

ABIDE

LISTENING AND MEMORIZING
SCRIPTURE TOGETHER

“THE WORD OF GOD ABIDES IN YOU...”

1 John 2:14





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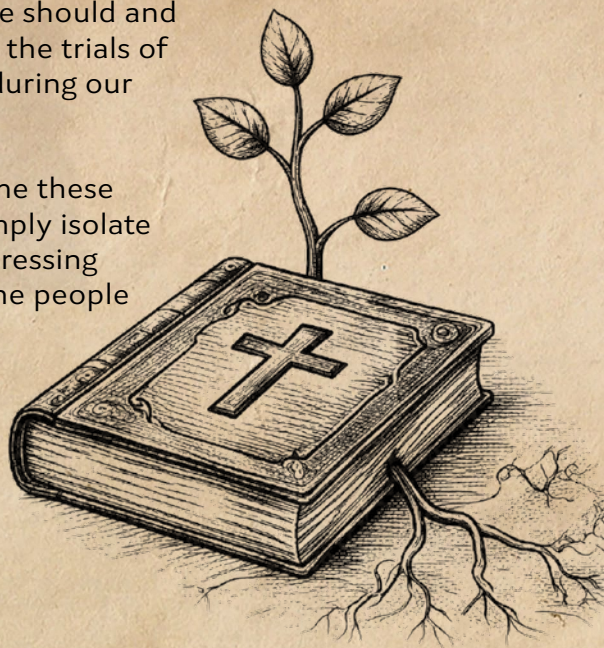
INTRODUCTION



The Bible is no ordinary book. It is our spiritual lifeline. Scripture is literally God-breathed (2 Tim. 3:16), carrying a power that Hebrews describes as living and active (Heb. 4:12). As believers, we don't just need to read the Bible; we need to absorb it. Its contents belong in our minds and its words hidden in our hearts.

The relentless rush of modern life makes it incredibly hard to stay consistently rooted in God's Word. Between career demands, family activities, and daily chores, our Bible reading and memory work often become hit-or-miss. As a result, our souls are malnourished. We don't know the Christian faith like we should and aren't ready to stand the trials of life that are certain during our short pilgrimage.

How can we overcome these hurdles? We can't simply isolate ourselves from the pressing needs of daily life. The people around us genuinely need us, and more importantly, they need to see the light of God we are striving to reflect (Matt. 5:16).



One powerful way to tackle this is through gentle accountability. Sharing this journey in a close-knit community is incredibly encouraging. Reading and memorizing Scripture together ensures we all get the steady, nourishing diet of God's Word we need.

ABIDE provides a safe space and a scheduled layer of accountability. ABIDE is a network of global small groups that meet weekly to read and memorize Scripture. Each meeting lasts approximately one hour and includes dedicated time for PRS and CSM.

PRS

PRS stands for the Public Reading of Scripture—the ancient, biblical practice of listening to God's Word together. While the Bible's 66 books span diverse genres such as poetry, history, and letters, most were originally composed as oral documents meant to be heard aloud in a single sitting. Beyond their original design, Scripture is packed with clear examples and direct commands to read its truths publicly, a beautiful tradition we explore further in this booklet.



CSM



Community Scripture Memory (CSM) is the practice of hiding God's Word in our hearts. Memorization leads naturally to meditation, allowing us to deeply internalize and apply biblical truth to our lives. By storing these Scriptures within us, we give the





Holy Spirit is a rich reservoir of Truth to draw upon in daily life. Whether we need wisdom for tough decisions, boldness for divine appointments to share the gospel, or peace during anxious, sleepless nights, the Holy Spirit brings those hidden verses back to mind right when we need them most.

ABIDE pairs community Scripture memory with fellowship and accountability—two vitals often missing today. Because memorizing Scripture has become the exception rather than the rule, believers frequently feel isolated. ABIDE bridges that gap, connecting you with a vibrant community of like-minded Christians equally devoted to hiding God's Word in their hearts.

