

THE CALVARY EXAMINER

MARCH 2006

VOLUME 3 NUMBER 3

Memory Verse

Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of men in their deceitful scheming. *Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ.** From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work. ~ Ephesians 4:14-17 NIV

(* The memory verse is verse 15, however the context is helpful)

MEMORIZED ANY SCRIPTURE LATELY ?

By: Colleen Maisto

I was glad when Kyra Joy asked me to write an article on the importance of memorizing Scripture. It was an answer to prayer for me. I had been asking God to help me to get back on track with consistent Scripture Memory. This assignment was the ticket.

Let's get right to the heart, God's heart, on this issue. We will memorize scripture because God commands us to.

Keep my words and store my commands within you.....Write them on the tablet of your heart. (Proverbs 7: 1, 3)

These commandments I give you today are to be upon your hearts. (Deut. 6: 6)

Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly. (Colossians 3: 16)

We know that God asks us to do things for His Glory and our good, to be conformed to the image of Christ. I appreciate how Beth Moore explains our need for God's Word.

"I don't care who we are and how long some of us have been in church or ministry. None of us can make it victoriously without a steady diet of Scripture. And why would we want to? Hebrews 4:12 tells us that God's Word is "living and active". Let me say that again a little louder: LIVING AND ACTIVE! That means it isn't just an ancient sacred text still making a few relevant applications. The Greek verb tense for "living" in Hebrews 4:12 indicates the Word is presently and continually teeming with life. If we believe the Word is alive and "all Scripture is Godbreathed" (2 Tim. 3:16) we might say that every breath comes to us still warm from the mouth of God. As if He just said it."

Beth goes on to say that we need to approach God's Word like the divine, supernatural, power packed text that it is. Continuing in 2 Tim.3:16-17 we know that all scripture is useful for

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teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training in righteousness so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work. Thank you, Lord!

In Ephesians 6:17, the Word of God is called the Sword of the Spirit. It is our offensive weapon against Satan's lies and deception. Psalm 119 wonderfully addresses so many blessings and benefits of God's Word in our lives as we study and obey it.

Scripture Memory will also help us to overcome worry as we experience God's peace because we know and believe His promises. We will also be more comfortable and confident in witnessing as we memorize scriptures that present and explain the Gospel.

In order for Scripture Memory to achieve the purposes God intended for us it has to be joined with meditation. The Navigator's Scripture Memory Course says Scripture memory puts God's Word in your mind and prayerful meditation on the Scripture you're memorizing puts God's Word in your heart. Obedience to His Word establishes it in your heart.

In John 5:37-40, Jesus confronted the Pharisees. Although they diligently studied the Scriptures, Jesus said God's Word did not dwell in them. It was a heart issue. They believed their head knowledge and legalistic obedience would save them. They refused to recognize, The WORD made flesh, dwelling among them.

For the Christian, meditation is thinking with a purpose. The Navigators suggest five methods to try.

1. Paraphrasing. This involves rewriting the passage in your own words.
2. Asking Questions. Who, what, where, when, why, and how questions about the verse.
3. Praying. Prayer, Praise, Thanksgiving and confession will come as you consider how God is speaking to you.
4. Emphasizing different words or phrases. This helps you to focus on small parts of the verse in order to understand the verse as a whole.
5. Finding cross references. Look up other verses related to the one you're memorizing.

So let's get started. Choose a verse. We have a monthly verse in our bulletin you can begin with. Some of our children come home with verses they are memorizing. We can join them and make it a joint family effort. As you have your bible study time or quiet time with the Lord ask Him to guide you to the verse He would like you to study. Develop a simple routine that will allow you to review and meditate on your verse throughout the day. Be creative. Put the verse on a index card and tape it to your bathroom mirror, keep a copy visible in your car, etc.

Jill Briscoe, in writing about Moses' Sinai experience said, "If the sight of God made a mountain quake, what should we do when we hear God's voice through the Scriptures? How awesome that should be. Do we approach God's Word in the same attitude of fear and reverence that Moses did? I think not!" She goes on to say "God's Words are the most marvelous and frightening things in this world, yet some of us cannot remember more than two of the Ten Commandments."

We strive to remember those things which are important to us, things we cherish. Palm Pilots and the like advise us of dates and appointments we dare not forget. Photos capture wonderful moments and events we want to be able to treasure in our minds. How much more should we strive to remember, and keep front and center in our minds the awesome Word of God.

