



The Easy Way to Memorize Scripture

Some believers doubt they have the ability to memorize Scripture. Even though Scripture memory is often placed in the “I can’t do it” category, what believer does not relish the thought of having memorized verses readily available for personal meditation, conversations, or use in everyday life?

Guess what? You CAN have dozens of verses memorized . . . without trying to memorize. The secret is “repetition, not memorization.” All it takes is a few minutes each day, using time that you will hardly miss. The plan is so simple that you might wonder, “Why didn’t I think of this before now?”

Here is how it works:

- Pray regularly that the Lord will help you gain maximum benefit from spending time reviewing Bible verses.
- Copy the verse reference and verse text on an index card that you can carry with you. This portable “verse repetition card” allows you to make more effective use of your time in order to grow spiritually (Ephesians 5:16-17).
- Develop and practice a plan that allows you to recite your verse (silently or out loud) numerous times throughout the day. For example, when you wake up each day, recite the verse from your “verse repetition card” at least three times. As you get ready for the day, place your verse card within sight so you can recite the verse as you are doing something else (such as making breakfast, using a mirror, dressing, washing dishes, etc).
- During the day, remember to use the extra seconds and minutes to recite the verse reference and text from your card. You will be surprised how many times you will be able to read from your verse card in your “off times” (such as walking from one place to another, cleaning up, etc).
- Toward the end of the day, prominently display your verse card, typically in a place where you may be for an extended period of time (such as washing, sitting down, eating, resting, getting ready for bed, etc). As often as possible, recite the verse reference and text as you come to the end of your day.
- Before going to sleep, ask the Lord to help you be consistent in your “verse repetition” plan during the next day. Prior to going to sleep, recite the verse reference and text a few times.

Within a few days, you will discover that you can recite the verse reference and text without looking at the card. When that begins to happen, renew the “repetition, not memorization” plan with a new verse. Periodically, review verses that the Lord helped you memorize as you wisely used time to recite a verse during each day.

BENEFITS OF HAVING BIBLE VERSES MEMORIZED

- Since Scripture is sufficient for every aspect of life (2 Timothy 3:16-17), various verses address specific situations. This is seen throughout the New Testament as Jesus and many of His followers are recorded, on the spur of the moment, quoting Scripture to meet the immediate need. For example, Jesus quoted three verses in Deuteronomy to convincingly defeat Satan (Matthew 4:1-11). In other specific incidents, Peter used numerous verses in his teaching to the multitude on the Day of Pentecost (Acts 2:14-41) and in subsequent teaching in Acts. Paul often quoted Scripture in his ministry to meet and face various situations.
- Most of your conversations are on the spur of the moment and away from the Bible or Scripture reference help. If you have verses memorized, you can bring God’s truth to bear on various subjects being discussed.
- Since believers are to be ready to give an account for the hope within them (1 Peter 3:15), memorized verses help to communicate the sure foundation for such a defense.
- God’s Word is a counselor to followers of Christ (Psalm 119:24) and provides guidance for life (Psalm 119:11, 105). When you have verses readily available to address challenges of your life, you have access to the hope and comfort that only the Lord can give (Psalm 119:52).
- A believer’s prayer life can be more effective since memorized verses can be referenced in asking for help from the Lord. David often used God’s promises as the foundation of many of his requests to the Lord, many of which are recorded in the Psalms.
- Verses committed to memory provide a basis for God-honoring meditation (Psalm 119:15, 97).
- Since God’s Word is the written authority for all aspects of daily life, you are equipping yourself to be a godly counselor by knowing verses that address specific issues of life.
- Since the renewing of the mind is critical for your growth in Christ, keeping your mind focused on verses in Scripture assists in that renewal.