

## How to Hide the Word?

Lesson 4

**What Is the Hidden Word?** The Hidden Word is God's Word *treasured* in our hearts...

**Why Hide the Word?** in order to *retain, recall, reflect,* and *recite* it in the future...

**How to Hide the Word?** through *dedication, dependence, diligence, discipline,* and *development* for *great delight!*

Hiding God's Word Calls for...

### 1. DEDICATION: A DECISION to Make!

➤ **Will I memorize? Yes or No**

**How long have you been saved?** \_\_\_\_\_

- *What if you had determined to memorize one verse a year and review it every week/month?*
- *What if you had determined to memorize one verse a month and review all 12 for the year?*



**When it comes to memorization,  
am I more like Barney or Rambo?**



➤ **Why will I memorize? TO HIDE GOD'S WORD in MY HEART BECAUSE I DELIGHT to DO HIS WILL!**

#### **A Prayer of Dedication for Memorization**

*Heavenly Father, I delight to do your will and desire to hide Your Word in my heart. I want to treasure Your Word so I will fear You and won't forget to do Your will on a daily basis. I commit to beginning the process of memorizing Scripture in a systematic way on a regular basis. I will forsake any fleshly excuses and depend on your grace to enable me by Your Spirit, knowing that in Christ I am able to do this for Your glory, my joy, and the good of others. Amen.*

### 2. DISCIPLINE: A SYSTEM to Follow!

➤ **What** will I memorize and how often: *Verses? Paragraphs? Chapters? Books? Discipleship Verses? Favorites?*

Write a goal: \_\_\_\_\_

➤ **When** will I do this? *Fit it into your lifestyle!*

Plan a time: \_\_\_\_\_

➤ **Where** will I do this? *Largely determined by when! Best if you must go there daily no matter what! EVERYWHERE!*

Plan a place: \_\_\_\_\_

- **How** will I do it? *Writing? Repeating? Singing? Drawing? Always involves Meditating! ALL of the ABOVE!*

Plan a way: \_\_\_\_\_

### 3. DILIGENCE: A TOOL to Use!

- **What** will I use? *Low tech, high tech, or both?*

Get a tool: \_\_\_\_\_

### 4. DEPENDENCE: A PARTNER to Encourage!

- **Who** will help me keep my commitment to God?

Ask a fellow believer for accountability: \_\_\_\_\_

- **How** will I ever do this and stay humble in the process?

Ask the Living Word & His Spirit for the ability and humility. *Philippians 2:12-13; Psalm 119*

AVOID TWO EXTREMES	
<b>The Arrogance of Victory</b>	<b>The Agony of Defeat</b>
<i>"Look, what I can do!"</i>	<i>"Look, I can never do this!"</i>

### 5. DEVELOPMENT: A SUCCESS to Celebrate and a MODEL to Imitate!

- **How** will I measure my progress over time?

I will stick with this until: \_\_\_\_\_

- Memorization is fruitful at *any* level!
- Memorization requires discipline and persistence through *dry times*.
- Memorization requires *beginning* before *blessings*!

- **How** will I celebrate my success?

My reward will be: \_\_\_\_\_

- **Who** can inspire and coach me?

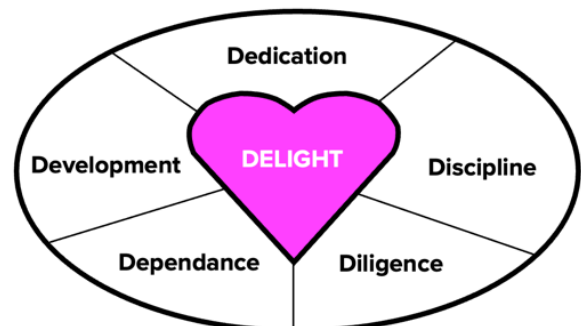
See "**Hidden Word Resources**" handout for coaching.

*Remember leadership is motivating people to do what they don't want to do in order to inspire them to become and accomplish what they have wanted all their life.* –Tom Landry

**The Hidden Word Will Enlarge Our Hearts to Give Thanks with Greater Reverence in God's Presence!**

*"I shall run the way of Your commandments,  
For You will enlarge my heart."*

*Psalm 119:32*



# How to Hide God's Word in Your Heart

"Your word I have hidden in my heart that I might not sin against You.." Psalm 119:11



