

How To Memorize Scripture

1. **Select The Particular Version** you wish to memorize. Use it exclusively when teaching from the Bible. Use the same Bible so that your verses are always at the same place on the page.
2. **Find Someone To Memorize With You** - your spouse, a preacher, or any other friend. Its better whenever two people memorize, then recite to each other at scheduled times. Two people can maintain goals easier by keeping each other on schedule.
3. **Memorize A Few Verses Each Day.** Preview the chapter, then assign certain passages for each day of the week. Carry a pocket New Testament. Memorize during small bits of time.
4. **Study Each Chapter The Week You Memorize It.** Check the meaning of any difficult words or phrases. Understand each idea within the context of its verse, chapter and book.
5. **Visualize the Benefits** that a memorization of the New Testament will have on your effectiveness as a teacher of God's word. Keep such benefits before you always.

How To Remember What You've Memorized

1. **Take Advantage of "Dead Time."** Recite to yourself what you've already learned, whenever walking, standing in line, waiting in offices, driving, etc. Most people have an hour of more of such time each day.
2. When once a chapter has been memorized, **Recite That Chapter To Yourself** once a day the week thereafter, then once a week the month thereafter, then once a month for the rest of your life. (See Schedule For Monthly Reading of the New Testament.)
3. When once a chapter has been memorized, **Write That Chapter And Check It For Accuracy** once per week for the month thereafter, then once per year for as long as you think necessary to maintain your accuracy. (This amounts to a chapter a day, Monday through Friday, throughout the year.)

How Much Time Will This Take?

That depends upon your memorization ability. However, even if you do not have a photographic memory, if you are intelligent enough, for example, to have graduated from high school, if you use your "dead time" wisely, it should not take more than an hour per day. Can you think of a better or more worthwhile use of your study time?

Benefits Derived From Memorizing Scripture

- (1) Better knowledge and understanding of scripture. (2) Personal enrichment and guidance from God. (3) Potentially increased faith. (4) Improved ability to overcome temptations. (5) Greater ability to serve by teaching, counseling, refuting error, exhorting, etc.

Schedule for Monthly Reading

(or quoting)

New Testament

Day	Scriptures	Minutes
1	Luke 1 - 5	27
2	Luke 6 - 11	34
3	Luke 12 - 18	29
4	Luke 19 - 24	31
5	Acts 1 - 7	28
6	Acts 8 - 14	31
7	Acts 15 - 21	31
8	Acts 22 - 28	29
9	1, 2 Timothy, Titus	24
10	Ephesians, Philippians	26
11	Hebrews	35
12	Mark 1 - 5	20
	Mark 6 - 9	20
13	Mark 10 - 16	32
14	1, 2 Peter, Colossians	31
15	Romans 1 - 11	35
16	Romans 12 - 16	13
	1, 2 Thessalonians	14
17	1 Corinthians 1 - 10	27
18	1 Corinthians 11 - 16	20
19	2 Corinthians	30
20	James, Galatians	27
21	Matthew 1 - 9	29
22	Matthew 10 - 14	26
23	Matthew 15 - 22	27
24	Matthew 23 - 28	30
25	Phil, Jude, 1, 2, 3 John	20
26	John 1 - 6	29
27	John 7 - 12	31
28	John 13 - 21	34
29	Revelation 1 - 11	26
30	Revelation 12 - 22	29
Total Reading Time		875
Average Daily Time		29

Note: Whenever a month has 31 days, Mark 1 - 9 may be read in two days, with the exception that since February has only 28 days, January and March must each give a day to February.

You
Can*
Memorize
the
NEW
TESTAMENT!

*If you can *memorize* 4 to 6 verses every day *and remember* them, then you can memorize the New Testament in five years.

"All scripture is given by the inspiration of God ... that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work."
- 2 Timothy 3:16-17.

Familiarize Yourself
with the
New Testament
by reading it
once each month.

A Plan For Memorizing The New Testament In 5 Years

Memorize one chapter per week in this order. Start anytime.