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Let's love the Lord our God with all our heart and with all our soul and with all our mind (Deut.6:5). Let's say like Job, I have treasured the words of His mouth more than my necessary food. (Job23:12) Above all, let's hide His Word in our heart so that we might not sin against Him.

INTRODUCTION TO END TIMES PROPHECY

"Blessed is he that readeth and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written in it; for the time is at hand." (Revelation 1:3)

- ⇒ Are you clueless when it comes to end times prophecy?
- ⇒ Do you skip passages in the Bible about the end of the age?
- ⇒ Have you ever even read the book of Revelation?
- ⇒ Have the events in the Middle East got you wondering?
- ⇒ Have you ever wished that someone would teach this stuff?

Well, you are certainly in store for a BLESSING!!!

Starting March 12th in a Church like ours

In the privacy of our own Sunday School Class

"AN INTRODUCTION TO END TIMES PROPHECY"

- A 10 week overview study of the books of Revelation, Daniel, and Ezekiel plus other exciting passages like Mat 24 and 1 Thes 4.
- This class will attempt to answer questions like:
 - ✓ *Is the Rapture more than the Giants winning the Super Bowl?*
 - ✓ *How will I know if I am left behind?*
 - ✓ *How, what, where, when, and who is the Antichrist?*
 - ✓ *Is there really going to be another Temple in Jerusalem?*
 - ✓ *What is Pre, Post, A, and Pan Millennialism?*
 - ✓ *What is Pre, Mid, and Post Tribulationalism?*
 - ✓ *"Seals, Trumpets, and Bowls" oh no!?!?!?*
 - ✓ *Where do Israel, Russia, and the Arab nations fit in?*
 - ✓ *Is the USA involved in the War of Armageddon?*

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- ✓ *What practical relevance does this stuff have for me?*
- ✓ *Are we living in the end of the age?*
- ✓ **PLUS ANSWERS TO MANY OTHER QUESTIONS!!!**

You will never read the newspaper the same way again!

If this brief course description has sparked you interest, please come on out to Sunday School and join us - before it is too late!!!

What's your excuse!

Is there one thing in your life that is making you feel ineffective to serve God? I can't do that because... we like our dot dot dot's don't we! We can justify just about everything about why we can't do something. I hope this list provides the push that we need.

The next time you are in "pity party" mode, thinking God cannot use you, just remember:

- * *Noah became drunken, even after he served the Lord (Genesis 9:21 the story; 1 John 1:9, the remedy)*
- * *Abraham was too old*
- * *Isaac was a daydreamer*
- * *Jacob was a liar*
- * *Leah was considered blemished in the sight of Jacob, who "despised" her (Genesis 29:31). Yet, she bore six sons, including Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, from whom God created the 4 of the 12 tribes of Israel*
- * *Joseph was abused by his brothers*
- * *Moses had a stuttering problem*
- * *Gideon was afraid*
- * *Samson was a womanizer*
- * *Rahab was a prostitute*
- * *Jeremiah and Timothy were considered too young for ministry*
- * *David had an adulterous affair and was a murderer*
- * *Elijah panicked at the threat of a woman and was suicidal*
- * *Isaiah served God three years while walking around naked and barefoot (Isaiah 20:2-3)*
- * *Jonah ran from God*
- * *Naomi was a widow*
- * *Job went bankrupt*
- * *John the Baptist ate bugs*
- * *Peter denied Jesus Christ three times*
- * *The Disciples fell asleep after the Master asked them to pray for Him at one of the most terrible times of His ministry*
- * *Martha worried about everything*

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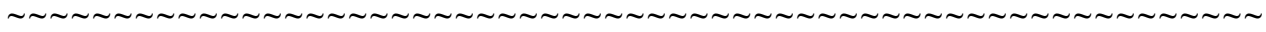
- * The Samaritan woman was repeatedly divorced, yet Jesus used her to witness to her village
- * Zaccheus was too small
- * Paul was too religious, too extremist
- * Timothy had an ulcer --- AND
- * Lazarus was DEAD!

You have no excuses now. God can use you to your full potential, beginning with where you are right now in your life. Besides, you aren't the message; you are just the messenger. Remember the wonderful words of the Apostle Paul, who considered himself the "chief of sinners":

" I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." (Phil 4:13)

author unknown

The Calvary Examiner Staff wants to start honoring people on their birthdays and wedding anniversaries. To do that we need that information! Please fill out the form below and Give it to Kyra Joy Hamling. Thank you!



Family Name: _____

Anniversary _____

Birthdays:
Name – Date

1) _____

2) _____

3) _____

4) _____

5) _____

6) _____