1. **REALIZE** the best verse to begin memorizing is one that speaks to you personally.
2. **RECORD** the verse on 3x5 or 4x6 index card or with an app.
3. **REPEAT** the verse at least 5/10 times in the morning and the evening by **reading** it aloud and/or **writing** it down. (Break the verse into natural phrases and that you say the reference before and after the verse each time.)
4. **REINFORCE** key words and phrases when repeating the verse.
5. **REVIEW** the verse by carrying the cards during the day, placing it in your car, or hanging it in a place where you are every day – mirror, shower, sink, desk, etc.
6. **REFLECT** on the meaning and application of the verse for your life. *Memorize to meditate and marinate!*
7. **REQUEST** that God would make the verse come alive in your life by applying it to yourself and using it to minister to others – witnessing, discipling, exhorting etc.
8. **RECALL** the verse word perfect – be sure to check yourself on this or have others do so.
9. **RECITE** the verse to an accountability partner –a spouse, a disciple, a friend, etc.
10. **RETAIN** what you have learned by **reviewing** your verse on a **regular basis**.
11. **RELY** on God to make this spiritual discipline a life-long delight for His glory and the good of others.
12. **REJOICE** as the hidden Word enlarges your heart to give thanks with greater reverence in God's presence!

"I shall run the way of Your commandments, For You will enlarge my heart." Psalm 119:32

## My Plan for Hiding God's Word in My Heart

- Write out your plan for hiding God's Word in your heart and share it with your accountability partner this week.

**Dedication: My Decision to Make.**

My prayer of dedication: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Discipline: My Plan to Follow.**

My goal is to \_\_\_\_\_  
My time is \_\_\_\_\_  
My place is \_\_\_\_\_  
My system is \_\_\_\_\_

**Diligence: My Tool to Use.**

My tool(s): \_\_\_\_\_

**Dependence: My Partner to Encourage.**

My accountability partner is accountability: \_\_\_\_\_  
My promise for God's enablement: \_\_\_\_\_

**Development: My Success to Celebrate and Model to Imitate.**

My reward will be: \_\_\_\_\_  
My model is: \_\_\_\_\_

**The Hidden Word for This Week**

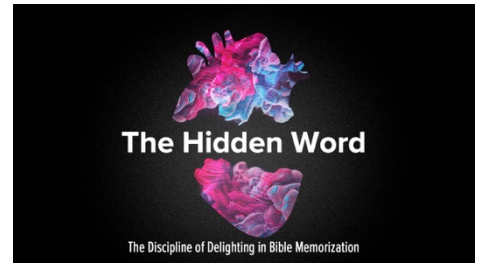
Review **Psalm 119:9-11** every day for the next month or 100 days.

# Hidden Word Resources

These resources will help you memorize Scripture and inspire you to do so. Some resources are free, some require investment, and some are included to remind you that you can memorize and to give you the courage to do so. Many of these web links include multiple resources and free downloads as well.

Resources are marked with the following symbols:

- \* Resources that can be used with children.
- † Resources that work well when memorizing with another individual or a group.
- § Resources that are a part of Glenna Marshall's regular tools for memorization.<sup>1</sup>
- 📖 Resources used and/or recommended by Pastor Chris.



## VERSE CARDS and JOURNALS

**Topical Memory System** from The Navigators provides a workbook, pocket-sized printed cards, and a card holder designed to help you memorize Scriptures pertaining to topics like proclaiming Christ and growth in Christlikeness. By using the course workbook and memory cards as your guide, you can memorize, review, and meditate on 60 verses in just 30 weeks (<https://www.navigators.org/resource/topical-memory-system/>) 📖

**Fighter Verses** from Desiring God include fifty-two passages per year, for five years, to help you memorize Scripture topically. Weekly devotionals are included to help you meditate on each week's passage. There are also journals available as well. (<https://www.fighterverses.com/about-us>) \* † 📖

**Scripture Memory Fellowship** has a wide variety of resources and memorization plans including verse cards, songs, newsletter, and an app. Search the site for the **SwordGrip** comprehensive plan. (<https://scripturememory.com/>) \* † 📖

**The Daily Grace Co.** provides multiple sets of 4x4 inch verse cards. Some sets are grouped around themes like grief or seasons of waiting, and some sets are blank to allow you to handwrite your chosen verses and references. (<https://thedailygraceco.com/>)

**Koogel Colorful Index Cards** on Amazon has an amazing variety of colorful index cards in cool styles for writing out your on verse cards and packets. \* 📖

**Journibles** are simply lined journals designed for copying Scripture word for word as well as a page for your own observations and questions. (<https://www.heritagebooks.org/categories/journibles/>)

## APPS

**5 Best Bible Memory Apps for 2024** (<https://www.biblememorygoal.com/memory-methods/best-bible-memory-apps/>) is a helpful review. The best app is the one you will use! Unfortunately, no single app includes all the features I prefer.

