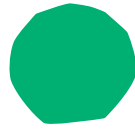



Scripture Through the Phases

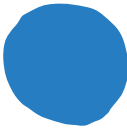


What a kid or teenager believes about God will impact how they see themselves and everybody else.



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

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

Psalms 136:1

Psalms 27:14

Isaiah 9:6

1 Timothy 4:8

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

Scripture Memory Cards

Elementary School

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 NIV

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 NIV

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

Proverbs 17:17 NIV

_____ loves at all times.
They are there _____ when
_____ comes.

Proverbs 17:17 NIV

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

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

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

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