

THE POWER SYSTEM FOR MEMORIZING SCRIPTURE *EFFECTIVELY*

Pick, plan, and pray

Choosing the Scripture(s) you want to memorize is the first step in storing up God's Word in your heart. It helps to think of verses that have spoken to you in a difficult time in your life, verses that are encouraging to you, or those that tell a favorite Bible story. **(Need ideas? Turn this sheet over or go to ScriptureAlive.com/TopicalVerses for over 200+ verses on 30+ topics to get you started).** Second, write the verse(s) down and make a plan for when and how long you're going to take to memorize it. Whether it's six verses a day or one verse a week, choose the pace that's comfortable for you. Lastly, take time to pray about the commitment you're making. Invite the Holy Spirit to be a part of the process and ask for His help to memorize and understand the Scriptures.

Overcome excuses

There may be times we don't feel like memorizing Scripture, but that does not mean we should stop doing it. There will always be activities that compete for your time, so it helps to remember the purpose of hiding God's Word in your heart, and how to reject things that get in your way. Check out the "Reasons Why" and "Lies We Believe" articles to help you to overpower any obstacles. **(Find them at ScriptureAlive.com/8ReasonsWhy and ScriptureAlive.com/8LiesandObstacles).** Your memorization plan can keep you moving ahead when the world, the flesh and the devil tempt you to give it up.

Work on it daily

Consistency is key. Actively and regularly engaging your brain when first memorizing a passage will significantly help you to remember the passage you've picked and will also increase your overall ability to memorize over time. That's why you have to set time apart each day to work on it. You'll be more likely to continue the practice if you have a regularly scheduled time, such as when you first wake up, as part of your Bible study--really, whenever you have the most energy. And make sure you are alone with limited distractions; this requires 100% of your focus and attention. By totally committing to it when first memorizing, it will be that much easier to maintain in the future.

Express it

The beautiful thing about Scripture is that it contains real stories with real people who had real emotions. They would have emphasized certain things at different times, and their voice inflections would have varied. What kind of emotion(s) is the writer or character conveying in the verses you are memorizing? Express it! Add hand motions; for songwriters, make a song from the Scriptures; for kinesthetic or artistic learners, act it out or make word pictures. Express your enthusiasm/energy for the subject material. All of this will enhance your brain's ability to remember the passage word for word. **(For other fun ways to memorize, check out ScriptureAlive.com/Creative).** And a note: STAND UP and SAY IT OUT LOUD. Sitting on your bed quietly repeating it to yourself will greatly diminish your engagement with the Scriptures and your ability to memorize it effectively.

Review it

There are two different types of review—reinforcing and retaining. Once you have memorized an entire section, whether it be a short psalm consisting of six verses or an entire book, it is vital to recite it after the initial memorization at least once per day for a week afterwards (with 100% attention and focus like when you first memorize a passage.) This allows you to reinforce what you've stored in your heart. Then comes a point when you will have verses memorized and you get to go back to retain the verses you learned. This is the real blessing of memorization: you get to rehearse and reflect on those truths for the rest of your life. And this can happen anywhere or anytime--whether you're cleaning the house, walking the dog, or driving your car! Overall, this will go a long way in helping you to really internalize God's truth and to be able to share it with others.

