

MINISTRY MINUTE

JANUARY 2024

LENT (INTERGENERATIONAL) BIBLE MEMORY CHALLENGE

Memorizing God's Word helps us to know and obey Him, gives us encouragement, and provides us with wisdom when faced with decisions. The Canada Bermuda Youth team is challenging you to organize a Bible memory challenge at your corps/ church. Over Lent give members of your congregation a verse to memorize each week. Divide the congregation into teams with all ages so that intergenerational team members can encourage one another in their memorization, get to know each other, and earn points for their team. Set up a Bible Memory Challenge Station for team members to recite the verse at, and to track each team's points. The winning team could be awarded a prize at the end of the eight weeks or receive bragging rights. To get you started we have picked out eight verses (see Option 1 and Option 2 listings), and have provided ideas that families can use to help them fine tune their memorization skills. Are you up to the challenge?!

To learn more and to download resources visit CANBDAYouth.com.



BIBLE MEMORIZATION IDEAS *for home*

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.

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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 aloud 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.

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.



WORSHIP GATHERING MEMORIZATION IDEAS

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.

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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 while no one is in the room. 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.



BIBLE MEMORY CHALLENGE VERSES

Option 1



Option 2

