



Memorizing Scripture With Your Kids

How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth!
Psalm 119:103

Memorizing scripture with your kids will embed God's Word into their hearts and equip them to follow Jesus - but it will also bless YOU and remind you of truths that you need to hear every day.

Scripture memory doesn't have to be hard or complicated - we've found that a monthly "system" works best for our family. In this resource, I'll share about how we have implemented Scripture memory into our rhythm - and why our kids enjoy it!

We choose one passage of Scripture each month (I'll share the ones that we've done at the end). I like this for a few reasons - first, it gives us a built-in restart. If the kids aren't grasping the verses or we aren't being consistent, we can move on to a new passage on the first day of the next month. This also means that even if we miss 1-2 days a week, we still practiced our verse the majority of the days in the month and have an overall success rate, which feels encouraging!

Choosing a passage/grouping of verses prevents the plucking out of one random verse, which can sometimes be taken out of context. It forces us to be more intentional with the Scripture we are choosing.

Also...THEY CAN DO IT! Give the kids some credit. We so often underestimate them and give them a single verse to memorize (or avoid Scripture memory altogether). Meanwhile, they are memorizing random nursery rhymes, books and songs that they don't even understand. There's a sense of pride and accomplishment my kids feel when they can recite the entire passage of Scripture that we memorized (even though halfway through the month I am sometimes doubting if we will make it to the end...but they always do it!).



Some tips:

1. **Use vitamins to your advantage.** Every day, we recite our verse together, and then my kids get their daily vitamin! And if I forget...my kids are the ones to remind me because they love their vitamins :) if you're not into vitamins, I've heard of people giving their kids a single M&M or a bit of honey (God's word is sweet like honey - Psalm 119:103).
2. **We get our kids a treat at the end of each month when they are able to recite the whole passage** (yes, my kids love treats...probably too much). Why? Because I want my kids to have a positive connotation with Scripture memory. I want them to know God's word is sweet like the treat they are eating. Also, we celebrate what is important to us - celebration is what will form the culture of our families.
3. **Make it fun!** Sometimes we will say our verse loud, quiet, fast or slow. We use actions, clapping, dancing around to make it more engaging. Scripture memory does not have to be monotonous! I often don't feel "in the mood" to do this...but once I rally and we say our verse, I realize it's worth the energy and the engagement!
4. **It's okay to miss a day!** There is so much grace. Certain seasons can be chaotic - just get back on track when you can and keep going! Give yourself a fresh start on the first day of the next month.
5. **Quality is better than quantity.** If the longer portions of Scripture just aren't working with your kids (or if they're super young), cut it back! It's okay to start small and to work your way up to the longer passages as they grow.

Each month I write out our verse on a few sheets of paper and post it on the wall. My kids can't read yet, but this serves as a daily physical reminder for us to recite our verses. I add pictures and symbols so the kids can feel like they are following along.

We go day by day, verse by verse. That's it! I've found that for me, the hardest part is to get motivated to sit down, pick a verse, and write it out. Once the passage is up on the wall, the kids basically do the work for me :)

I'm praying that this resource will encourage you to try out Scripture memory with your kids for yourself, in whatever form or fashion it might take. May the Lord meet you and your family through His Word as you meditate on it and memorize it!



Passage Ideas:

Matthew 5:14-16 (salt + light)

Psalms 139 (we did verses 1-12 over 2 months)

Joshua 1:7-9

1 John 4:7-10 (love)

1 Corinthians 15:55-58 (a great Easter passage)

Isaiah 9:6-7 (a great Christmas passage)

Philippians 4:4-7

Psalms 100 (a great Thanksgiving passage)

Psalms 121 (the first longer passage we memorized)

Psalms 23

1 Corinthians 13:4-7 (love)

Ephesians 6:13-18 (armor of God)

Matthew 6:9-13 (the Lord's prayer)

Deuteronomy 6:4-9

Colossians 3:15-18

Some shorter ideas for littler ones:

Galatians 5:22-23 (the fruit of the Spirit)

Psalms 118:1

2 Timothy 1:7

John 3:16