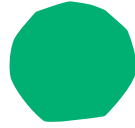



# Scripture Through the Phases



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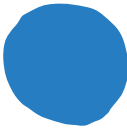
# What a kid or teenager believes about God will impact how they see themselves and everybody else.

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It will ultimately impact their future. That's why we believe the Bible is an important part of knowing God.

The overall goal for developing faith is to nurture kids into a growing, authentic relationship with God so that they own their faith as they move on into adulthood.




What we help kids learn about God, Jesus, and the Bible is essential. But we must hold that in tension with what we know from developmental psychology. Namely that people process certain types of information better at certain stages of their development. We shouldn't fight against this; rather, we should lean into this.

Knowing when kids and students should learn certain stories and ideas from the Bible is also important. Let's be honest; some heroes of the Bible had moments in their life that would make an adult blush, and though not suitable for a kid, those same stories might be perfect for what a teenager in your church is dealing with.


With that in mind, choose stories and concepts that will be foundational to a child's growing theology at each phase of their life and teach them in ways they can understand and remember.

In this resource, we've included some ideas to help your kids learn Scripture from the Bible, as well as a starter list of some verses for each phase.




We've also included some Scripture memory cards for each phase to help you put these concepts into practice.

Want more verses? Check out the Parent Cue app (a free download, available for iOS and Android) for a monthly memory verse.



SCRIPTURE  
THROUGH  
THE PHASES



# Ideas for Memorizing Scripture: Preschool

Here are some phase-based ideas for memorizing Scripture. We're going for quality, not quantity, here. Take it slow and keep repeating what you want to memorize. Don't move on to another verse too quickly. It's better to set a goal of fewer verses and truly memorize them than set a goal of many verses and forget them over time. It's also important to discuss the verse and what it means.

## **Movement**

Connect an active motion with a Bible verse (march, hand motions, act it out, etc.).

## **Break It Down**

Learn the verse a few words at a time over a long period of time.

## **Record It**

Record yourself (or a favorite grandparent, aunt, uncle, etc.) saying the Bible verse so your child can listen (watch it) and say it with them. Let your child record themselves saying the verse as well. They love hearing their own voice and seeing themselves on video!

## **Repetition**

Say it over and over and over and over...

## **Scripture Memory Starter**

Here are some suggested verses to get you started on Scripture memory in the Preschool phase.

Genesis 1:31 NIrV

Matthew 7:28 NCV

1 John 3:20 NIrV

Ephesians 4:32 NCV

Deuteronomy 31:6 NIrV

John 15:15 NIV

Ephesians 5:20 NIrV

Matthew 5:16 NIV

John 3:16 GNT

Jeremiah 31:3 CEV

# Scripture Memory Cards

## Preschool

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Be strong

and  
courageous.

Do not  
be afraid

for the Lord

# Scripture Memory Cards

## Preschool

---

your God

goes with  
you.

Deuteronomy  
31:6 NIV

# Ideas for Memorizing Scripture: Elementary School

Here are some phase-based ideas for memorizing Scripture. We're going for quality, not quantity, here. Take it slow and keep repeating what you want to memorize. Don't move on to another verse too quickly. It's better to set a goal of fewer verses and truly memorize them than set a goal of many verses and forget them over time. It's also important to discuss the verse and what it means.

What works for preschoolers, plus...

## Draw It

Drawing the verse helps elementary kids understand the meaning of the verse rather than just memorizing the words.

## Make a Puzzle

Put each word of the verse on a notecard and practice putting the words in order.

## Write It Out

The good ol' fashion practice of writing the verse over and over still works.

## Hang It

Place the verse in places where the child will see it every day (bathroom mirror, front of the fridge, nightstand, etc.).

## Scripture Memory Starter

Here are some suggested verses to get you started on Scripture memory in the Elementary School phase.

Ephesians 2:10

Luke 16:10a

Proverbs 17:17

Colossians 3:12

Proverbs 10:9

Romans 12:18

Psalm 136:1

Psalm 27:14

Isaiah 9:6

1 Timothy 4:8

*\*Note: All verses are from the NIV translation*

# Scripture Memory Cards

## Elementary School

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We are God's creation.  
He created us to belong  
to Christ Jesus. Now we  
can do good works. Long  
ago, God prepared these  
works for us to do.

