

"Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee."

Psalm 119:11

A YEAR OF MEMORIZATION

OVERVIEW

The Scriptures teach clearly that the Word of God is to live or dwell in the hearts of His children (Col. 3:16). One may do this by reading, studying, and applying the Scriptures. Yet, to truly meditate and ponder upon God's Word, memorization is essential.

This system will seek to encourage weekly memorization of a verse or passage of Scripture. Each day will involve exercises to help write the Word of God in our minds. Four attitudes are vital and necessary for accomplishing this good work. **Motivation** – remember your purpose in memorizing Scripture. **Commitment** – pledge and devote yourself to the task, making time for it each day. **Persistence** – repetition is key to all learning, especially memorization. Plan to stick with it until the goal is reached. **Patience** – focus on quality, not quantity. Encourage yourself as you work to memorize Bible verses, remembering that you are doing a good work. Do not discourage yourself by thinking that your progress is small and you should give up.

In order to accomplish this work, one must set aside time in each day to give close attention to memorization. However, 10 minutes a day can accomplish great things in this process. As you progress and become more accustomed to the work, you may set aside more time. Consistency is key to learning. It is good to have a designated place where you can read, write, and speak aloud without being interrupted. It is also good to use this same space for each exercise each day. If possible, it is good to do your work at the same time each day.

DAY ONE - MONDAY

READ AND UNDERSTAND THE PASSAGE

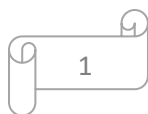
Memorization is not an exercise just to learn a sequence of words. It is to learn words that have meaning and importance in one's life. Thus, in order to truly memorize a verse, one must understand its meaning. Realizing the importance of a passage makes it easier to remember and to recall when needed.

Read the verse or passage several times. Ask questions to determine its context. Who wrote it? Who is speaking? To whom was it spoken or written? Are there words in the passage you do not understand? If so, look them up in a dictionary or Bible dictionary. What does this verse mean? How does it apply to my life?

DAY TWO - TUESDAY

READING AND WRITING

Read the passage out loud 10 times. Include the book, chapter, and verse. Each time, place emphasis upon a different word. Notice the rhythm and flow of the passage. Consider the phrases that make it up and where there are natural divisions in the text.



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Write the passage down at least once. You may want to write it more times. You also may want to write it on an index card that can be carried with you and looked during the day. When you have a moment, take it out and read over the verse again. It is helpful to write the verse out by phrases, rather than all as one verse.

DAY THREE - WEDNESDAY

LEARNING BY PHRASES

Dividing a verse or passage into its natural phrases makes it easier to memorize. Punctuation marks are helpful in dividing a sentence into phrases.

Read the first phrase 10 times. Cover the text and recite this phrase. If you are correct, move to the second phrase and do the same. (If not, repeat the first phrase until you remember it.)

After learning the second phrase, join it with the first phrase and say them together. Continue this process until each phrase of the passage has been learned. If you do not learn the entire verse in one session, you will continue on the next day.

DAY FOUR - THURSDAY

REPETITION, REPETITION, REPETITION

Review what you learned the previous day. Recite the memorized parts. If they are correct, move on to the next phrase of the verse. If you have learned the entire verse, recite it out loud at least 10 times. Make sure you learn and state the book, chapter, and verse.

DAY FIVE - FRIDAY

REPETITION AGAIN

Review and recite the parts of the passage you have learned. Add to them any phrases that remain. Recite the verse out loud several times. Now, write it down from memory several times. Include book, chapter, and verse. Check your work with the Bible.

DAY SIX - SATURDAY

REPETITION AND MEDITATION

Quote the verse you have learned several times. Pause to think deeply about the meaning of this passage. Remember the things studied on Day One. Ponder again the application of this verse to your life. End this session by quoting the verse again several times.

DAY SEVEN - SUNDAY

MEDITATION

You have done well. Allow your mind a day of rest from memorization. Yet, as you go through your day, pause to think on the Scripture you have learned.

