

Scripture Memory—Getting God's Word Into Your Heart

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I. Introduction.

A. Many times when God is speaking to a person, He will speak to him out of context. (Acts 2, Joel 2)

B. One should not fear memorizing Scripture in order to take it out of context.

II. Memorizing Scripture helps...

A. To grasp larger portions of Scripture. (e.g., I Samuel 17:4-5, John 3:16, Genesis 39:9-12)

B. To meditate on it day and night. One of the biggest reason people do not memorize is spiritual laziness. (Joshua 1:8)

C. To witness to non-Christians. (I Peter 3:18)

D. Scripture cleans a person. (Ephesians 5:26)

E. In temptation. (I Corinthians 10:13, Psalm 119:11)

F. To change. (Ephesians 4:22-23)

G. For good success. (Joshua 1:8, Philippians 2:3-4, II Corinthians 3:18)

H. To grow. (I Peter 2:2, Acts 20:32, II Timothy 3:16, I Corinthians 6:10, 10:23, Psalm 19:11, II Timothy 2:15)

I. For guidance. (Psalm 119:130, 165, 105, Proverbs 3:5-6)

J. In proper speech. (James 3:8, Ephesians 4:29, Psalm 15:3)

K. For use of time well. (Ephesians 5:18, Psalm 39:4, 9:12)

L. As a weapon. (II Corinthians 10:4-5, Colossians 3:16, Ephesians 6:10-11)

M. For peace of mind. (Psalm 119:165)

N. For prayer. (Jeremiah 3:1-3, Colossians 1:9-11, Philippians 1:9-11)

III. Helpful tips on memorizing Scripture.

A. Memorize key verses and not large passages. (e.g., for topics such as pride, I Corinthians 4:7, or for prayer, Jeremiah 33:3)

B. Memorize for you, then you will have verses for your ministry.

- C. Use a card system.
- D. Start with a good translation.
- E. Find a buddy system.
- F. Review verses categorically in books after having memorized several.
- G. Be a doer of the Word and not just a hearer only. (James 1:22)

Application questions:

1. What topics would you like to spend some time on memorizing Scriptures?

2. Which tips did you find most helpful for Scripture memory?

3. What is your plan for building a consistent habit of Scripture memory?
