"More Than Useful: He is Beautiful"

Memory Prints

Scripture Memorization for the Rest of Us: The Jesus Project.

annvoskamp.com

Memorizing the Soul Sustaining Words of Jesus. From the Gospel of John.

Study and Devotionals unpacking each verse, each Wednesday, at annvoskamp.com

24 verses that chronologically unpack across the Gospel of John. We'll memorize at least one verse from every chapter in the Gospel of John. Sometimes several verses from each chapter.

Over the year, we'll offer another free download of "More Than Useful: He is Beautiful" Memory Prints. Or maybe two sets, offered later in the year? So the community could memorize 1 set of 24 verses... or 2 sets -- 48 verses from the Gospel of John. Or 3 sets -- 72 verses? All The Beautiful Words of Jesus....

It's a fluid experience, entirely self-paced: you could pace yourself and pick 12 verses, and memorize one verse a month, every month of the year. Or you could hang up several "More than Useful: He is Beautiful" Memory Prints and memorize a few every week. You could share with the kids. Tape to the mirror. Stick in the car. We will tape ours up to the blackboard by the kitchen table.

I believe it: What is beautiful in our lives is what actually becomes the most useful in our lives. We are drawn to beauty -- so hang up His words as art.

What if Jesus' Word was more than useful to us? What if it was beautiful to us?

What if God's Word was more than a manual in our lives --- what if it was the masterpiece in our lives -- that made our lives a masterpiece?
What if His Word was the art that we were captivated by -- that freed us into the *art of life*?

And memorization just got a whole lot easier: Scripture Memorization for the Rest of Us.

And by the end of the year? We'll have memorized at least 24 -- 48? 72? --- verses all chronologically from the Gospel of John.

We'll have this sort of art gallery of *More than Useful: He is Beautiful* Memory Prints --

*a humble hanging of prints... God's Word imprinted right into our being.*

This would be the year that the weary souls would take wing on the grace of Soul-Sustaining Verses.

This would be the year that we would be just bunch of messed-up, broken-down people -- *with a sword*. Because every. single. one. of. us. is facing. one. hard. battle. *Christ's weapon against Satan in the desert was memorized Scripture. And if you aren't memorizing Scripture -- what *IS* your weapon in your battle?*

So these “More Than Useful: He is Beautiful” Memory Prints: committing our hearts to Him and His Words to heart.

**Seven Ways of Highly Effective Bible Memorization***

1. **Old before New**

   Always take the old paths. Begin each day by reviewing the memorized verses first before learning the next verse. The goal is retention not accumulation.

2. **Rinse and Repeat**

   And again. The only way to retain learned verses is to review them again and
again over an extended period of time. Everyday’s memorization rhythm: Rinse and repeat.

3. Location, Location, Location

Like the mantra in real estate is location, location, location, so it is for really remembering: memorize the location of each verse. Memorize each verse number and don’t skip it. This is paramount and makes it much easier to memorize long passages and not inadvertently skip verses when reciting whole chapters. Location!

4. Take a Mental Screen Shot

Use your mental point and shoot and take a brain “photograph” of the verse. Read each new verse several times, hiding one word at a time, burning each word into your mind like light onto film.

5. Preach it

To yourself. Speak your memory verses to yourself aloud. Preach it aloud to the soul that needs it the most — our own — and say each verse with emotion and feeling. Whispering it while driving, walking, working not only is an easy way of reviewing and memorizing, it’s fulfilling God’s call to meditate on His Word day and night. And saying each verse aloud is a way to work the words deep into our memory: His Words never return void.

6. Repeat it for 100

For 100 consecutive days repeat aloud your memory work — all the verses, or the chapter, or the whole book. This is painless and demands no extra time: do it first thing every morning while getting ready for the day — in the shower, getting dressed, making the bed etc. Repeat it for 100!

7. Sabbath Sanctuary to see the weeds

After your Repeat it for 100, take the last Sunday of every month and make a sabbath sanctuary to read through your memory work. This will help you to “see the weeds” — any mistakes that have crept into your recitation of longer projects/chapters/books. Soak in His Word on a Sabbath — pluck out some weeds. Commit your heart — and mind — to Him again.
“I know of no other single practice in the Christian life more rewarding... than memorizing Scripture... No other single exercise pays greater spiritual dividends...” ~Charles Swindoll

Learning the ART of Memorizing

Attend

Attend to the verse. Do whatever it takes to attend to the verse and work those brain muscles. If you have to act it out, draw it up, write it down, or tape it everywhere. Make up actions and sign-language to correspond with the verse. Listen it verses on CD/MP3. Listen in the car, while doing dishes, going for a walk. Make up a Song.

