

Lent

**Bible
Memory
Challenge**



Lent

(Intergenerational)

Bible Memory Challenge

Lent is the 40 days leading up to Easter where we reflect on the 40 days that Jesus spent in the desert. During those days Jesus fasted and spent time talking with God. The devil tempted Him three different times, and each time Jesus was able to resist with a Bible passage.

During Lent we can fast as well. Fasting means that we give up something so that we can be filled up with something else. Maybe we decide to give up time on social media, coffee break, after school snack time, gaming, friend time or something else so that we can make time to spend with God and His Word.

We want to challenge your church family to spend the next eight weeks learning and memorizing eight memory verses. It is our hope that as you fill up your mind and heart with these verses you will grow in knowing God, loving God, and turning to Him when you are facing decisions.

You can download a list of Bible verses included in this packet. Option 1 includes eight verses that are written for those who are in Grades 6 to Senior Adults, Ready to Explore (elementary age), or Ready to Play (toddler/kindergarten). Option 2 includes the verses in NIV and NIV.

Create a Lent Bible Memorization Challenge booth in your lobby. Each week invite your congregation members to recite the verse of the past week to a host, record their points, and receive next week's verse. If you are dividing the congregation into multi-generational teams, have a listing with each team member's name, and a space to record the points the team earned each week. Consider giving bonus points to those who can recite all eight verses at the end of the eight weeks.

Suggested time frame: Begin on the Sunday before Ash Wednesday and finish on Easter Sunday. This will provide you with eight Sundays for the eight suggested Bible verses.

To Do Listing

- Recruit a couple of hosts who will listen to and record the memorized Bible verses each week. They will also give out the next verse
- Create a Bible Memory Challenge Booth for your lobby including listing of team members, chart to record each team's points, and be sure to have some pens there for your hosts
- Decide whether you will use the [Option 1](#) or [Option 2](#) memory verse list
- Print and cut apart memory verses. Place verse slips in labeled envelopes for each week to be kept at the Bible Memory Challenge Booth. You will need an envelope for each age/grade group or for NIV/NIRV group
- Print the "[Bible Memory Ideas for home](#)" front and back, cut apart and have available for families to take home with them. Encourage them to try a different idea each week
- Announce the Lent Bible Memory Challenge each week for at least two weeks before it begins
- Have sign up sheets available during your promotion weeks and encourage all ages and members of your congregation to sign up
- Create teams of six to eight people that have individuals from multiple age levels
- Decide whether you will be awarding a small prize to the members of the team who has the most point. Choose the prize and make arrangements to purchase them
- Create Power Point slides and weekly social media posts to keep congregation members engaged and aware of each week's Bible verse

Lent Bible Memory Challenge

BIBLE MEMORIZATION IDEAS *for home*

Try these ideas at home with your family to encourage the memorization of each week's memory verse. Try a different idea each week.

Write It!

Take a roll of old wrapping paper or craft paper. Tear off a really, long sheet to make a large banner. Tape it to a wall in your kitchen or another high traffic area in your home. Write the memory verse in large print across the banner. Encourage family members to read the verse every time they walk by or see it. After a few days see if you or your family members can say the verse without turning and looking at the banner.

Wipe It!

Using washable markers write the memory verse on a mirror, window, or a glass door. After a couple of days of reading the verse over, wipe away a few words. Draw a line or box where the word used to be. Encourage your family members to say the verse including the missing words. By the end of the week all words should be erased from the glass.

Draw It!

Write out this week's memory verse and post it where your family will see it. Then encourage your family to draw pictures that will remind them of the different words of the Bible verse. Tape these up near the verse. After a couple of days take down the written version of the verse and see if your family can say it just by looking at the pictures. Then see if they can say the verse without looking at the pictures.

Post It!

Write each word of the memory verse on post it notes. Post these on a kitchen wall or in a high traffic area. Encourage your family to say the verse out loud each time they walk by it. After a couple of days begin removing a couple of post it notes each day. See how well your family does at saying the verse with post it notes missing.

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Unscramble It!

Write each word of the memory verse on separate pieces of paper. Put the paper slips in a gift bag or a bowl. Encourage your family members to dump out all the paper slips and see if they can put the memory verse in the correct order. As the week progresses, see who can put it together the fastest.

Bop It!

