

### Why Memorize Scripture?

- Our conviction and belief about the correct understanding of Scripture, where it comes from, and its importance is directly proportional to our success in memorizing Scripture. It determines the priority that it takes in our lives.
  - 2 Timothy 3:16-17
  - Joshua 1:8
  - 2 Peter 1:20-21
- It is commanded by God
  - Deuteronomy 6:6-9 and 30:14
  - Joshua 1:8
  - Proverbs 4:4 and Proverbs 7:1-3
- To be like Jesus
  - Luke 4:1-13 and Matthew 4:1-11
- Delights our soul
  - Psalm 19:7-8 and Psalm 119:35
- Keeps us from sin and folly
  - Psalm 119:9-11
  - Matthew 4:1-11
- Jesus knew the word of God and was able to drive away Satan when tempted
  - Ephesians 6:17
- The Word is a sword against the devil's schemes
  - Hebrews 4:12
- God's word in your heart keeps your feet from slipping.
  - Psalm 37:31
- Prepares us for a life of productive Christian labor and growth:
  - Answer questions concerning our faith in Christ (1 Peter 3:15)
  - Disciple our children (Deuteronomy 6:6-9)
  - Reason with unbelievers through knowledge of the word (Acts 17:1-4)
  - Encourage, teach, and train others (Colossians 3:16, 2 Timothy 3:16)
  - Know right from wrong (Hebrews 5:13-14)
  - Grow in our prayer life (John 15:7)
  - Meditate on God's Word anytime wherever we are (Psalm 119:97-98)

### Purpose/Goal of Scripture Memory

#### **To know Christ and make him known**

- Be like Christ (He memorized Scripture)
- Teach others to be like Him



## How To Memorize Scripture

### Which Version of the Bible should I use?

- Pick a version of the Bible that you think you will be using for a long time; choose a *translation* of the Bible rather than a *paraphrase*
  - Suggested translations: NASB, NKJV, ESV, HCSB, NET, ASV, NRSV, and NIV
  - GNB, CEV, TLB, The Message, and several others are considered paraphrases

### Two Good Methods

- Smartphone app (e.g., Remember Me, Scripture Typer) (these also work on tablets/iPads)
- Paper Method
  - Write your verses out on small cards that are easy to keep with you at all times
  - Can use different size cards (e.g., business cards or 3x5 index cards)
  - Suggested format/layout on card

<b>Assurance of Salvation</b> <b>John 5:24</b>	
2/21/2014	4/21/2014

<b>John 5:24</b> <b>Assurance of Salvation</b>
<b>I tell you the truth, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be condemned; he has crossed over from death to life.</b>
<b>John 5:24</b>