Very Effective: Write out the verse – just using the FIRST LETTER of each WORD. This habit of writing out the verse, by just writing out each word, forces your brain to be prompted by just the first letter of each word, and makes your brain work harder, faster easier to memorize the which word comes next, and quickly memorize the whole verse.

For children: Draw the verse in pictures. Fill in the blank. Write it down several times. Close your eyes and see the words. Do whatever it takes to Attend.

Review to Renew

Repeat. Recite. Recap. Reiterate. And then.... Recite to an accountability partner weekly. Each day, take just five minutes to review verses learned last week. Learning is important...but reviewing is paramount to retention. Repeating God’s Word renews.

Tie

Tie Daily Memorizing to Daily Duties. Tie reciting to routines: when you brush teeth, comb hair, make the bed, use the time to savor His Sweet Word. Tie memorizing to meal times. Bind Scripture learning to laundry, labor and living. Tying daily memorizing to daily duties is the living of Deuteronomy 6:7: “You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall
talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.” Tie His Word to your life. *Tie.*
the JESUS project

THE YEAR TO fly

FOR THE WEARY SOUL TO TAKE WING

verses from the book of John
GOD'S WORD
MAKE IT YOUR
HABIT
the LIGHT shines in the DARKNESS and the DARKNESS has NOT overcome it

John 1:5

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The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen His glory, as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. 

John 1:14
because HE was full of GRACE & TRUTH
from HIM all we received ONE GIFT after another
John 1:16 NCV
Do whatever He tells you. John 2:5
FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD
THAT HE GAVE HIS ONLY SON
THAT WHOEVER BELIEVES IN HIM SHOULD NOT PERISH BUT HAVE ETERNAL LIFE

JOHN 3:16
A person cannot receive even one thing unless it is given him from heaven.

John 3:27
He must increase, but I must decrease.

John 3:30
Jesus said to her everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again.

The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.

John 4:13-14
But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in Spirit and Truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship Him.

God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in Spirit and Truth.

John 4:23-24
Look, I tell you, lift up your eyes and see that the fields are white for the harvest.

John 4:35

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Whoever does not honor the Son, does not honor the Father who sent him.

Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears my Word and believes Him who sent ME has ETERNAL LIFE. He does not come into judgement, but has passed from death to LIFE.

John 5:23-24
I seek not
my own will
but the will of
HIM who
SENT me

John 5:30
you search the **SCRIPTURES**
because you think that in them you have **ETERNAL LIFE**
and it is they that **BEAR WITNESS** about **Me**

*John 5:39*
Jesus said to them,  
I AM THE BREAD OF LIFE; whoever comes to ME shall not hunger, and whoever BELIEVES in ME shall never THIRST  
John 6:32
Jesus answered them,

Do not grumble among yourselves

John 6:43

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LORD, TO WHOM SHALL WE GO?

You have the words of eternal life.

John 6:68
IF ANYONE THIRSTS LET HIM COME TO ME and drink, WHOEVER BELIEVES IN ME as the Scripture has said, OUT OF HIS HEART WILL FLOW rivers of living waters.

John 7:37-38
HE STOOD UP AND SAID TO THEM
Let him who is WITHOUT SIN
BE THE FIRST among you TO THROW A STONE at her.

John 8:7

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Again Jesus spoke to them, saying

*I AM* the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness but will have the light of life.

*John 8:12*
If you abide in my word you are truly my disciples and you will know the truth and the truth will set you free.

John 8:31

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TRULY, TRULY I SAY TO YOU
everyone who practices
sin is a slave to sin

BUT IF THE Son
sets you
FREE

YOU ARE FREE

indeed

John 8:34, 36
JESUS ANSWERED

IT WAS NOT THAT THIS MAN SINNED OR HIS PARENTS

BUT THAT THE WORKS OF GOD MIGHT BE displayed IN HIM
BUT HE WHO ENTERS BY THE DOOR IS THE SHEPHERD OF THE SHEEP TO HIM THE GATEKEEPER OPENS THE SHEEP HEAR HIS VOICE AND HE CALLS HIS OWN SHEEP BY NAME AND LEADS THEM OUT

JOHN 10:2–3

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