

DISCOVER



THE SCRIPTURES

21 DAY BIBLE VERSE MEMORY CHALLENGE

They say it takes 21 days to form a new habit. Why not form a habit that will **put God's words in the hearts of your children** for a lifetime? In the next twenty-one days, you and your children will begin a journey that will get you learning and loving the messages of the Bible. In **just five minutes a day**, you will help your children memorize, review, and retain important Bible verses that will help them love and live the messages of scripture. Just follow the steps below and watch your children's minds light up with the knowledge of God's love.

DAY 1:

Read the Memory Verse aloud.

☑ JOSHUA 1:9

"Be strong and of good courage; be not afraid... for the Lord thy God is with thee."

Practice saying the first part, *"Be strong and of good courage,"* and then the second part, *"Be not afraid for the Lord thy God is with thee."*

Talk about how trusting in God's promises can help us "be strong and of good courage." Tell your children a story about when God helped you have courage to face something difficult.

Recite the Memory Verse and reference (Joshua 1:9) together as a family several times. Give each family member a chance to say the verse alone.

"Be strong and of good courage; be not afraid... for the Lord thy God is with thee." Joshua 1:9

DAY 2:

Review the Memory Verse.

☑ JOSHUA 1:9

"Be strong and of good courage; be not afraid... for the Lord thy God is with thee."

Have each child tell what it means to him. Tell the Bible story about Joshua taking over leadership of the Tribes of Israel after Moses. God promised Joshua that he would protect and strengthen the children of Israel as they entered the Promised Land of Canaan. There were many wicked Canaanites living in the land. They wanted to destroy God's people, but God promised Joshua that he would be with them and help them. He said, *"Be strong and of good courage; be not afraid...for the Lord thy God is with thee."*

Ask your children to name a Bible story where someone showed courage and was protected or helped by God (David fighting Goliath, Daniel in the lion's den, Noah building the ark, Moses crossing the Red Sea, etc.). Recite the Memory Verse and reference (Joshua 1:9) together as a family several times. Give each family member a chance to say the verse alone.

DAY 3:

Read the Memory Verse aloud.

☑ JOSHUA 24:15

“Choose you this day whom ye will serve; but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.”

Practice saying the first part, *“Choose you this day whom ye will serve,”* and then the second part, *“but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.”*

*“Choose you this day
whom ye will serve; but
as for me and my house,
we will serve the Lord.”*
Joshua 24:15

Before Joshua led the Children of Israel into the Promised Land, he asked them to make a commitment to serve God. Talk about how each person has to make a decision to serve the Lord. Tell them your commitment for your family to choose to serve God.

Recite the Memory Verse and reference (Joshua 24:15) together as a family several times. Give each family member a chance to say the verse alone.

DAY 4:

Review the Memory Verse.

☑ JOSHUA 24:15

“Choose you this day whom ye will serve; but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.”

Ask your children to tell why it is important to serve the Lord. Then ask them why it is important to choose *now* to serve the Lord, rather than waiting until you are older.

Tell your children how you feel when you serve the Lord.

Recite the Memory Verse and reference (Joshua 24:15) together as a family several times. Give each family member a chance to say the verse alone.

Ask each family member if they can remember the other scripture verse that you learned from Joshua. See who can recite it.

DAY 5:

Read the Memory Verse aloud.

☑ PSALM 23:1

“The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.”

“The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.” Psalm 23:1

Practice saying the memory verse together. This verse is from Psalms, which were poems or songs written by King David and others praising God. Talk about how the Lord is our shepherd, leading us to the good things in life; the things that will make us happy. Ask your children what, “I shall not want” means. Discuss this together.

Have your children draw a picture of Jesus as the Good Shepherd. They can write their Memory Verse on the bottom of their drawing.

DAY 6:

Read the Memory Verse aloud.

☑ JOB 23:10

“He knoweth the way that I take: when he hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold.”

“He knoweth the way that I take: when he hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold.” Job 23:10

Practice saying the first part, “*He knoweth the way that I take*” and then the second part, “*when he hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold.*”

Ask your children what *trials* are. Have them give examples of a trial they have faced. Tell them of a trial you have faced and how it helped you become a better person. Tell them that God loves us and helps us improve ourselves when we trust him and ask him for help in hard times. We can develop patience and faith. When God is done with us, we will be beautiful like gold!

Recite the Memory Verse and reference (Job 23:10) together as a family several times. Give each family member a chance to say the verse alone.

DAY 7:

Review the Memory Verse.

☑ JOB 23:10

“He knoweth the way that I take: when he hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold.”

Tell your children the Bible story of Job. He was a man of faith and obedience. Then some bad things happened to him. He lost his home and his wealth. He lost his children. He got very sick. His friends told him to blame God, but he would not. He trusted God and knew that God would help him. He said, “*He knoweth the way that I take: when he hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold.*” We can trust in God like Job did! Recite Memory Verse together.