Books	Chapters	Verses	Average Verses Chapter	English Words (KJV)	Average Words in Verse	Percent of New Testament	
Year I Average		4.06 verses daily		28.42 verses weekly			
1.	1 Timothy	6	113	18.33	2,269	20.08	1.42
2.	2 Timothy	4	83	20.75	1,703	20.52	1.04
3.	Titus	3	46	15.33	921	20.02	.58
4.	Ephesians	6	155	25.83	3,039	19.61	1.95
5.	Philippians	4	104	26.00	2,002	19.25	1.31
6.	Hebrews	13	303	23.30	6,913	22.82	3.81
7.	Mark	16	678	42.38	15,171	22.38	8.52
Summary		52	1,482	28.50	32,018	21.60	18.63
Year II Average		3.47 verses daily		24.29 verses weekly			
8.	1 Peter	5	105	21.00	2,482	23.64	1.32
9.	2 Peter	3	61	20.33	1,559	25.56	.77
10.	Colossians	4	95	23.75	1,998	21.03	1.19
11.	Romans	16	433	27.06	9,447	21.82	5.44
12.	1 Thessalonians	5	89	17.80	1,857	20.87	1.12
13.	2 Thessalonians	3	47	15.67	1,042	22.17	.59
14.	1 Corinthians	16	437	27.31	9,489	21.72	5.49
Summary		52	1,267	24.37	27,874	22.00	15.92
Year III Average		4.34 verses daily		30.38 verses weekly			
15.	2 Corinthians	13	257	19.77	6,092	23.70	3.23
16.	James	5	108	21.60	2,309	21.38	1.36
17.	Galations	6	149	24.83	3,098	20.80	1.87
18.	Matthew	28	1,071	38.25	23,684	22.11	13.46
Summary		52	1,585	30.48	35,183	22.20	19.92
Year IV Average		4.01 verses daily		28.07 verses weekly			
19.	Philemon	1	25	25.00	445	17.80	.31
20.	Jude	1	25	25.00	613	24.52	.31
21.	1 John	5	105	21.00	2,523	24.03	1.32
22.	2 John	1	13	13.00	303	23.31	.16
23.	3 John	1	14	14.00	299	21.36	.18
24.	John	21	879	41.86	19,099	21.63	11.05
25.	Revelation	22	404	18.36	12,000	29.70	5.08
Summary		52	1,465	28.17	35,282	24.08	18.41
Year V Average		5.91 verses daily		41.37 verses weekly			
26.	Luke	24	1,151	47.96	25,944	22.54	14.46
27.	Acts	28	1,007	35.96	24,250	24.08	12.66
Summary		52	2,158	41.50	50,194	23.26	27.12
Total		260	7,957	30.60	180,551	22.69	100.00%
Five Year Average		4.37 verses daily		30.6 verses weekly			

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Rationale for This Plan

- New Testament books whose total chapters equal the number of weeks in the year are placed together in annual units.
- Certain books, because they may be grouped as separate units, are intentionally placed together. These are . . .
 - Ministerial Letters** – Since this plan was originally designed primarily for preachers, it is appropriate that the memorization of New Testament books began with 1 & 2 Timothy and Titus.
 - Books by the same author** - e.g. John, Luke, and Peter. (Books by Paul are the exception). Inasmuch as Mark's gospel is thought to be the "gospel according to Peter," it is appropriate that it be memorized along with 1 & 2 Peter.
- Some books, because of their similarity, are intentionally separated from one another to facilitate easier memorization and to give a more even spread of subject matter. These are . . .
 - The Gospels** – Matthew, Mark, Luke, & John. "The gospel according to Paul," Romans, is placed in the year that a biographical gospel is not included.
 - Epistles on "Law and Gospel"** – Romans, Galatians and Hebrews.
 - Paul's twin prison letters** – Ephesians and Colossians.
- Notice:** Most chapters in Matthew, Mark, Luke, John and Acts of Apostles have more than the average number of verses to be memorized each week. Therefore, whenever chapters in other books have less verses than the required weekly averages for that year, you'll need to advance your memorizing schedule beyond those chapters in order to complete the memorization schedule within the year.
- Since length of chapters within Luke and Acts are generally in excess of the five-year weekly averages, you may wish to take two weeks for memorizing most chapters in these books. However, this will extend your memorization schedule to six years rather than five.
- Of course, each person may design his own plan to correlate with his preaching, Bible class teaching materials, or personal studies. Or, in the absence of pre-developed plans, preachers may find it advantageous to plan expository sermons to correlate with their memorization schedules.
- If after trying this schedule for a reasonable period of time, you cannot keep up the pace, then you should design your own schedule for memorizing the New Testament. Concentrate on retaining what you have already learned, then add to it as you can. Take 10 or 12 years, if needed, but don't quit!

Monthly Reading Schedule

The schedule for reading the New Testament follows the schedule for quoting the New Testament with the exception that the gospel of Luke and Acts of Apostles are placed first in the monthly reading but last in the memorization schedule. Times required for reading scripture selections were determined by oral readings, rounded out to the nearest full minute.

Character Traits Needed for Memorizing the New Testament

A Strong Desire

Self-discipline

Persistence