### Key Points

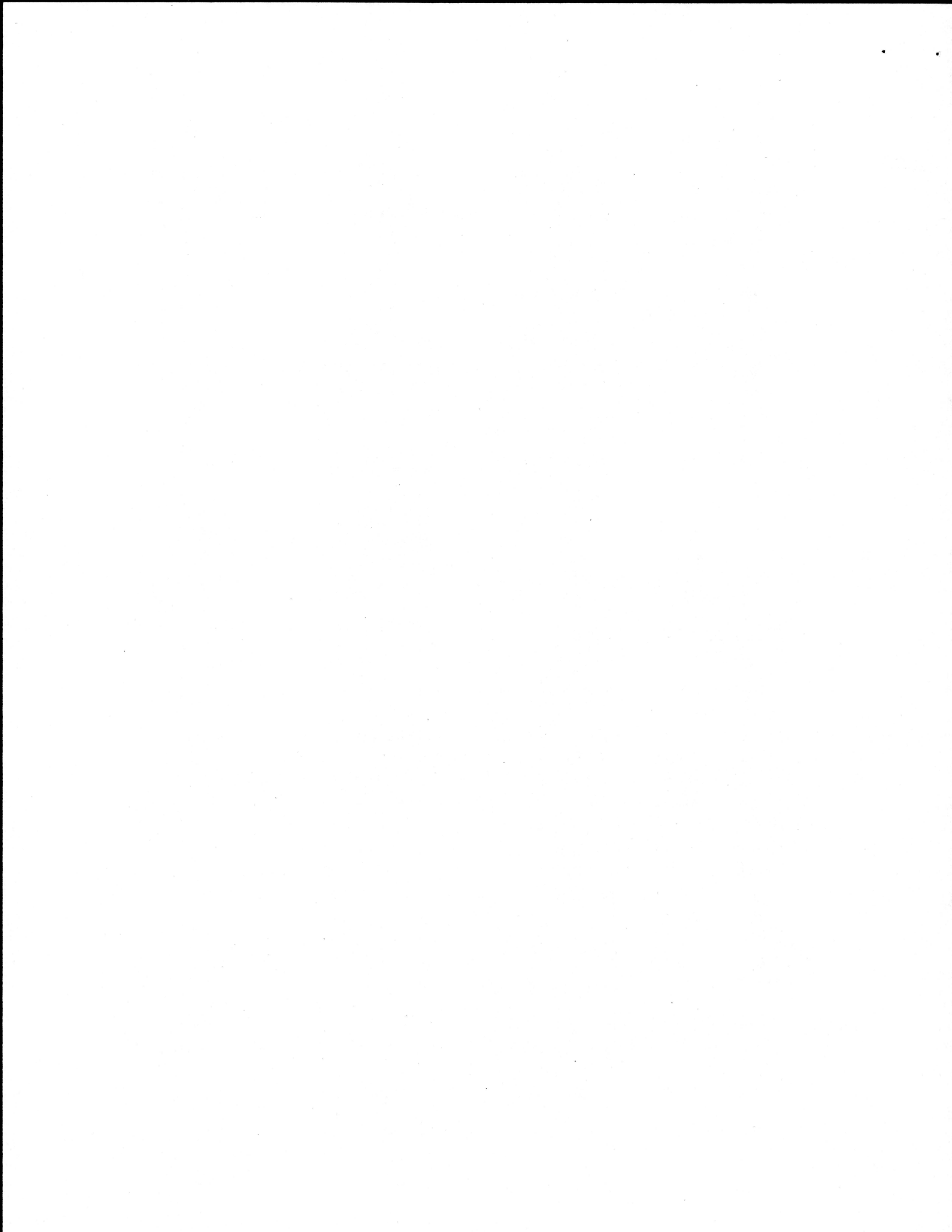
- Before you start to memorize the verse, read it aloud several times.
- Put it in context by reading the whole chapter in which it is contained, preferably in several different versions
- Learn the topic, reference, and first phrase as a unit (“assurance of salvation, john five twenty four, I tell you the truth...”)
- After you’ve reviewed the topic/reference/first phrase a few times, add another phrase. Continue this way until you know the verse. This could take several hours.
- Work on your verses out loud whenever possible.
- As you’re memorizing, think about how this verse applies to your life.
- ALWAYS review the verse using the topic/reference/verse/reference method.
- 100% correct (“word perfect”) - quality is more important than quantity
- Use the buddy system – partner up with others for review and accountability
- Review
- Review
- Review

### Activity: Memorize 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

**ESV** - Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

**NASB** - Rejoice always; pray without ceasing; in everything give thanks; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.

**NIV** - Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.



## How To Be Successful

Scripture memory should change our lives and if it doesn't, then it cannot be considered successful. Our purpose is to become more and more like Jesus Christ. But how can we do this if we don't obey God's word? And how can we obey it if we do not know it and understand it? And how can we understand if we do not study it, memorize it, and meditate on it as much as we can?

- Ask God for help
- Decide that you want to do it
- Get started
- Determination and prioritization are key
  - Matthew 6:33
  - 1 Timothy 4:7-8
  - 1 Corinthians 9:24-27
- Overcome barriers

Barrier: Fear of failure / lack of previous success / fear it will be too hard

Solution: Develop a plan

- SOS – Series of Successes
- 1 Cor 15:58
- Matthew 6:34

Barrier: Not enough time

Solution: Prioritize your time – do what's important rather than that which is merely urgent; people always find the time to do the things most important to them. Find small blocks of time to review: shaving, showering, brushing your teeth, waiting in line, getting ready in the morning, audio of verses in the car, at lunch, cooking

- Matthew 6:33

Barrier: Unrepentant sin

Solution: Confess your sin to restore your fellowship with God, and stick with your Scripture memorization. The Bible will keep you from sin, or sin will keep you from the Bible.

- 1 John 1:9

Barrier: People near me do not value Scripture Memory

Solution: Find others to encourage you and hold you accountable (other men or spouse)

