

Top Tips for Memorising Scripture

TIP 1. UNDERSTAND THE PURPOSE OF IT

It is important to understand the purpose of memorising scripture and decide that it matters by proactively removing distractions. The Bible says the following about the Word of God:

- Matthew 4:4- *“Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God”.*
- Joshua 1:8- *“This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success”.*
- Psalm 119:105- *“Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path”.*
- Psalm 119:11- *“Your word I have hidden in my heart, that I might not sin against You”.*

Memorising scripture is an important spiritual discipline. It provides an opportunity for us to grow closer to God, to mature in our faith, to increase our longing for God and to increase our knowledge of His Word. It is essential for our spiritual growth (*1 Peter 2:2- as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby*).

TIP 2. MAKE A PLAN

It can be helpful to set yourself some targets or goals on how you will memorise passages of scripture over a period of time. Selecting the verses, you will learn and the pace at which you will learn them will give you some focus, whether that is a verse a day or a verse each week.

TIP 3. WRITE THE VERSES OUT

It is helpful to write out the verse you are learning for the day, first thing in the morning. You may wish to use colours to highlight key words and the first letter of each verse to help you recall the information.

TIP 4. SAY IT ALOUD

Once you have written down the verse, repeat it aloud throughout the day. You can do this whilst washing up, cooking, walking, driving or even exercising! The key is to recite the new verse and review the verses you have already learnt. Practice verses daily. You could even record your own voice or listen to the MP3 files available on our website to help.

TIP 5. USE MEMORY ASSOCIATION TECHNIQUES

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Look for patterns in the first letters of words to help you learn the order of the text. Look for words within words e.g. re**new**.

TIP 6. UNDERSTAND HOW YOU LEARN BEST

We all learn differently. You may be an auditory learner and learn best by hearing. You may be a visual learner and learn best by seeing e.g. images, different colours. Or you may be a kinaesthetic learner and learn best by doing something practical.

Understanding your preferred learning style is important because working outside of this can lead to boredom, frustration, and a lack of motivation.

To find out your preferred way of learning, you could complete an online learning styles questionnaire or the questionnaire available on our website.

TIP 7. FIND ACCOUNTABILITY

Scripture memorisation can be made easier by asking someone to hold you to account. Why not buddy up with others and discuss your progress with them? You could send voice notes of the verse you have learnt that day to your friends via WhatsApp to encourage yourself and others. We can grow and learn together.

TIP 8. HAVE FUN WITH IT

You can make scripture come alive by making a song out of a verse. This will help you retain information. You could also say the verse with feeling or act it out when reciting it. Why not get the whole family involved and recite the scripture together?

The hardest thing to do is start but once you get into a routine and understand what works for you, it will become easier.

Remember- Scripture memorisation is more than a challenge. It is an opportunity to grow closer to God, to grow spiritually, to increase our longing for God and to increase our knowledge of His Word.

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