Ephesians 2:10 Nlrv

We are God's \_\_\_\_\_.  
He created us to \_\_\_\_\_  
to Christ Jesus. Now we  
can do \_\_\_\_\_. Long  
ago God prepared these  
works for \_\_\_\_\_.

Ephesians 2:10 Nlrv

A friend loves at all times.  
They are there to help when  
trouble comes.

Proverbs 17:17 Nlrv

\_\_\_\_\_ loves at all times.  
They are there \_\_\_\_\_ when  
\_\_\_\_\_ comes.

Proverbs 17:17 Nlrv

# Scripture Memory Cards

## Elementary School

---

Give thanks to the Lord, because he is good. His faithful love continues forever.

Psalm 136:1 Nlrv

Give \_\_\_\_\_ to the Lord, because \_\_\_\_\_.

His faithful love \_\_\_\_\_.

Psalm 136:1 Nlrv

Suppose you can be trusted with something very little. Then you can also be trusted with something very large.

Proverbs 17:17 Nlrv

Suppose you can be trusted \_\_\_\_\_.

Then you can also be trusted with \_\_\_\_\_.

Proverbs 17:17 Nlrv



# Ideas for Memorizing Scripture: Middle School

Here are some phase-based ideas for memorizing Scripture. We're going for quality, not quantity, here. Take it slow and keep repeating what you want to memorize. Don't move on to another verse too quickly. It's better to set a goal of fewer verses and truly memorize them than set a goal of many verses and forget them over time. It's also important to discuss the verse and what it means.

What works for preschoolers and elementary kids, plus...

## Highlight It

Gift your middle schooler with a Bible and some highlighters/colored pencils and challenge them to begin highlighting the verses as they memorize them.

## Add Your Name

You can place your name in so many verses to make them even more personal. Challenge your middle schooler to give it a try. Example: John 3:16, "For God so loved [name of middle schooler] that he gave his one and only son..."

## Verse Over Phone

When middle schoolers get bored, they mindlessly grab their phone. (Actually, we all do this, don't we?) Challenge your preteen/teen to grab a Bible verse instead and begin saying it repeatedly. Think about it. Meditate on it.

## Scripture Memory Starter

Here are some suggested verses to get you started on Scripture memory in the Middle School phase.

Proverbs 4:23 NLT

Luke 2:14 NIV

John 13:35 NIV

John 11:25-26 NIV

Psalms 119:105 NIV

Romans 12:2 NLT

Philippians 4:6 NLT

1 John 4:10 NLT

Romans 12:10 NIV

1 Corinthians 12:27 NLT

# Scripture Memory Cards

## Middle School

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Let us think of ways to  
motivate one another to acts  
of love and good works.  
Hebrews 10:24 NLT

Let us think of ways to  
\_\_\_\_\_ to acts  
of \_\_\_\_\_.  
Hebrews 10:24 NLT

Guard your heart above  
all else, for it determines  
the course of your life.  
Proverbs 4:23 NLT

Guard your \_\_\_\_\_ above  
all else, for it determines  
the \_\_\_\_\_.  
Proverbs 4:23 NLT

# Scripture Memory Cards

## Middle School

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By this, everyone will know  
that you are my disciples, if  
you love one another.

John 13:35 NIV

By this, everyone will know  
that \_\_\_\_\_, if  
\_\_\_\_\_.

John 13:35 NIV

Your word is a lamp unto  
my feet, a light on my path.

Psalms 119:105 NIV

Your word is a \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_, a \_\_\_\_\_.

Psalms 119:105 NIV

# Ideas for Memorizing Scripture: High School

What works for preschoolers, elementary, middle school plus...

## Mirror, Mirror

Write the verse on a mirror with a dry-erase marker. Say the verse a few times each day and then erase one word from the verse. Keep doing this each day until you have erased all of the verse.

## Use their Phone

Make a screen saver with blanks for some of the words in a verse so they can memorize it. Or use an app like the YouVersion Bible app to encourage both reading the Bible and memorizing scripture. The Bible app even has a feature where it will read you the verse.

