

But I've seen similar groups yr. after yr. go out, and how the various things of life attract this one and that. The various other motives become important and some go out and get a disappointment. They're going to reform the world the first year they are out, and they find that instead of their reforming the world they get knocked over and then they lose their zeal, give up their determination and accomplish little for the Lord. God wants us in our time at Sinai to acquire the determination to follow him and to accomplish for him and to get the things done that he wants done in our lives so that when the going gets rough^{when} and/the work gets hard, and the rewards are few we still will have been prepared by practice and by training and by meditation to keep our eyes on him and to go forward and not let ourselves become discouraged. And then c.

c. The importance of the acquisition of needed skills and habits. O how important habits are. You don't realize how important habits are until you ~~realize~~ find you just automatically do things through habit. For yrs. I always made it a habit to brush my teeth every night before going to be. And then I was by a dentist that when you brush the teeth you don't get in between them, and that's where you're going to get decay; I should use dental floss and so I started using dental floss. And I've done that for yrs. now. Every night I brush my teeth and then I take the dental floss and I clean inbetween. I then I thought just this last month. I thought How silly it is to brush the teeth, to get the dirt off them and then take the dental floss and pull out the dirt that's between them. What happens to that then? Does it get on the outside of the teeth? Does it stay there? Wouldn't it be sensible to floss the teeth first instead of after you've brushed them? You can impagine how deeply ingrained a habit becomes through the years. Night comes and I just brush the teeth without thinking and then reach for the dental floss. But to reach for it first? The habit is there. Last night I think is the first time I broke the habit. I got the dental floss first. Whether I'll be able to keep it up long enough to change the habit I don't know. Thirty-four yrs ago, 35 yrs. ago, I was teaching at Westminster theological seminary. Certain things happened there that led us to change and start a new seminary. We started Faith Seminary, and at Faith we would talk about what we were doing at Faith, what we were planning to do