

**SCRIPTURE**

**MEMORY**

**A Study in Discipleship**

By Doug Farmer

## **MEMORIZING GOD’S WORD**

There is a great need for scripture memory in the lives of God’s people today! Many forces are bidding for our allegiance and our attention these days. What a pity that many of our children can recite, word for word, or sing along with, great numbers of television commercials while, other than possibly John 3:16, the antidote for the Satanic brainwashing that is foolproof is a strong faith that **KNOWS** and **CLAIMS** the **Word of God!**

**“I DESIRE TO DO YOUR WILL, O MY GOD;  
YOUR LAW IS WITHIN MY HEART.” Psalm 40:8**

We memorize **some** scripture by virtue of **hearing** or **reading** it enough that it sticks in our mind: others we learn by **singing** the words. But **SYSTEMATIC** scripture memorization involves **GOAL-SETTING!** Some, who memorize easier, may complete and retain **MANY** verses per week; others may be able to memorize only **ONE** verse a week. But, **EVERYBODY can** memorize scripture if they have the hunger for God’s Word!

**“THE LAW OF HIS GOD IS IN HIS HEART—  
HIS FEET DO NOT SLIP!” Psalm 37:31**

### **The Obvious Example:**

The most obvious example of the value of scripture memory is seen in the accounts of our Lord’s temptation by Satan in the wilderness after His forty day and night fast. Three times He was tempted (personally by Satan himself). Three times Jesus answered Satan by quoting to him from the Word of God... **BY MEMORY!**

**“I HAVE HIDDEN YOUR WORD IN MY HEART  
THAT I MIGHT NOT SIN AGAINST YOU.” Psalm 119:11**

(1)

## **HOW DO I DO IT?**

There are various approaches to Bible verse memory work:

1. **The TOPICAL METHOD:** You might choose a topic and memorize several scriptures relating to that topic.

### **Example: FAITH**

“And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to Him must believe that He exists and that He rewards those who earnestly seek Him.” Hebrews 11:6

“For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast.” Ephesians 2:8-9

### **HEAVEN TEMPTATION, etc...**

2. **The THEMATIC METHOD:** Here, a theme is chosen, and scriptures are selected in relation to that theme.

### **Example: THE PLAN OF SALVATION**

“for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,” Romans 3:23

“For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.” Romans 6:23

“for it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast.” Ephesians 2:8-9

“But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” Romans 5:8

(2)

“Yet to all who received Him, to those who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God” John 1:12

“Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with Me.”  
Revelation 3:20

3. BOOK METHOD: A series of scriptures would be memorized from one particular book, usually one of the New Testament books.

**Example:**

“being confident of this, that He who began a good work in you will carry it on the completion until the day of Christ Jesus.” Philippians 1:6

“for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to His good purpose.” Philippians 2:13

“I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.” Philippians 3:14

“I can do everything through Him who gives me strength.” Philippians 4:13

“And my God will meet all your needs according to His glorious riches in Christ Jesus.”  
Philippians 4:19

4. By NEEDS: A particular problem, need, testing, etc... draws you to verses.

5. RANDOM: If God lays a verse on your heart, MEMORIZE IT! He will provide the opportunities to use it!