

HOW TO MEMORIZE BIBLE VERSES

V 1.0



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2. If you have any comments, suggestions, new ideas, send me an email to: asknishant@memoryvision.com.sg

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www.memoryvision.com.sg
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1. Using Flash Cards

Write the verses you want to memorise on small cards (size of a business card). Keep reviewing these cards whenever you have free time such as waiting, traveling etc. To make this work faster, here are some steps:

- a. Keep only 5 cards with you at any time. Don't carry 10,20 or hundred cards and get overwhelmed with the sight of so many cards.
- b. On one side, write the verse. And on the other write the keywords of the verse. How to select keywords? Just select the words YOU think will act as triggers to recall the verse. Remember there are no right or wrong answers here. Select the words that work best for you.
- c. When reviewing the cards, ALWAYS look at the side of the card where you have written the keywords. Look at the keywords and try to recall the verse. If you can't recall it, don't fret! Just look at the verse and go to the next card. Do this a few times and you will be surprised how easy it is to recall the verse by looking at the keywords.
- d. After you have memorised the first set of 5 cards, proceed to the next set. Remember you are not competing against anyone. So, there's no need to rush and get stressed out.

2. Using The Power Of Music

We all know the power of rhythm. Everyone finds it difficult to memorise a speech but don't have any trouble remembering the exact lyrics of hundreds of songs. The power is in the rhythm. How to use this:

a. You don't have to be a music artist. Look at the verse and 'compose' a tune. Sing the verse as a song. It sure looks odd, but it works. One of my students in India memorized countries and their capital cities just by singing the pairs as a song (self-composed tune). You might want to know that he is only 10 years old! If it works for names of cities, it must work for anything else.

b. To get you started, you can download the songs created by others to aid in memorization of the verses.

Go to: <http://www.pursuinglife.com/scripture-songs.php>

This site has the complete and unaltered text of Psalm 119 from the King James Bible in the form of musical settings. You will also find the complete and unaltered text of 21 Psalms in the form of musical settings.

Yes. They are free! A great help!

3. Using Mnemonics

Mnemonics is a science of improving your memory with memory aids. Most mnemonics techniques use visuals to aid the process of memorizing. Since most people remember pictures (visuals) better, it makes sense to 'convert' the information you want to remember into a visual format.

Bible verses:

You have to use your imagination to come up with the visuals for memorizing the Bible verses. The visuals which work for me may not work for others.

Here is an example of how I would use mnemonics for memorizing a verse:

Now if any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives to everyone generously without a rebuke, and it will be given to him.

James 1:5 | International Standard Version

Imagine a friend of yours who lacks wisdom. Pick any friend. You don't have to tell your friend about this visualization exercise! This friend asks God for wisdom and God gives it (visualize a halo around the head) to him. Remember, God always gives to everyone without any 'fault-finding'.

Well, the above description helps you to see an image in your mind rather than a dry text. As mentioned earlier, this is how I would have memorized it. You have to come up with a visual that suits you better.

The reason why this works is because you are creating a visual AND you are associating this visual with someone (your friend). Visualization and Association are 2 key elements of mnemonic techniques.

Resources: One resource I found which gives you 'visual cues' to visualize the verses (some verses, not all) is:

<http://www.kidstalkaboutgod.org/?TabId=181>

4. Using Software

Now there's software to help you with almost everything, including memorizing Bible verses. Here are a few:

a. Scripture Memory System (popular)

<http://www.pursuinglife.com/software.php>

b. InVerse (also has PDA/ Pocket-PC Sync)

<http://www.bibleinverse.org/> - Click Download Button on left

For info on how to use the software, see:

<http://www.bibleinverse.org/viewlet/Tour/viewlet.html>

5. Getting Help From Other Like-Minded People

Internet Forums are a great place to get help from other people who share your interest. Some of these forums:

- a. <http://scripturememorychallenge.org/forum/> - Active
- b. <http://www.memoryverses.org/archives.shtml> - Non-active. Has a mind-blowing archive of 8 years of posts.

6. Other Resources

- a. <http://www.memoryverses.org/>
- b. <http://www.pursuinglife.com/biblememory.php>
- c. <http://www.mentoring-disciples.org/Best100.html>

This site has a list of “100 Best Verses To Memorize”. These 100 verses reflect a broad balance of Bible teaching.