At the end of day seven you have learned four Memory Verses as a family! Congratulations. Be sure to tell your children that they have done a great job! Tell the children you are going to play a game to see how well the family remembers their Memory Verses. If you have an older child, have them read the clues below (so you can play the game with the other children). Try to guess the Memory Verse for each clue.

MEMORY VERSE CLUES

1. Joshua told the Israelites it was time to make a commitment to serve God. He said...
2. David said that the Lord is like a shepherd to his sheep. He said...
3. Job trusted God even when things were hard. He said...
4. God told Joshua to have courage. He said...

ANSWERS

1. **Joshua 24:15** *“Choose you this day whom ye will serve; but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.”*
2. **Psalms 23:1** *“The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.”*
3. **Job 23:10** *“He knoweth the way that I take: when he hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold.”*
4. **Joshua 1:9** *“Be strong and of good courage; be not afraid... for the Lord thy God is with thee.”*

DAY 8:

Read the Memory Verse aloud.

DANIEL 6:16

“Thy God whom thou servest continually, he will deliver thee.”

Practice saying the first part, *“Thy God whom thou servest continually,”* and then the second part, *“he will deliver thee.”*

“Thy God whom thou servest continually, he will deliver thee.”
Daniel 6:16

Tell your children the story of King Darius in Babylon. He made a rule that no one could pray to God. Daniel was faithful to God and continued to pray. Darius loved Daniel and respected him, but Daniel had broken a rule and had to suffer the consequences. Daniel had to be thrown into a den of hungry lions and left overnight! King Darius was afraid for Daniel, but hoped that God would save him. He said, *“Thy God who thou servest continually, he will deliver thee!”* And God *did* deliver Daniel safely from the lions. When we put our trust in God and serve him continually, he will protect us from evil, too!

Recite the Memory Verse and reference (Daniel 6:16) together as a family several times. Give each family member a chance to say the verse alone.

DAY 9:

Review the Memory Verse.

☑ DANIEL 6:16

“Thy God whom thou servest continually, he will deliver thee.”

Today take time to look up in your Bible each of the five verses you have learned from the Old Testament. Mark each verse as you find it. Have the children mark each verse in their Bible as they recite it.

DAY 10:

Read the Memory Verse aloud.

☑ LUKE 2:11

“For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord.”

Practice saying the first part, *“For unto you is born this day in the city of David,”* and then the second part, *“a Savior, which is Christ the Lord.”*

*“For unto you is born
this day in the city of
David a Savior, which is
Christ the Lord.”*

Luke 2:11

Christmas is the time of year when we celebrate Christ’s birth. Ask your children to tell you about the shepherds in the fields watching their sheep. After they have told what they know, review the story of the shepherds from Luke 2. Tell how an angel appeared to them in the field with the light and glory of God surrounding them. It must have been a wonderful sight! The angel told the humble shepherds, *“For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord!”* The shepherds were the first people to know about the birth of Christ! They hurried to the city of David (Bethlehem) to see the promised Savior!

Recite the Memory Verse and reference (Luke 2:11) together as a family several times. Give each family member a chance to say the verse alone.

DAY 11:

Review the Memory Verse.

☑ LUKE 2:11

“For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord.”

Have your children draw a picture of the shepherds watching their sheep in the fields near Bethlehem. Have them draw the angel saying, *“For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord.”*

Have each child recite the Memory Verse as they show the family their picture. Hang their pictures in a place where they will see them every day to reinforce what they have learned.

DAY 12:

Read the Memory Verse aloud.

☑ JOHN 3:5

“Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter in to the kingdom of God.”

Practice saying the first part, *“Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit,”* and then the second part, *“he cannot enter in to the kingdom of God.”*

Tell your children that being “born of water” means being baptized. Jesus was baptized in the Jordan River. He did it to show an example for us. When we make a commitment to follow Christ, we show it is by baptism. Being “born of the spirit” means being changed by the Holy Ghost. This happens as we follow Christ and let his Spirit touch our hearts.

Recite the Memory Verse and reference (John 3:5) together as a family several times. Give each family member a chance to say the verse alone.

“Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter in to the kingdom of God.”
John 3:5

DAY 13:

Review the Memory Verse.

☑ JOHN 3:5

“Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter in to the kingdom of God.”

Recite the Memory Verse and reference (John 3:5) together as a family several times. Give each family member a chance to say the verse alone.

DAY 14:

Read the Memory Verse aloud.

☑ JOHN 3:16

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”

Practice saying the first part, *“For God so loved the world,”* and then the second part, *that he gave his only begotten Son.”* When the family can say that part of the verse comfortably, add the last part, *“that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”*

Recite the Memory Verse and reference (John 3:16) together as a family several times. Give each family member a chance to say the verse alone.

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.” John 3:16

DAY 15:

Review the Memory Verse.

☑ JOHN 3:16

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”

Recite the Memory Verse and reference (John 3:16) together as a family several times. Give each family member a chance to say the verse alone.

Ask the children why Jesus was God’s greatest gift to us. Jesus is the Savior of our world. He can save us from sin and spiritual death and bring us back to live with God again. That’s why he said, *“Whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”*

Ask who can remember the other verse you learned from John (John 3:5 *“Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter in to the kingdom of God.”*) Practice saying it together.