TOPICAL VERSES TO MEMORIZE

- Roman's Road to Salvation** | Rom. 3:23, Rom. 6:23, Rom. 5:8, Rom. 10:9-10, Rom. 8:1
- Assurance of Salvation in Christ** | John 1:12-13, John 3:16, John 14:6, 1 John 5:11-13
- Prophecies of Christ** | Gen. 3:15, Ps. 110:1, Is. 7:14, Is. 9:6, Is. 53, Dan. 2:44, Mic. 5:2, Zec. 9:9
- Faith/Trust in God** | Ps. 23, Ps. 37:5, Ps. 56:3, Prov. 3:5-6, Rom. 10:17, Eph. 2:8-9, Heb. 11:1,6
- Heaven** | Matt. 6:19-21, John 14:2-3, Phil. 3:20-21, Heb. 11:16, 2 Pet. 3:13, Rev. 21:4, Rev. 22:1-5
- God's Word** | Deut. 6:6-9, Josh. 1:7-8, Ps. 1:1-3, Ps. 119:11, Rom. 15:4, Col. 3:16, 2 Tim. 3:16, Heb. 4:12
- God's Will** | Rom. 12:2, Eph. 5:16-17, 1 Thess. 4:3, 1 Thess. 5:16-18, Heb. 10:36, 1 Pet. 2:15, 2 Pet. 3:9
- Obedying God** | Deut. 28:1, 2 Chr. 7:14, Luke 11:28, Rom. 13:8, Jam. 1:22-27, 1 Pet. 1:14-16
- God's Blessings** | Num. 6:24-26, Ps. 31:19, Ps. 34:8, Is. 40:31, Eph. 1:3, Phil. 4:19, Jam. 1:17
- God's Promises** | Josh. 1:7-8, Matt. 6:33, Rom. 8:28, 2 Cor. 1:20, Eph. 2:10, 1 John 1:9
- Mercy** | Ps. 25:6-7, Lam. 3:22-23, Luke 6:36-37, 1 Tim. 1:13-16, Tit. 3:5, Jam. 2:13, 1 Pet. 1:3
- Grace** | Rom. 6:14, Rom. 11:6, 1 Cor. 15:10, 2 Cor. 12:9, Eph. 1:7, Eph. 2:8-9, Heb. 4:16
- Christ-likeness** | John 15:4-5, Rom. 12:9-21, 2 Cor. 4:16-17, Eph. 5:1-2, Phil. 2:3-5, 2 Pet. 3:17-18
- Life Verses** | Ps. 55:22, Jer. 29:11, 2 Cor. 5:17, Gal. 2:20, Phil. 4:13, Jam. 1:2-4
- Prayer** | Matt. 6:6,9-13, John 15:7, Phil. 4:6, 1 Thess. 5:17, 1 Tim. 2:1-4, Jam. 5:16, 1 John 5:14-15
- Sharing Your Faith** | Matt. 28:18-20, Acts 1:8, Acts 4:12-13, Rom. 1:16, 1 Pet. 3:15-16
- Sin** | Ps. 119:11, Prov. 28:13, Rom. 6:11-12, 2 Cor. 5:21, Jam. 4:17, 1 Pet. 2:24, 1 John 1:8-10
- Temptation** | Matt. 26:41, 1 Cor. 10:13, Eph. 6:10-18, Heb. 2:18, Heb. 4:15, Jam. 1:13-15
- Sex** | Gen. 2:24, Matt. 5:28, Rom. 13:13-14, 1 Cor. 6:18-20, Col. 3:5, 1 Thess. 4:3-5, Heb. 13:4
- Anxiety/Worry** | Is. 26:3, Is. 40:31, Matt. 6:25-34, John 14:27, Phil. 4:6-7, 1 Pet. 5:6-7
- Fear** | Deut. 31:6, Josh. 1:9, Ps. 27:1, Ps. 34:4, Ps. 56:3, Prov. 29:25, 2 Tim. 1:7, Heb. 13:6, 1 John 4:18
- Trials/Perseverance** | John 16:33, 1 Cor. 15:58, 2 Cor. 1:3-4, Jam. 1:2-4, 1 Pet. 1:6-7
- Overcoming Depression** | Ps. 9:9, Ps. 34:17-18, Ps. 143:7-8, Lam. 3:22-23, 2 Cor. 1:8-9
- Overcoming Anger** | Ps. 37:8, Prov. 15:1, Prov. 29:11, Eph. 4:26-27, Col. 3:8-10, Jam. 1:19-20
- Forgiveness** | Ps. 32:1-5, Ps. 103:10-12, Is. 1:18, Matt. 18:21-22, Eph. 4:32, 1 John 1:9
- Work/School** | Prov. 12:24, Eccl. 9:10, 1 Cor. 10:31, 1 Cor. 15:58, 2 Cor. 10:5, Eph. 6:5-8, Col. 3:23
- Self-Control** | Prov. 25:28, Dan. 1:8, 1 Cor. 9:24-27, Gal. 5:22-23, Tit. 2:11, 2 Pet. 1:5-7
- Love** | Matt. 22:36-40, John 13:34-35, Rom. 13:8, 1 Cor. 13, 1 Pet. 4:8, 1 John 3:16-18, 1 John 4:8
- Serving** | Josh. 24:15, 1 Chr. 28:9, Matt. 20:26, Mark 10:45, Rom. 12:11-13, Gal. 5:13, 1 Pet. 4:10-11
- Thanksgiving/Worship** | Ps. 100:4, John 4:24, Rom. 12:1, Eph. 5:20, 1 Thess. 5:18
- Wisdom** | Prov. 1:7, Prov. 2:6, Prov. 12:15, Prov. 15:22, Ps. 90:12, Dan. 2:20-23a, Jam. 1:5, Jam. 3:17
- Generosity** | 1 Chr. 29:9,14,17, Prov. 11:24-25, Luke 6:38, 1 Cor. 16:2, 2 Cor. 9:6-7, 1 Tim. 6:17-19
- Money** | Deut. 8:17-18, Prov. 13:22, Prov. 22:7, Eccl. 5:10, Matt. 6:24, 1 Tim. 6:10, Heb. 13:5

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