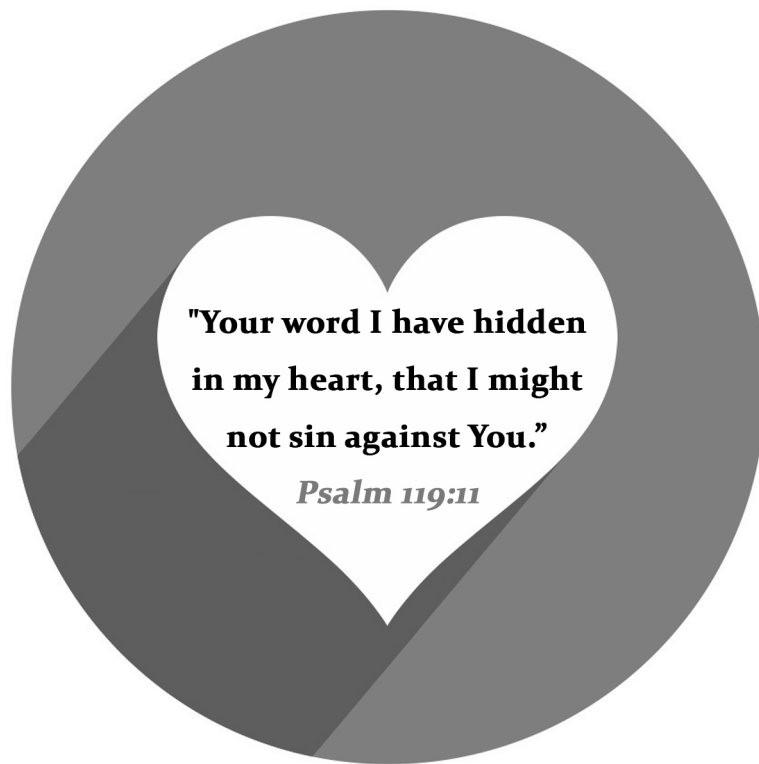


The Easy Way to Hide God's Word in Your Heart!



THE EASY WAY TO HIDE GOD'S WORD IN YOUR HEART

1) WHY we should memorize God's Word; it will change the way we think and it will transform our lives.

- *"... be transformed by the renewing of your mind..." (Rom.12:1-2)*
- *"For the Word of God is living and powerful..." (Heb. 4:12)*

These are some of the commands and exhortations that are for each of us. We are to:

- Keep His Word (*"Jesus answered... If anyone loves Me, he will keep my word..." John 14:23*)
- Remember God's Word (*"And they remembered His words." Luke 24:8*)
- Not forget His commandments (*"... I do not forget Your commandments." Psalm 119:176*)
- Meditate on His law day and night (*"This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night..." Joshua 1:8*)
- Keep God's Word within our hearts (*"... having heard the word with a noble and good heart, keep it and bear fruit with patience." Luke 8:15*)
- Hide God's Word in our hearts that we might not sin against God (*"Your Word I have hidden in my heart, that I might not sin against you." Psalm 119:11*)

2) How we can COMBINE memorizing Scripture with our daily routines.

- Trade your thoughts for God's thoughts
- Memorize or review Scripture during the times when your hands are busy, but your mind is free (getting ready in the morning, household chores, etc.)
- Great progress comes from a few minutes at a time and one verse at a time!

3) An easy plan to REVIEW your memorized Scriptures, so you won't forget what you've memorized.

- Here's an easy way to review: take all the verses you have memorized and put them in the natural order that they occur in the Bible.

For example:

Genesis 1:1

Psalm 119:11

Proverbs 3:5-6

John 3:1-21

When you have thoroughly memorized your next verse, add it to your review Scriptures in the order it occurs in the Bible. Review all verses every day **OUT LOUD**. The goal is to move your memorized Scriptures from your short-term memory to your long-term memory. Reviewing accomplishes this!

4) Some easy ways to **MEDITATE** on God's Word using the Scriptures you are working on memorizing.

- Do these four things thoughtfully and prayerfully:
 1. Think about what the words mean (use a dictionary if needed)
 2. What are the truths in this Scripture?
 3. What should these truths mean in my own life?
 4. Make this verse a prayer to the Lord, praying back the words of Scripture to Him.

5) **"THE EASY WAY TO HIDE GOD'S WORD IN YOUR HEART!"** *(See instructions below)*

Memorize right from your Bible, or write out your verses on 3x5 inch cards, etc. Carry your Bible verses with you that you are working on memorizing.

Instructions for **"THE EASY WAY TO HIDE GOD'S WORD IN YOUR HEART"**

1. Say the Scripture reference **OUT LOUD**
2. Read your Bible verse(s) **OUT LOUD**
3. Close your Bible and close your eyes
4. Say as much as you can remember **OUT LOUD**

Start over and repeat these instructions exactly each time! Keep repeating these steps for at least 10 times. The more often you practice your verses, the quicker you will have it memorized!

REPEAT, REPEAT, REPEAT!

If you are working on memorizing a longer verse, you can break it into phrases.

Keep repeating these steps until memorized!

Work on memorizing every day, if possible! Even a few minutes, several times a day, makes a big difference. Once you have learned your verses, don't forget to add them to your review list and **REVIEW, REVIEW, AND REVIEW!**

Some Practical Ideas For Hiding God's Word In Your Heart

- Memorize right from your Bible, or write out your verses on 3x5 inch cards etc. If possible, carry your Bible verses with you that you are working on memorizing/reviewing.
- What verses should we memorize?
 - Verses that praise the Lord!
 - Verses that declare God's attributes!
 - Verses that we think we should memorize. (Example: those that explain the Gospel.)
 - Verses that encourage us to be victorious in our personal lives.
 - Verses that the Lord has spoken to us or ministered to us during our time with Him.
 - Bible accounts that we can tell to others.
 - Key verses such as John 3:16-17, Romans 12:1-2, Hebrews 4:12, etc.
 - Memorize verses "in context." Try John 3:1-21 (Jesus and Nicodemus), Luke 2:1-20 (the birth of Jesus).
- It is also wonderful to memorize passages, chapters, and books of the Bible. It is not more difficult, you are still just learning one verse at a time! Start with shorter passages like Psalm 1. You will be encouraged and motivated as you see your progress and are successful.

TIPS:

If you memorize word-for-word from your favorite Bible translation (not a paraphrase), it will be very easy to have someone "test" you to make sure you were accurate, word-by-word. It's also a great idea to "practice" your Scriptures (a lot!) on family and friends. You may just encourage them to memorize also!

Make sure you have really memorized your verse before going onto the next verse. If you don't, you will become discouraged and feel like you have failed again at memorizing. Just be diligent; great progress comes from a few minutes at a time. Don't give up! You will make progress!

Recommended inspirational reading: *His Word in My Heart* by Janet Pope

Now, **YOU** can teach children and adults how to easily hide God's Word in their hearts too!