DAY 16:

Read the Memory Verse aloud.

☑ MATTHEW 6:33

“But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness.”

Practice saying the verse, *“But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness.”*

“But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness.”
Matthew 6:33

Talk about choosing the things of God first in our lives. Putting God first makes us happy. It helps us make good decisions about how to use our time, how to live a Christian life, and how to serve others. Ask the family who can remember the Memory Verse from the Old Testament about putting God first. (hint: it’s a verse spoken by Joshua to the Israelites. He said, *“Choose you this day...”*). Recite together: *“Choose you this day whom ye will serve; but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.”* Joshua 24:15.

Recite today’s Memory Verse and reference (Matthew 6:33) together as a family several times. Give each family member a chance to say the verse alone.

DAY 17:

Read the Memory Verse aloud.

☑ JOHN 6:69

“And we believe and are sure that thou art that Christ, the Son of the Living God.”

Practice saying the first part of the verse, *“And we believe and are sure...”* and then the second part, *“that thou art that Christ, the Son of the Living God.”*

Jesus once performed a great miracle, feeding 5,000 people with fives loaves of bread and two fish. Then he taught his disciples that he was the “living bread.” He meant that his words and his gospel would be their spiritual food. Some people didn’t like Jesus’ teachings and turned away from him, but Peter boldly testified, *“And we believe and are sure that thou art that Christ, the Son of the Living God.”* Share your testimony of Jesus Christ with your children.

Recite today’s Memory Verse and reference (John 6:69) together as a family several times. Give each family member a chance to say the verse alone.

“And we believe and are sure that thou art that Christ, the Son of the Living God.”
John 6:69

DAY 18:

Read the Memory Verse aloud.

☑ JOHN 14:15

“If ye love me, keep my commandments.”

Practice saying the verse, *“If ye love me, keep my commandments.”*

Ask your children to list commandments that God has given us. Tell them that we can show our love for God by keeping his commandments.

Recite today’s Memory Verse and reference (John 14:15) together as a family. Give each family member a chance to say the verse alone.

Tell your kids that you are going to play a game. Use a soft ball or stuffed animal. Throw the ball to a family member, who catches it and tells one of the Memory Verses that they have learned. If they only remember part of the verse, that’s OK! Go ahead and read the entire verse and reference (use your Master Memory Verse list if needed), and then practice reciting each one as a family. See if you can make it through each family member at least twice!

“If ye love me, keep my commandments.”
John 14:15

DAY 19:

Read the Memory Verse aloud.

☑ JOHN 13:34

“Love one another; as I have loved you.”

Practice saying the verse, *“Love one another; as I have loved you.”*

Talk about how you can show love to others (serving them, speaking nicely to siblings, obeying mom and dad, etc.). Make a plan for each family member to show their love to one other person every day for the next week.

Recite today’s Memory Verse and reference (John 13:34) together as a family. Give each family member a chance to say the verse alone.

“Love one another; as I have loved you.”

John 13:34

DAY 20:

You have learned twelve Memory Verses with your family! Today take time to look up in your Bible each of the seven verses you have learned from the New Testament. Mark each verse as you find it. Have the children mark each verse in their Bible as they recite it.

Ask each family member to share a favorite Memory Verse from your New Testament list.

To prepare for tomorrow, find a new verse that you haven’t yet memorized to share with your family tomorrow. If you have older children, you can give this assignment to them.

DAY 21:

Share (or have an older child share) with your family one of your favorite Bible verses (not on our list). Tell them why you like it and what it means to you. Memorize it together. Remember to keep it short (shorten it if necessary) so that all the family members can memorize it.

Make a plan to continue your Bible verse study and memorization as a family. You can do this by creating your own list of 10-15 verses that you will memorize in the coming weeks. Parents and older children can take turns day by day presenting a new verse from the list and leading the family in memorizing it.



Discover the Scriptures workbooks contain Memory Verses which complement the course of study in each book. Consider using Discover the Scriptures materials with your family to help your children discover the love the beautiful truths of the gospel. Visit our website to download free sample pages:
www.discoverthescriptures.com

Master Memory Verse List for the **21 DAY BIBLE VERSE MEMORY CHALLENGE**

JOSHUA 1:9

“Be strong and of good courage; be not afraid... for the Lord thy God is with thee.”

JOSHUA 24:15

“Choose you this day whom ye will serve; but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.”

PSALM 23:1

“The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.”

JOB 23:10

“He knoweth the way that I take: when he hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold.”

DANIEL 6:16

“Thy God whom thou servest continually, he will deliver thee.”

LUKE 2:11

“For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord.”

JOHN 3:5

“Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter in to the kingdom of God.”

JOHN 3:16

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”

MATTHEW 6:33

“But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness.”

JOHN 6:69

“And we believe and are sure that thou art that Christ, the Son of the Living God.”

JOHN 14:15

“If ye love me, keep my commandments.”

JOHN 13:34

“Love one another; as I have loved you.”