

## **Bible Study For Evergreen Baptist Church Adult Class January 18th**

### **Creative Ideas for Bible Memorization for All Age**

Study first 11 verses of Psalm 119 and learn the sixty-six books of the Bible

**Psa 119:11** Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee. Study for next week.

Bible memorization is not just for children, but for believers of ALL ages! The author of Psalm 119 declares in verse 11: "Thy Word have I hid in my heart that I might not sin against You." It's doubtful the author was a child at the point he wrote these words by God's inspiration.

Scripture memory is for all ages!

Four simple suggestions for Bible memorization:

1. When memorizing Scripture, it is imperative that we include learning the Bible reference (ex: 1 Timothy 4:8). It comes in handy when you are wanting to share a verse with someone else.
2. It's also good to have a Bible memory partner with whom we can each be accountable. If no one knows I've started a goal, then no one will know when I let it fall by the wayside. Accountability is important in all areas of our lives. God made us a family - a team, so that we can work together and encourage one another in our walks with Him.

God inspired Paul to encourage the church at Colossae with these words from Colossians 3:16: "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God."

3. Bible memorization takes effort just like physical exercise. It helps when we use as many of our senses as possible. Read it, say it, write it, visualize it and practice it!

First, read the verse or passage several times emphasizing different words. For example: For God so loved the world..., For God so loved the world..., For God so loved the world, etc. I suggest saying it out loud too. Next, write it. Finally, try to visualize the verse. Create pictures in your mind for key words. For example: For God (picture Him) so loved (a heart) the world (the earth)...etc.

4. Once we've committed a verse to memory - DON'T QUIT! Review, review, review! Like we said before - "if we don't use it, we'll lose it." As we are faithful to disciplining ourselves in this area of Bible study, God's Holy Spirit will help us.

### **Six Simple Steps for How to Study the Bible**

Are you new to Bible study or been away a long time? Wondering how to study the Bible? Take it slow and keep it simple. Don't let it be like a New Year's resolution in which we have good intentions but no follow-through. A good friend of mine once told me, "The smallest deed is better than the greatest of intentions." In other words - just do it!

1. Locate a Bible version that you can understand. For Bible study purposes, choose a Bible translation rather than one that is paraphrased.

Some of the more popular, easier-to-read translations include: New American Standard, New International, New Living Translation, New King James Version.

2. Find a quiet place where you can be alone with God. A quiet "time" is important too. The fewer

distractions, the better. In other words NO NOISE

3. Gather a few tools. Pencil or pen, paper or notebook, Bible & Bible concordance

4. Have a simple plan of action.

5. Begin your time with prayer. Ask God to help you understand what you read and how it relates to your own life.

James 1:5 says, "If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him."

6. Read, write, and review. Read Scripture, think about it, pray about it, and take notes on what you learn. Then review and read more. You'll be amazed how God will speak to you through His Word.

These are just six basic and simple steps on how to study the Bible. There are an abundance of other Bible study tools and techniques, but for just starting out - let's remember to:

take it slow and keep it simple.

God will lead you!