**The Scripture Memory Pro App** is a good app for memorization that uses the "type the first letter" method and is excellent for reviewing what you have memorized based on brain science. I find the interface to be hard to understand and clunky. It is great for implementing an overall plan for reviewing and retaining. Voice recording and creating groups is also available. It is also has encouraging responses. (<https://biblememory.com/>) † § 📖

**The Verses App** is a Mac iOS and, therefore, its interface is user friendly and simple. It also has a great variety of methods/games for memorizing. Voice recording and creating groups to memorize together. Great for getting started on memorization with an app. (<https://www.getverses.com/>) † § 📖

**Fighter Verses App** from Desiring God. See description above. Each plan in the Fighter Verses app comes with other supplementary material as well such as devotions and songs to help you learn the verses and apply them to your heart as you memorize, which supports the idea that scripture is to be part of our walk with God, and not simply something we memorize mindlessly (although God can still use that too). (<https://www.fighterverses.com/tools>) 📖

**Bible Memory: VerseLocker** is an app from Scripture Memory Fellowship that is free to use, with no limits on features or number of verses. It also gives you more flexibility in the tools that you want to use in memorizing passages within the app than does The Scripture memory Pro. (<https://scripturememory.com/verselocker/app/>)

**Dwell Bible Audio Bible App** comes with many customizable features that allow you to listen to Scripture in a way that suits your learning style. You can choose the Bible translation, the narrator, the background music or ambient sounds, and the speed at which the passage is read. You can also repeat passages as often as you want for memorization purposes or set a sleep timer for Scripture to be read to you until you fall asleep. §


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<sup>1</sup> This resource list is adapted from Glenna Marshall, *Memorizing Scripture* (145-150). Recommendations are never a complete endorsement of any individual or their beliefs and practices. Learn to discern in light of the inerrant Scriptures. These resources are listed to encourage you to hide God's word in your heart.

**The Voxer App** is intended for communication with others but allows you to send audio notes to yourself. You can recite your passages while recording on Voxer and then play it back to rehearse or listen for errors. Or you can record while reading your selected passage aloud and use it in place of an audio Bible.

## SIMPLE TOOLS and METHODS

**The Verse Card Maker.** Utilizing the VCM website will allow you to type and print your own verse cards so you can memorize at your own pace without having to handwrite anything. (<http://www.mcscott.org/index.html>)

**Ziplock bags.** Handwrite or type and print your chosen text. Slide the printed text upside down into a gallon-sized ziplock bag. Tape the bag, zipper side down, to the wall of your shower so you can work on memorization each time you take a shower. \* § 


**Index cards.** Write your text on index cards and set them in places you will see on a regular basis: dashboard of your vehicle, desk, kitchen windowsill, bathroom mirror. 

**Open Bible.** Rather than closing your Bible when you're done with your devotion time, leave it open to your chosen passage and stop to read and recite each time you walk by your Bible.

**Around-the-Table Game.** If you are working on memorization with your family, use mealtimes to work on your verses. Have one person start with the first word of the text, and then let the next person take the next subsequent word, working in a circle until you reach the end of the passage. Next time, begin with a different person or go in the opposite direction to change up the order. Note: this game will usually result in lots of laughter. \* † §

## MUSIC

**"Psalms, Hymns, and Spiritual Songs"** album by Shane & Shane §

**The Psalms Project** is setting all 150 Psalms to music in their entirety, including the essential meaning of every verse, a marriage of King David's vision with modern music. This project is led by singer/songwriter/producer Shane Heilman with over 70 musicians thus far to produce the first five albums. (<https://thepsalmsproject.com/>) 

**Hide the Word** by Steve Green's is similar to his older **Hide 'Em In Your Heart** series that brought scripture to life for children. \*

**Slugs & Bugs: Sing the Bible** also has Bible memory cards for kids. \*

**Seeds Kids Worship** albums. \*

**"Jesus Kids"** album by Shai Linne. \*

**"Worship in the Word"** albums by Shane & Shane and Kingdom Kids. \*

## SUBSCRIPTION SERVICES

**Dwell Differently** is a temporary tattoo subscription to help you memorize Scripture based on the NIV. Members memorize one verse each month with the help of temporary tattoos or stickers, an art print, and key tag. Members also receive a digital kit with a printable coloring page, lock screens, and backgrounds for phones, computers, and apple watches. (<https://dwelldifferently.com/pages/get-started>)

## YOUTUBE VIDEOS

**Josh Summer's Bible Memory Goal** website and resources will inspire you to memorize Scripture. He provides simple tips and techniques for memorizing a single verse or an entire book of the Bible. Follow Josh as he memorizes the entire New Testament and shares the lessons he learns, the people he interviews, and methods he gleans along the way. (<https://www.youtube.com/@BibleMemoryGoal>)

**Note:** Watch this video to hear how Andrew M. Davis has adapted his approach to memorizing entire books of the Bible (See his two books below.). **"He Memorized Ezekiel (All 48 Chapters!) and This Is What He Learned."** (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9rl5A7t7YFI>)

**"What Is the Easiest Way to Memorize Scripture"** (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=68QZQjLjnyY>) with Donald Whitney explaining Andrew Davis' method for memorizing whole books. Whitney likes using the Fighter Verses app.

