing over and over and trying to drill it into your mind. Intelligent discipline. There is a way to handle things. There is a way to take hold of them. It is very important to learn those ways.

I referred a few minutes ago to the fact that though I heard about the Presbyterian Minister's Fund when I was in seminary I never thought to make inquiry about it. It was only later on after I had purchased insurance from General Companies that I realized that a company that limits its people to Christian workers could naturally give a much better rate than another one could. But I didn't look into the thing, I didn't investigate. There are many things you have opportunities to investigate. You have opportunity to think through, to apply intelligent planning, musar for it means that.

I remember a student once who we tried to get to work in a S.S. He said, Oh I'm interested in studying. He was a good student. He said, I'm interested in studying. I want to be a good teacher but I'm not interested in S.S. We couldn't persuade him to teach in a S.S. to learn something about the S.S. After he graduated he wrote us a letter and he