Write each word or phrase from the memory verse on balloons. Gather your family together and see if they can work together bopping the balloons in the air. If a balloon falls to the ground, have someone burst it. Then everyone works to put the remaining balloons in order and say the verse together. Bop the remaining balloons in the air until the next one falls to the ground. Burst it, put the remaining balloons in order and say the verse again. Continue until all balloons are gone and you can say the verse from memory.

Pass It!

Write the words for the memory verses on a piece of paper and post it somewhere where family members will see it each day. Then find a time each day to encourage each other to remember the words. Stand in a circle or sit around the table and pass an item from one person to the next. As a person receives the item, they say next word or phrase in the verse. Continue around the circle giving everyone a chance to participate and until the whole verse has been recited. Try to see if you can pass it faster!

Seek It!

Write the words of the memory verse on separate pieces of paper. Hide the paper slips around your home. Invite your family to find the slips of paper. When all slips have been found, put the words in order and practice saying the verse. The next day assign someone else with the task of hiding the slips of paper. Gather again when all have been found, put them in order and say the verse together. Each day give another family member a turn hiding the slips, as the week progresses see how quickly you can put the verse in the correct order and eventually say it without looking at the slips of paper.

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BIBLE MEMORY CONNECTIONS *for teams*

Big Screen

Put the verse up on the big screen allowing everyone in the room read it off together. Then, take away a couple of words and read it again. Repeat this a few times until there are no words left. Then open up the mike for anyone who thinks they can say it without any prompting, and we all clap for them (even if they can't do it).

Melissa Crump, North York Temple

Give It Actions

Making up actions for each verse. Have someone teach them on Sunday morning, make a video to send home during the week to post as a reel. Then see who can share the verse and actions the next week.

Scripture Writing

Challenge your congregation to write out the verse each day during the week. Encourage them to highlight a word each day that stands out to them.

Jillian Penney, Vernon Community Church

Hidden Words

Write out each word of the memory verse on separate pieces of paper and then tape them to the bottom of chairs throughout your meeting space. During the Memory Verse Challenge time, invite the congregation to look under their chair for a slip of paper. Have those who found one to come to the front and see if they can put the words of the verse in the correct order.

Julia Dawe, Northridge Community Church

Live Action

Have teams come up with actions for a verse. Then have a competition to see which group comes up with the best actions.

Juggling Act

A fun and active idea is to have a group stand in a circle with one volunteer in the middle. The person in the middle has to juggle a balloon while the group says the verse. When they get through the verse once, then add a balloon. Continue adding balloons until they either hit someone in the circle or drop one. All the while, the group says the memory verse together.

Kristiana MacKenzie, Prairie Division DHQ

Scrambled Scripture

For each of your teams, write out the words of the week's memory verse words on separate cards. Gather the teams together and divide the slips of paper around the group. Have the teams work together to see which one can put the verse together, in the correct order, the quickest.

Meet & Greet

Provide a few minutes during on the first Sunday of your Bible Memory Challenge for team members to meet each other. With this day's verse on the screen, encourage team members to share their name, favourite food/game/activity and to repeat the verse together a couple of times before heading back to their seats.

Mid-Lent Meet & Greet

Provide a few minutes during your worship service for Bible Memory Challenge teams to gather together. Encourage them to share with each other what they have given up for Lent in order to have more time to spend with God, share which Bible memory activities are working for them, and to practice the new verse they have been given this week.

Minute to Win It Team Time

A couple of weeks during the Bible Memory Challenge, set up Minute to Win It type activities in your lobby and encourage your teams to join together and try them together before church starts.

Candy Connections

Gather your Bible Memory Challenge teams together and give each member 3 or 5 pieces of candy (Starbursts, Laffy Taffy, Hersey Kisses, or individually wrapped Lifesavers). Have each team member share one fact, thing they love or like to do for each candy they are holding.

Similar but Different

Reminding teams that we are all created and loved by God, He made us similar but different. In their teams have them talk about what is similar and how it is different. Topics: Eyes - what colours in our group; Hair - what colours in our group; Family - how many family members (siblings) or birth order - who is only child, oldest, etc.

Coffee Cup Connections

Write get to know you questions on the bottom of coffee cups (or hot chocolate or water cups). Before church have each person, no matter their age, walk around and ask others the question on the bottom of their cup. You could even give a small prize to those who chat with five different people.