- Ecclesiastes 4:9-10

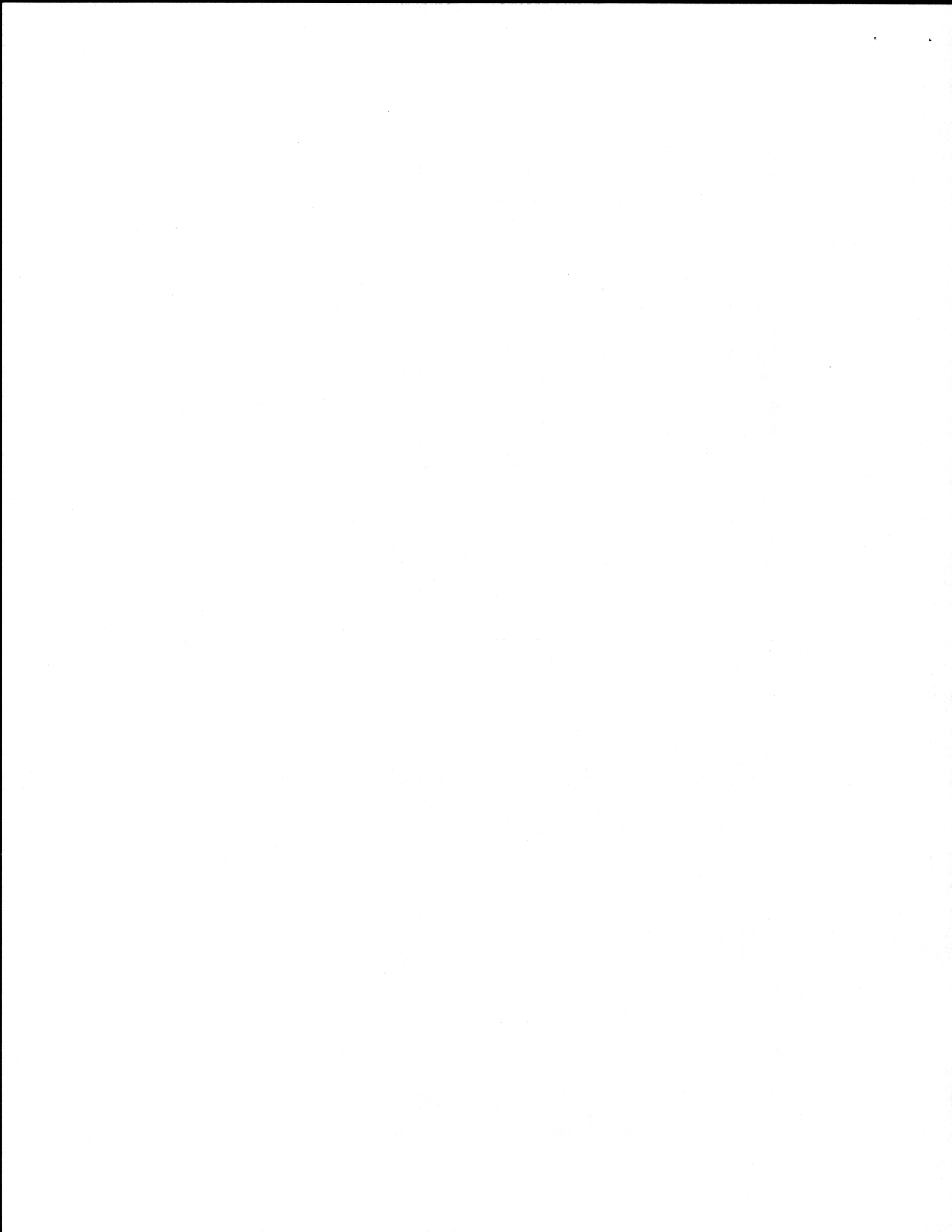
Barrier: I'm not convinced that memorizing Scripture is important

Solution: Review, study, and meditate on the verses above.

Activity: Scripture Memory review opportunities worksheet

## Final Thoughts

Don't look back, whether you've had good or bad experiences in SM – if it was bad, you will feel like a failure and quit more easily; if it was good, you will rest on what you have already done and slow down or quit. Press forward...onward towards the goal/the prize/what is ahead. (Philippians 3:13-14)



## Opportunities dedicated to your scripture memory program

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1. Think about your weekly routine. Identify any time slots which you could dedicate to your scripture memory program.

