

Scripture Memory in 2019

“For the word of God is living and active....” (Hebrews 4:12)

Here is a list of Bible verses to memorize in 2019. Each week has a suggested verse or verses. There are never more than three per week, except for the Psalm 23 week and the 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 week. Many weeks suggest memorizing a single verse.

The goal with the below list is to represent as much of the Bible and its various genres as possible, both Old and New Testaments.

The first half of the year (26 weeks) is in the Old Testament:

- 6 weeks in the Pentateuch (Genesis-Deuteronomy)
- 5 weeks in the historical books (Joshua-Esther)
- 4 weeks in the wisdom/poetry books (Job-Song of Songs, not counting Psalms)
- 8 weeks in the prophets (Isaiah-Malachi)
- 3 weeks in the Psalms

The second half of the year (26 weeks) is in the New Testament:

- 8 weeks in the Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John)
- 2 weeks in the book of Acts
- 8 weeks in Paul’s letters (Romans-Philemon)
- 6 weeks in the “general letters,” i.e., any epistle not typically attributed to Paul (Hebrews-Jude)
- 2 weeks in Revelation

Inevitably such a list leaves out well-known and beloved verses. Substitutions are encouraged; this is merely intended to be a guide to Scripture memory.

Context is important to understanding individual verses, so it will prove useful—perhaps early in the week—to read the passages before and after what is listed. A good Study Bible with book introductions and verse study notes also helps. The NIV, NLT, NRSV, ESV, and other translations have good accompanying Study Bibles. Anyone feeling ambitious could memorize a larger portion of the passage from which the below verses are drawn, but with Scripture memory, sometimes “less is more” and overcommitting (and then failing) can be discouraging.

The below plan works with the translation of your choice. Week 1 in 2019 is Monday, December 31, 2018 through Sunday, January 6, 2019. Week 27 begins Monday, July 1. Week 52 begins Monday, December 23. In addition to the memory plan, there is a list of 16 ways to memorize Bible verses.

16 Ways to Memorize

Memorizing solidifies Scripture and its message in a way that even a slow, reflective reading does not.

Here are **16 ways** to memorize Bible verses. These methods work for other texts, too.

1. Read the verse(s) over and over until it solidifies in your memory.
2. Color code the text with highlights to enhance visual associations.
3. Create a visual flow of a verse or passage where you indent subordinate clauses on successive lines. This wouldn't have to be fancy or even grammatically precise; just a way to break up the text and see the relationships spread out.
4. Start by reading one word of a given verse, then two words, then three words, etc. So memorizing John 3:16 would go like this: "For. For God. For God so. For God so loved. For God so loved the. For God so loved the world." And so on.
5. Write it out! Writing slowly helps you to turn the words and phrases over more carefully, helping you to remember them better.
6. Make flash cards. Write the verse reference on one side and the verse on the other. Or the verse reference and part of the verse on side A, with the remainder of the verse on side B.
7. Listen to the text on audio, so you have another sense engaged.
8. For that matter, record yourself reading the text, not straight through, but with repetitions on each verse. So you could record yourself reading Psalm 23 out loud, but reading verse 1 five times, then verse 2 five times, and so on.
9. Find someone to whom you can attempt to quote the passage, asking them to stop you when you don't get it verbatim.
10. Copy the single page you're working on, put it in a weatherproof, sealable bag, and tape it up somewhere in your house where you'll see it (bedroom, bathroom, kitchen).
11. Write a song or really silly rap that helps you commit the verse to memory.
12. Read the verse out loud, but backwards.

13. Do the same as above, but writing it out.

14. Give yourself some signposts—if you're memorizing a longer passage, start by memorizing the first word of each verse. If you want to memorize a longer chapter, consider starting with verse 1, then verse 6, then verse 10, etc. Then come back and fill in the rest.

15. Brainstorm your own list of ways to memorize, keeping it handy for when you need to change it up.

16. Consider memorizing in a group setting or congregational context.

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52 Weeks of Memory Verses

1. Genesis 1:1-2
2. Genesis 12:1-3
3. Exodus 3:14, 16-17
4. Leviticus 19:1-2
5. Numbers 6:24-26
6. Deuteronomy 6:4-5
7. Joshua 1:8-9
8. Joshua 24:14-15
9. Ruth 1:16
10. 1 Samuel 16:7
11. 2 Chronicles 7:14
12. Job 19:25-26
13. Proverbs 3:5-6
14. Ecclesiastes 7:14
15. Song of Songs 8:6-7
16. Isaiah 53:4-6
17. Jeremiah 29:11
18. Lamentations 2:11
19. Ezekiel 36:26-27
20. Joel 2:12
21. Micah 6:8
22. Habakkuk 1:2
23. Zephaniah 3:17
24. Psalm 23
25. Psalm 46:1-3
26. Psalm 51:1-2
27. Matthew 6:33-34
28. Matthew 28:18-20
29. Mark 8:34-36
30. Mark 16:4-6
31. Luke 4:18-19
32. Luke 6:20-21
33. John 3:16
34. John 20:30-31
35. Acts 1:8
36. Acts 4:12
37. Romans 3:23, 6:23
38. 1 Corinthians 13:4-7
39. Galatians 2:20
40. Galatians 5:22-23
41. Ephesians 2:8-10
42. Philippians 4:6-8
43. 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18
44. 2 Timothy 3:16-17
45. Hebrews 4:12-13
46. Hebrews 4:14-16
47. James 1:2-4
48. James 1:26-27
49. 1 Peter 2:9
50. 1 John 1:8-9
51. Revelation 1:8
52. Revelation 7:9-10