## ARTICLES/PODCASTS

**Jon Bloom** confesses: **"Scripture Memory Wasn't for Me"** and provides one of the best encouragements on this subject. (<https://www.desiringgod.org/articles/scripture-memory-wasnt-for-me>)

**Andrew M. Davis** has helpful information on memorizing whole books of the Bible. Listen to him talk with Nancy Guthrie. See his books on his method below.

**Susan Heck** explains her Scripture memory method on the **Women's Hope Project** podcast. If you're an audio learner, this will be very beneficial for you. (<https://servantsofgrace.org/ep-9-susan-heck-scripture-memory-method/>)

**Janet Pope** and **Nancy Wolgemuth** say: **"It's a just a perseverance thing, actually."** Read or listen to this conversation at **Revive Our Hearts**. See Pope's book below. (<https://www.reviveourhearts.com/podcast/revive-our-hearts/you-can-memorize-more-you-think-1/>)

**Andy Naselli** provides motivation in **"You Can Memorize Scripture This Year"** at Desiring God. (<https://www.desiringgod.org/articles/you-can-memorize-scripture-this-year>)

**Andy Naselli** shares **14 Reasons to Memorize an Entire Book of the Bible** at The Gospel Coalition. (<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/14-reasons-to-memorize-an-entire-book-of-the-bible/>)

**Andy Naselli** follows up with **11 Steps to Memorizing an Entire Book of the Bible** at The Gospel Coalition. (<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/11-steps-to-memorizing-an-entire-book-of-the-bible/>)

**Risen Motherhood** has a podcast episode that will help you make time for memorization: **"Wisdom for the Everyday: Scripture Memory and Motherhood."** (<https://www.risenmotherhood.com/podcast-episodes/ep-127-wisdom-for-the-everyday-scripture-memory-amp-motherhood>)

**Josh Summer's Bible Memory Goal** podcast. ([podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/memorize-what-matters/id1624868713](https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/memorize-what-matters/id1624868713))

**Mark Young** answers the question: **"Where to Start!? Guide to Memorizing Scripture"** at Swift Creek Baptist Church. (<https://www.swiftcreekbaptist.org/blog/where-to-start-guide-to-memorizing-scripture/>)

## BOOKS

Beless, Hunter. ***Read it, See It, Say It, Sing It: Knowing and Loving the Bible.*** \*

Davis, Andrew M. ***An Approach to Extended Memorization of Scripture*** (Free PDF <https://scripturememory.com/downloadables/andrewdavis.pdf>). 📖

Davis, Andrew M. ***How to Memorize Scripture for Life: From One Verse to Entire Books*** (Crossway 2023). 📖

Genova, Lisa. ***Remember: The Science of Memory and the Art of Forgetting.***

Marshall, Glenna, ***Memorizing Scripture: The Basics, Blessings, and Benefits of Meditating on God's Word.*** (Moody 2023). 📖

McIntosh, Doug. ***God Close Up: How to Mediate on His Word.*** 📖

Pope, Janet. ***His Word in My Heart: Memorizing Scripture for a Closer Walk with God.***

Rogers, Richard. ***Holy Helps for a Godly Life.*** 📖

Whitney, Donald S. ***Spiritual Disciplines for the Christian Life.*** 📖

Whitney, Donald S. ***Praying the Bible.*** 📖

Woychuk, N. A. ***You Need to Memorize Scripture.*** Available for \$3.00 here: (<https://scripturememory.com/you-need-to-memorize-scripture>) 📖

## TEACHING SERIES

Regas, Christopher A. ***The Hidden Word: The Discipline of Delighting in Bible Memorization.*** (<https://wearelifebridge.com/resources/messages/series/the-hidden-word/>)

This study includes nine benefits of memorizing Scripture gleaned from Psalm 119 and the chart: **"Why Hide God's Word In Your Heart? The Struggle and Stimulus."**

***How can a young man keep his way pure? By keeping it according to Your word.  
With all my heart I have sought You; Do not let me wander from Your commandments.  
Your word I have treasured in my heart, That I may not sin against You.***

Psalm 119:9-11