

Scripture Memory - Memorizing for a Lifetime

John Crawford

I. Introduction.

A. For some Scripture memory is easy. For others it is difficult.

B. Help others develop personal convictions about memorizing Scripture. (John 14:21)

1. Tied to the first commandment is putting the Word of God in one's heart.
(Deuteronomy 6:5 – 6:6)

2. If you want to raise up a family well, you should memorize the Word. (Deuteronomy 11:18-19)

3. To write the Scripture on your heart, let it dwell within richly, and think the Word you must memorize it. (Proverbs 7:1-3, Colossians 3:16, Joshua 1:8, Psalm 1:1-3)

4. When you think about a topic in the Bible references come to mind.

5. None of this gets people to memorize Scripture though.

C. For you to memorize Scripture you have to have a personal need - it must be of self-interest.

II. The speaker did not start memorizing until he wanted to become fruitful in leading souls to Christ.

A. A personal relationship with Jesus Christ has kept the speaker going.

B. Also the joy of seeing a person come to know Jesus or a Christian being molded into the image of Jesus is motivation.

III. Everyone has to decide their own motivation.

A. The Word is joy to the heart. (Jeremiah 15:16)

B. We are to feed on Jesus' Word. (John 6)

1. The advantage of memorizing Scripture is that we have control over the thought life.

2. Victory over sin or a plague is a motivation for Scripture. (Psalm 119:111)

3. We are to think about the things of the Spirit. (Romans 3:5)

4. You must want the victory.

5. Our minds must be changed. (Romans 12:1-2)

C. The heart is incurably wicked, so we take the pure Word of God and pack it into the heart.
(Jeremiah 17:9, Proverbs 7:21-23, Romans 8:5)

1. Memorizing the Word helps to change the heart. (Proverbs 23:7)
2. Memorizing comes from a desire to know God and make His word applicable for every area of your life.
3. Find out what your motivation is for Scripture memory.

Application questions

1. What are some good reasons to memorize Scripture?

2. What is your personal motivation for Scripture memory?

3. What will you do today to infuse some motivation for the memorization of God's Word?
