

Spiritual Discipline: Bible Memorization

Many would argue that the intake of God's Word is the most important spiritual discipline. Bible intake is hearing, reading, meditating on, and studying God's word. It is also _____. When this discipline is rightly practiced, it will promote increased knowledge of God, intimacy with God, victory over sin, victory over the devil, and conformity to the image of God..

REMEMBER: _____ without _____ is _____.

Dallas Willard: "Bible memorization is absolutely fundamental to spiritual formation. If I had to choose between all the disciplines of the spiritual life, I would choose Bible memorization, because it is a fundamental way of filling our minds with what it needs. This book of the law shall not depart out of your mouth. That's where you need it! How does it get in your mouth? Memorization."

Dr. Howard Hendricks of Dallas Seminary once made the statement that if it were his decision, every student graduating from Dallas Theological Seminary would be required to learn one thousand verses word perfect before they graduated.

Chuck Swindoll wrote, "I know of no other single practice in the Christian life more rewarding, practically speaking, than memorizing Scripture. . . . No other single exercise pays greater spiritual dividends! Your prayer life will be strengthened. Your witnessing will be sharper and much more effective. Your attitudes and outlook will begin to change. Your mind will become alert and observant. Your confidence and assurance will be enhanced. Your faith will be solidified."

BENEFITS & METHODS OF MEMORIZING GOD'S WORD

MEMORIZATION SUPPLIES _____.

Psalm 119:11 – I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you. When the Holy Spirit brings a scripture to mind to fight off temptation, it is an illustration of:

Ephesians 6:17 – “the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.”

Matthew 4:1-11

MEMORIZATION STRENGTHENS YOUR _____.

Memorizing Scripture strengthens your faith because it repeatedly reinforces the truth, often just when you need to hear it again.

Proverbs 22:17-19

MEMORIZATION PREPARES US FOR _____ AND _____.

Acts 2:14-40 – On the day of Pentecost, Peter quoted the Old Testament. We have much more faith in quoting the _____ than giving our opinions in counseling.

MEMORIZATION PROVIDES A MEANS OF GOD'S _____.

Psalm 119:24 – Your testimonies are my delight; they are my counselors.

James 1:2-3, Ephesians 4:29, Hebrews 12:10

MEMORIZATION STIMULATES _____.

Memorization provides fuel for meditation.

Psalm 119:97 – Oh how I love your law! It is my meditation all the day.

Memorization will require meditation.

JOHN PIPER 'S 6 REASONS WHY SCRIPTURE MEMORY IS SO VALUABLE

- 1– Conformity to Christ
- 2– Daily Triumph over _____ (Psalm 119:11 – How can a young man...)
- 3– Daily Triumph over _____ (Matthew 4)
- 4– _____ and _____ for People you love – Proverbs 25:11
- 5– Communicating the _____ to unbelievers
- 6– _____ with God

You can Memorize Scripture!

Your memory is good. The problem is motivation. Remember: Discipline without direction is drudgery. The problem of scripture memory is not age, mental ability, or training, but your method. We memorize what we _____

Tips on Scripture Memory:

Pick topics that you are dealing with.

Pick a whole passage or Psalm.

Go print or digital.

Write out the verses.

Draw picture reminders.

Memorize the verses word perfectly.

Find a method of accountability.

Review and meditate every day!

What is the Goal?

Scripture Memory is a means to an end, not the end itself. The end is _____.

Knowing more of God's word will produce speaking it more, living it more and reacting in the way of Jesus more. The goal is _____.

The goal is to know _____ more and be transformed into his likeness.