

You Can Memorize Scripture!

Renew Season – Harvest Community Church
<http://harvestcc.org>

Memorization is a great way to take a step beyond reading the Bible. It helps us ponder the teachings and promises of the Bible and better internalize them. Consider memorizing a passage of Scripture during this *Renew* season!

Bible memorization can seem a bit daunting at first, but it's amazing how much everyone can memorize given a bit of time. The 6-week *Renew* season is an ideal time period to work on memorization.

If Bible memorization is new to you, consider memorizing 1 or 2 Bible verses over the 6 weeks of *Renew*. If you're ready for a bit more, try memorizing one verse per week, which will get you up to 6 verses memorized by Easter!

How to Memorize a Bible Passage

While there is no one "right" way to memorize Scripture – do whatever works best for you! – here are two common methods that many people find helpful. These can be used separately or in combination:

Method 1: Repetition

- Day 1: read the verse out loud ten times. Don't skimp! The repetition and hearing your own voice is crucial. On the 10th time, try to recite it without looking at your Bible, from short-term memory. Regardless of how it went, you're done for the day.
- Each subsequent day, start by trying to recite the verse by memory without looking it up. Don't be discouraged if you stumble or draw a blank! Then repeat the Day 1 process of reading the same verse out loud ten times, doing it from short-term memory on the 10th time.
- Repeat this 5-ish minute process each day of the week. By Day 6 you'll be amazed at how well you can recall the verse word-perfect, without looking at your Bible!
- The next week, recite the verse(s) you memorized before, then add a new verse using the same method.

This 1-verse-per-week method is a reliable and proven way to commit even large blocks of scripture to memory by breaking them into smaller pieces and memorizing over time.

Method 2: First Letter Prompts

Another method is to write out the verse on a 3x5 card. Then flip the card over and write out just the first letter of each word on the back. For example, if you're memorizing Colossians 2:6 you would write out on the front of the card "Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, so walk in him." Then on the back of the card you'd write "T A Y R C J A L S W I H"

Use the front side to read the verse a few times, then flip the card over and try to recite it from memory, using the letters as a prompt.

What to memorize

Some suggested Bible passages to memorize during the *Renew* season are listed below. Feel free to combine them or add to this list in any way that best helps your spiritual growth!

Psalm 1

Psalm 23

Isaiah 41:10

John 14:1-6

Matthew 28:18-20

Romans 8:1-2

Romans 8:37-38

2 Corinthians 4:16-18

Ephesians 3:14-21

Ephesians 4:11-16

Philippians 4:6-7