## Memorization Flex

We constantly see teenagers at the gym with their headphones on. If they want to memorize a verse, encourage them to listen to it while working out. They can build your spiritual muscles and their physical muscles all at the same time.

## Different Lens

Have them look at the verse in different translations in the YouVersion Bible app. Does looking at it through a different lens help you understand the meaning of the verse? (Also, don't forget the context when searching for meaning—read the verses before and after.)

## Scripture Memory Starter

Here are some suggested verses to get you started on Scripture memory in the High School phase.

Proverbs 4:23 NLT

Luke 6:31 NLT

John 13:35 NIV

1 Corinthians 12:27 NLT

2 Timothy 3:16 NIV

Romans 12:2 NLT

Hebrews 10:23-25 NLT

John 3:16 NIV

Luke 2:14 NLT

John 11:25-26 NLT

# Scripture Memory Cards

## High School

---

Guard your heart above  
all else, for it determines  
the course of your life.

Proverbs 4:23 NLT

Guard your \_\_\_\_ above  
all else, for it determines  
the \_\_\_\_\_.

Proverbs 4:23 NLT

By this, everyone will know  
that you are my disciples, if  
you love one another.

John 13:35 NIV

By this, everyone will know  
that \_\_\_\_\_, if  
\_\_\_\_\_.

John 13:35 NIV

# Scripture Memory Cards

## High School

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All Scripture is God-breathed  
and is useful for teaching,  
rebuking, correcting and  
training in righteousness.

2 Timothy 3:16 NIV

All Scripture is \_\_\_\_\_  
and is useful for \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ in righteousness.

2 Timothy 3:16 NIV

Don't copy the behavior  
and customs of this world, but  
let God transform you into  
a new person by changing  
the way you think. Then you  
will learn to know God's will  
for you, which is good and  
pleasing and perfect.

Romans 12:2 NLT

Don't copy the \_\_\_\_\_  
and \_\_\_\_\_ of this world, but  
let God transform you into  
a new person by \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_. Then you  
will learn to know \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_, which is \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

Romans 12:2 NLT

# ≡ KIDS' SCRIPTURE MEMORY ≡

## PARENTING WITH THE WORD

### ≡ GENERAL SCRIPTURES ≡

#### LOVE FOR GOD'S WORD

**Prov. 4:20-23**

My son, pay attention to what I say; turn your ear to my words. Do not let them out of your sight, keep them within your heart; for they are life to those who find them and health to one's whole body. Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it.

**Ps. 119:11**

I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you."

**Rom. 12:2**

Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is; his good, pleasing and perfect will.

**Heb. 4:12**

For the Word of God is living and active, sharper than any double edged sword.

### LOVE FOR AND DEVOTION TO GOD

**Matt. 22:37**

Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. The second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself.

### TRUSTING GOD

**Prov. 3:5-6**

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding.

But in all your ways acknowledge him and he will make your paths straight.

## CHARACTER QUALITIES

### **Matt. 12:34-35**

For out of the overflow of the heart the mouth speaks. A good man brings good things out of the good stored up in him, and an evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in him.

(Choosing words wisely)

### **Phil. 2:4**

Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourself.

(humility, others-centered living)

### **Prov. 17:17**

A friend loves at all times, he is there to help when trouble comes

(being a good friend/sibling)

### **Prov. 10:4**

Lazy hands make a man poor, but diligent hands bring great wealth.

(hard work)

### **Matt. 20:28**

the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.

(having a servant's heart)

### **Prov. 14:11**

He who walk with the wise grows wise, but the companion of fools suffers harm.

(choosing good friends)

### **Phil 2:14**

Do everything without complaining or grumbling. (stop complaining)

### **Col. 3:23**

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters,

(giving your best in all things)

### **Acts 20:35**

It is more blessed to give than to receive.

(living with a generous heart)

### **Prov. 29:11**

A fool gives full vent to his anger, but a wise man keeps himself under control.

(controlling anger)

### **Prov. 12:1**

Whoever loves discipline loves knowledge, but whoever hates correction is stupid.

(being teachable)

## CHRIST'S LORDSHIP

### **Rom. 8:1**

Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.