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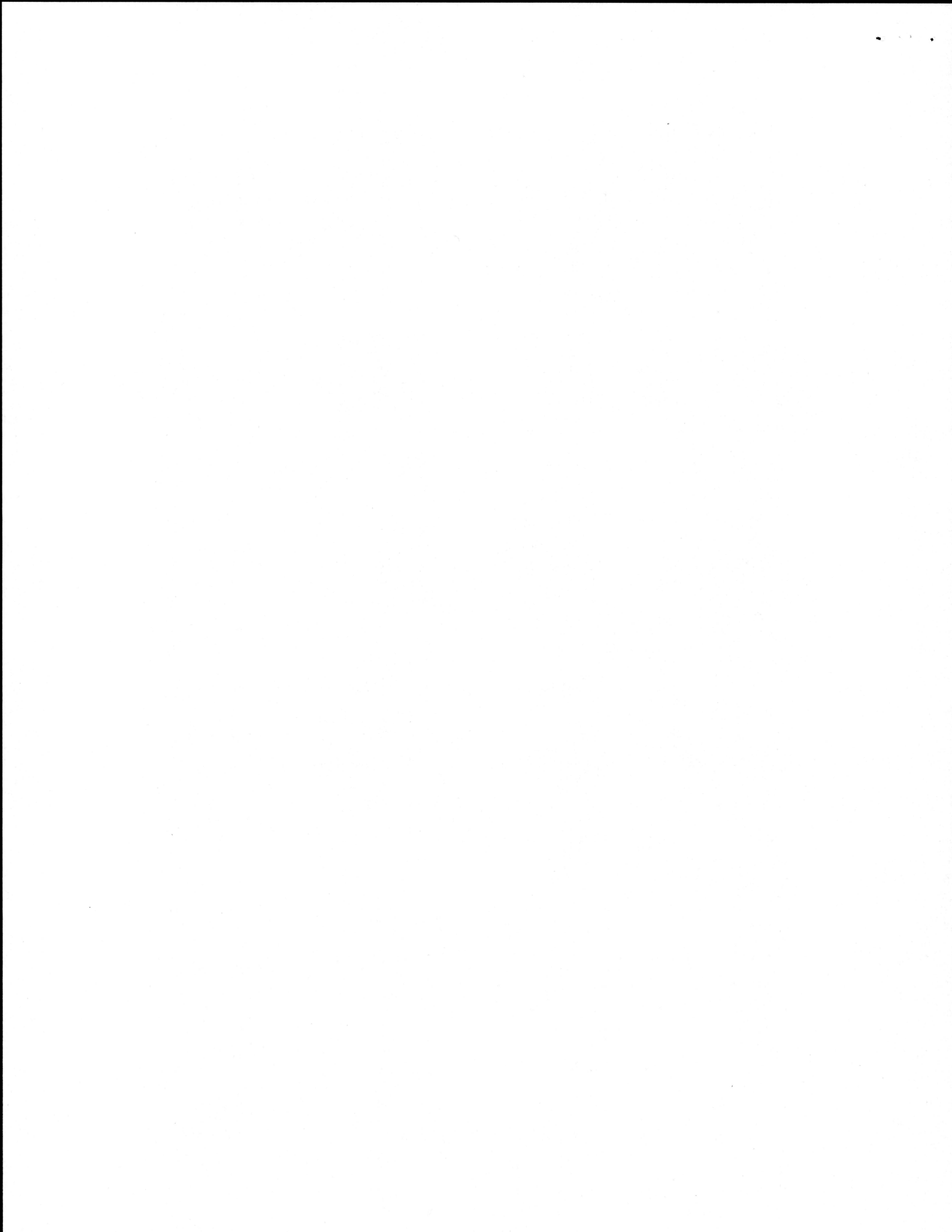
2. Write out some things you can do to ensure that you will always be able to review your verses if an opportunity arises.

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# Topical Memory System (TMS)

## LIVING THE NEW LIFE

Christ the Center	2 Corinthians 5:17	Galatians 2:20
Obedience to Christ	Romans 12:1	John 14:21
The Word	2 Timothy 3:16	Joshua 1:8
Prayer	John 15:7	Philippians 4:6,7
Fellowship	Matthew 18:20	Hebrews 10:24,25
Witnessing	Matthew 4:19	Romans 1:16

## PROCLAIMING CHRIST

All Have Sinned	Romans 3:23	Isaiah 53:6
Sin's Penalty	Romans 6:23	Hebrews 9:27
Christ Paid the Penalty	Romans 5:8	1 Peter 3:18
Salvation is not by Works	Ephesians 2:8,9	Titus 3:5
Must Receive Christ	John 1:12	Revelation 3:20
Assurance of Salvation	1 John 5:13	John 5:24

## RELIANCE ON GOD'S RESOURCES

His Spirit	1 Corinthians 3:16	1 Corinthians 2:12
His Strength	Isaiah 41:10	Philippians 4:13
His Faithfulness	Lamentations 3:22,23	Numbers 23:19
His Peace	Isaiah 26:3	1 Peter 5:7
His Provision	Romans 8:32	Philippians 4:19
His Help in Temptation	Hebrews 2:18	Psalms 119:9,11

## BEING CHRIST'S DISCIPLE

Put Christ First	Matthew 6:33	Luke 9:23
Separate From the World	1 John 2:15,16	Romans 12:2
Be Steadfast	1 Corinthians 15:58	Hebrews 12:3
Serve Others	Mark 10:45	2 Corinthians 4:5
Give Generously	Proverbs 3:9,10	2 Corinthians 9:6,7
Develop World Vision	Acts 1:8	Matthew 28:19,20

## GROWTH IN CHRISTLIKENESS

Love	John 13:34,35	1 John 3:18
Humility	Philippians 2:3,4	1 Peter 5:5,6
Purity	Ephesians 5:3	1 Peter 2:11
Honesty	Leviticus 19:11	Acts 24:16
Faith	Hebrews 11:6	Romans 4:20,21
Good Works	Galatians 6:9,10	Matthew 5:16

