

The Sword!

Scripture Memorization: A Must For Today

Introduction

Scripture memorization!! Just mention the words in some circles and you'll be hit with a barrage of resistance to (hopefully) stop you in your tracks. The very suggestion seems to threaten the comfort zone of many Christians. Why? Perhaps because no one knows better than the evil one what will happen in the lives of God's people if they start taking God's Word seriously. This is why he works hard to convince us that we need to defend ourselves against the very suggestion.

But, praise the Lord, you have not been taken in by his ploy. You have not been blinded to the awesome privilege we have of actually memorizing the very Words of the God of creation, the Lord of all lords, the God of all gods. This class will challenge you, encourage and assist you in memorizing Scripture in its full context, that is, not just a verse here and there, but building verses into chapters and chapters into books.

If you have never memorized chapters before, you are about to start on a wonderful adventure that has been life changing for many. As you memorize and meditate on Scripture in its full context, you'll find it penetrating the very essence of your being. It will feed your soul and bathe your spirit as nothing else will. You'll find yourself experiencing the Author in new and intimate ways. You will hear God speaking to you.

Books and sermons, Bible studies and tapes, conferences and retreats can point you along the way, but their effect tends to fade with time. It is the impact of God's Eternal Truth filling your mind and massaging your thinking process that stimulates and sustains consistent growth. When you memorize Scripture in its full context it accesses your sub-conscious and your decision making process in powerful ways. And it greatly enhances the Holy Spirit's ability to accomplish His purpose in your life.

Chuck Swindoll wrote in his book, *Growing Strong in the Seasons of Life*:

I know of no other single practice in the Christian life more rewarding, practically speaking, than memorizing Scripture. That's right. No other single discipline is more useful and rewarding than this. No other single exercise pays greater spiritual dividends . . . Your prayer life will be strengthened. 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.

And don't let Satan make you think you need some special talent or ability in order to memorize Scripture or to memorize it in its full context. All that's needed is a longing to know the Lord more intimately and a desire to follow more closely in His footsteps. Your Lord will take care of the rest. There is an old hymn that says: "Not to the strong is the battle, not to the swift is the race, but to the true and the faithful victory is promised through grace." Victory doesn't come with talent or man's natural ability to accomplish it, it comes through God's grace and **His** ability to accomplish it in us.

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Getting Started

This study course is based on the book ***The Sword! Scripture Memorization: A Must For Today*** written by May McClure. It will be necessary for you to have a copy of this book to proceed on this course. It can be downloaded free of charge on our Sword of the Spirit web site (***sosministries.org***) or purchased for \$10 plus s/h by e-mailing us through the "contact us" link on our web site or by calling us at 503/554-7439.

As you work your way through the lessons, be sure to answer them as honestly as you can. Your thoughts need never be shared with anyone else, only as you yourself choose to include them in class discussion. But if you are transparent in class, it will help others to risk being honest about where they are coming from. You will, also, undoubtedly learn that your problems and fears are part of a much bigger picture.

It is best to answer the questions in succession without reviewing the entire lesson before starting. The questions in some cases are consecutive and the anticipated suggestions for answers are sometimes incorporated in later questions.

If you find your notes require more space than that is given, use the back of your page and insert the reference number for identification.

Your comments and suggestions regarding this course would be a great help in improving it for others and would be greatly appreciated. Please go to the "Contact Us" link on our site (***sosministries.org***) to register your comments or call us at 503/554-7439.