

MEMORIZING BIBLE VERSES

Objective: To understand the importance of memorizing God's Word and yet having fun.

Introduction

When Jesus was tempted, He used God's Word to silence the enemy. It is vital for our spiritual survival to know God's Word by heart so that we can recite them any time we need to but especially in time of trial.

The Psalmists declared that the Word of God provides strength, calmness, healing, purity etc.

For us to really make sure that children are growing in their relationship with God, teaching memory verse has to be part of our curriculum.



be

The GREAT Method to learn a verse

Be G-R-E-A-T at Teaching Memory Verses

- **G**et Attention
- **R**ead from the Bible and Flashcard
- **E**xplain the Verse
- **A**pply to Both Saved and Unsaved Children
- **T**each by Repetition

Memorize with Fun & Learning

These are some ideas for learning short memory verses with children. Try them out and make sure your versions work for your group! *If you have time now, play*

one of these with a friend. Then read over the Bible verses at the end and think about what they mean.

1.) **Erase-A-Word:** Write the verse on a board which can be erased. Have the children say the verse together. Erase 1 word or two words at a time. Say the verse again. Keep erasing words and saying the verse. Can you all say it without seeing the words?

2.) **Hopscotch:** Write the memory verse out on cards. Tape them in hopscotch pattern on the floor. Have the children say the words as they hop from one to another (or have them say the whole verse before they start hopping and the reference after they stop hopping). Have everyone do this a few times.

3.) **Mix and Fix:** Write the verse on cards. Have the children mix up the verse and then spend some time straightening it out. Pair up or have teams to change things up. For very young children, try putting numbers (or some other clue) on each card (with words).

4.) **Pass It On:** Have the children sit in a circle. Choose one child to hold a special object. (Like a pillow, a bean bag, a toy, a hat, an unlit candle, a pretend microphone, etc.) Have that child say the memory verse (repeat it with them if necessary). Have the child pass the object to someone else. Repeat the process until everyone has done it.

5.) **Back Words:** Write the verse out on cards. Pin the cards on the children's backs. (For younger children put them on their fronts). Have them line up correctly so that you can say the verse correctly. For fun have the children say their words in order. Switch up and try it all again!



6.) **Write it My Way:** Take turns writing the verse on the board or on paper. Use various colours/ cursive writing/ printing/ block letters/ write in circles or other shapes. Note that the words and the meaning are the same no matter who writes them, or how they are written.

7.) **Fish:** Use 4 different colours of blank cards. Write each word of the verse on all 4 colours of cards. Have the children play "Go Fish" with the cards. Four of one

word makes a set. When all the sets are together, put them in order, and read the verse together.

I have hidden Your word in my heart that I might not sin against You.
Psalm 119:11 (NIV)



DISCUSS

1. Why is it important to memorize Bible verses? Jot down three reasons:

2. Be creative; Find some other fun ways to teach memory verses.



