

Memorization Tips and Ideas

Memorize (Nearly) Every Day

Make a commitment to work on scripture memorization 5-6 days a week.

Find consistent times of day that you can realistically fit into your daily routines. Get creative in how and when you memorize. If you are in the car every day, plan to use that time for memorization. Fit it in just before or after meals. Check out the ideas on the next page.

Break It Up

Work in several short sessions throughout the day. This will give your brain a chance to process what you are learning.

Break the passage into phrases or sections. Work on a section several times, then another section. Put the two sections together. Continue to build the passage this way until you can say it in its entirety.

Repeat and Review

Especially if you are new to memorizing or you are working with a young child, nothing can replace repetition. Practice makes permanent.

To commit a passage to long term memory, it is essential to review it once you have memorized it. Choose one session each day that is designated for reviewing passages you have already learned.

When to Memorize

Break up memorization into several short sessions throughout the day. This gives the brain a chance to process the information and means that you will not get tired in a session.

30 Ways to Easily Fit 30 Minutes of Memorization Into Your Day

Choose 4-5 sessions for the day. Spend 5-10 minutes each session. Before you know it, you will have spent 30 minutes memorizing scripture.

First thing in the morning
While brushing your teeth
Before breakfast
During breakfast
After breakfast
While washing dishes
During daily Bible reading/
devotional time
During your daily DJ study
time
While you work on a chore
While playing outside

Before lunch
During lunch
After lunch
While driving in the car
While waiting at the
doctor/dentist
During your free time
At the park
While you knit, sew,
color, draw, etc.
During snack time
While riding your bike

Before dinner
During dinner
After dinner
During school time
In the shower
While cooking
While on a walk/run
During family Bible
time
Before bed
Just before you fall
asleep

Remember to designate one session each day as a review session.

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How To Memorize

Choosing a method of memorization can take some time. Often the methods that work as you get started or as a young child are not the ones that work as you grow and mature. Sometimes a passage is challenging and requires a new approach. And sometimes you just need something new to make the memory work interesting. Here are some ideas for how to incorporate your senses as you memorize.

Visual Learning

- Draw pictures to represent each part of a passage.
- Write the passage down on a poster board and put it in a prominent place in your house.
- Write down the passage on sticky notes and put them on the bathroom mirror, above the kitchen sink, or beside your bed.
- Divide the passage into shorter phrases. Read a phrase, then close your eyes and recite the phrase while envisioning the words in front of you.
- Highlight or color important words in the passage.
- Play Erase-a-Word. Write the passage on a white board or chalkboard. Read the verse several times. Each time, erase some words from the passage until the board is blank.

For Younger Children

- Write the passage down using a picture or symbol to represent important words. Read the passage with the child several times and point to the words emphasizing the important words.
- Write the passage down in large lettering. Have your child trace the words with their finger or a writing utensil as you read along.

Auditory Learning

- Set the passage to music. Common nursery rhyme tunes often work well ("Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star", "Baa Baa Black Sheep", "Mary Had a Little Lamb", etc). Find scripture memory songs on YouTube with your parents' permission.
- "Rap" the passage by saying it in a rhythm. Add clapping if you like.
- Make an audio recording of yourself reciting the passage. Listen to it throughout the day - when you are getting ready in the morning, during a meal time, or in the car.

For Younger Children

- Break the passage into phrases. Say a phrase and have your child repeat it after you. Continue onto the next phrase until you finish the passage. Repeat this 2 or 3 times.

Kinesthetic Learning

- Make up actions for the passage.
- Recite the passage while bouncing on an exercise ball, walking around the room, playing with play dough, building Legos, coloring, drawing, doing sit-ups, or even knitting.
- Write the passage out several times. Use different media - paper and pencil, your favorite pen and journal, notecards, dry erase boards, chalkboards, posters, etc.
- Recite the passage and clap as you say important words.

For Younger Children

- Write the passage down. Use fabric paint or sandpaper to trace over important words. Read the passage with your child. Have them trace the textured words with their fingers.
- As you teach the passage to your child phrase by phrase, have them perform an action after they say important words.

Ideas for actions:

Clapping
Patting head
Touching toes

Jumping
Rubbing tummy
Frog jumping

Jumping jacks
Turn/spin around
Reach for the sky