Lent Bible Memory Challenge

Lent
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Grades 6 to
Adults



I have hidden your word in my heart
that I might not sin against you.

Psalm 119:11

Therefore encourage one another
and build each other up,
just as in fact you are doing.

1 Thessalonians 5:11

Trust in the LORD with all your heart and
lean not on your own understanding;
in all your ways submit to him, and
he will make your paths straight.

Proverbs 3:5-6

Be kind and compassionate to one
another, forgiving each other,
just as in Christ God forgave you.

Ephesians 4:32

So do not fear, for I am with you;
do not be dismayed, for I am your God.
I will strengthen you and help you;
I will uphold you with my righteous
right hand.

Isaiah 41:10

Love the LORD your God with all
your heart and with all your soul and
with all your strength.

Deuteronomy 6:5

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the
truth and the life. No one comes to the
Father except through me."

John 14:6

For God so loved the world that
he gave his one and only Son,
that whoever believes in him shall not
perish but have eternal life.

John 3:16

Lent

Bible Memory Challenge

Ready to
Explore



I have hidden your word in my heart
so that I won't sin against you.

Psalms 119:11



Encourage one another and
build each other up.

1 Thessalonians 5:11



Trust in the Lord with all your heart
and lean not on your
own understanding.

Proverbs 3:5-6



Be kind to one another.
Forgive each other,
as God forgave you.

Ephesians 4:32



Do not fear, for I am with you.
I will strengthen and help you.
I will hold you with my right hand.

Isaiah 41:10



Love the LORD your God with all
your heart and with all your soul
and with all your strength.

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Jesus answered, "I am the way and
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John 14:6



God so loved the world that he gave
his one and only Son. Anyone who
believes in him will not die but will
have eternal life.

John 3:16 (NIRV)



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Ready to Play



I have hidden God's Word
in my heart.

Psalms 119:11



Encourage one another.

1 Thessalonians 5:11



Trust in the Lord with
all your heart.

Proverbs 3:5-6



Be kind to one another.

Ephesians 4:32



Do not fear, I am with you.

Isaiah 41:10



Love the Lord your God.

Deuteronomy 6:5



Jesus is the way, the truth
and the life.

John 14:6



God loved us so much;
he sent Jesus to die
for our sin.

John 3:16



Lent
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NIV Verses



I have hidden your word in my heart
that I might not sin against you.

Psalms 119:11

Therefore encourage one another
and build each other up,
just as in fact you are doing.

1 Thessalonians 5:11

Trust in the LORD with all your heart and
lean not on your own understanding;
in all your ways submit to him, and
he will make your paths straight.

Proverbs 3:5-6

Be kind and compassionate to one
another, forgiving each other,
just as in Christ God forgave you.

Ephesians 4:32

So do not fear, for I am with you;
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I will strengthen you and help you;
I will uphold you with my righteous
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John 3:16

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NlrV Verses



I have hidden your word in my heart
so that I won't sin against you.

Psalm 119:11

NlrV

So encourage one another with the
hope you have. Build each other up.
In fact, that's what you are doing.

1 Thessalonians 5:11

NlrV

Trust in the LORD with all your heart.
Do not depend on your own
understanding. In all your ways obey him.
Then he will make your paths smooth
and straight.

Proverbs 3:5-6

NlrV

Be kind and tender to one another.
Forgive one another, just as God forgave
you because of what Christ has done.

Ephesians 4:32

NlrV

So do not be afraid. I am with you.
Do not be terrified.
I am your God. I will make you strong
and help you. I will hold you safe in my
hands. I always do what is right.

Isaiah 41:10

NlrV

Love the LORD your God with all your
heart and with all your soul.
Love him with all your strength.

Deuteronomy 6:5

NlrV

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the
truth and the life. No one comes to the
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John 14:6

NlrV

God so loved the world that he gave
his one and only Son. Anyone who
believes in him will not die but will
have eternal life.

John 3:16

NlrV

Additional Resources

Power Point Slides

Use PPT slides to promote the Lent Bible Memory Challenge, advertise its dates and to share each week's verse.



Social Media Assets

Assets are available for you to promote your local Lent Bible Memory Challenge, and to highlight each week's memory verse.

Instagram Squares



Instagram Stories



Facebook Posts





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