As noted earlier, accountability is vital for consistent Scripture intake. Memorizing Bible verses is a genuine discipline requiring time and focused effort. It's easy to let it slip when distraction or weariness takes over. A regular, scheduled meeting provides the essential structure and accountability needed to keep you on track.

BIBLICAL FOUNDATIONS OF PRS/CSM



ABIDE champions the ancient spiritual disciplines of Public Reading of Scripture and Community Scripture Memory. We prioritize these practices because they are deeply rooted in God's Word. Note a few examples.



Exodus 24:7

7) Then he took the Book of the Covenant and read in the hearing of the people. And they said, "All that the LORD has said we will do, and be obedient."

Colossians 4:16

16) Now when this epistle is read among you, see that it is read also in the church of the Laodiceans, and that you likewise read the epistle from Laodicea.



Joshua 1:8

8) This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.

Colossians 3:16

16) Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.



SIX PILLARS OF ABIDE



Guided by our need for consistent Scripture intake and highlighting two ancient spiritual disciplines rooted in the Bible, the ministry of ABIDE is built upon six biblical pillars. ABIDE promotes high-quality listening and memorizing of the whole Bible regularly in community.



In Community (1 Tim. 4:13)

13) Till I come, give attention to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine.



Listening (Rev. 1:3)

3) Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written in it; for the time is near.



Memorizing (Psa. 119:11)

11) Your word I have hidden in my heart, That I might not sin against You.



Whole Bible (Matt. 4:4)

4) But He answered and said, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.' "



Regularly (Psa. 1:2)

2) But his delight is in the law of the LORD, And in His law he meditates day and night.



High Quality (Reading and Memorizing) (Neh. 8:8)

8) They read from the book, from the Law of God, clearly, and they gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

SCRIPTURE INTAKE



As we emphasize the biblical practices of PRS and CSM, it is important to have practical methodologies for carrying them out. These methods ensure success. Here are a few practical strategies we utilize in every ABIDE Meeting.

Bible Reading Plan Info

How Much Bible to Read and Listen to in One or Two Years?
Choose your own goal from the recommendations below.

Old Testament 77 hrs		New Testament 21 hrs		Psalms 6 hrs		Hours Per Week	
						12-24 Months	
1	-	1	-	2	Times	2h 00m	1h 00m
1	-	2	-	3	Times	2h 30m	1h 15m
1	-	3	-	4	Times	3h 00m	1h 30m
2	-	3	-	4	Times	4h 30m	2h 15m
2	-	4	-	6	Times	5h 00m	2h 30m
2	-	6	-	8	Times	6h 00m	3h 00m



Listen Time for Each of the 66 Books of the Bible

2025 ☐		2026 ☐		2027 ☐		2028 ☐	
Old Testament		1st	2nd			1st	2nd
Genesis	4h 49m	☐	☐	Ecclesiastes	42m	☐	☐
Exodus	4h 01m	☐	☐	Song of Songs	23m	☐	☐
Leviticus	2h 43m	☐	☐	Isaiah	4h 32m	☐	☐
Numbers	3h 48m	☐	☐	Jeremiah	5h 03m	☐	☐
Deuteronomy	4h 38m	☐	☐	Lamentations	31m	☐	☐
Joshua	2h 21m	☐	☐	Ezekiel	4h 57m	☐	☐
Judges	2h 17m	☐	☐	Daniel	1h 30m	☐	☐
Ruth	17m	☐	☐	Hosea	41m	☐	☐
1 Samuel	2h 59m	☐	☐	Joel	14m	☐	☐
2 Samuel	2h 29m	☐	☐	Amos	32m	☐	☐
1 Kings	2h 58m	☐	☐	Obadiah	4m	☐	☐
2 Kings	2h 45m	☐	☐	Jonah	12m	☐	☐
1 Chronicles	2h 47m	☐	☐	Micah	28m	☐	☐
2 Chronicles	3h 08m	☐	☐	Nahum	9m	☐	☐
Ezra	54m	☐	☐	Habakkuk	11m	☐	☐
Nehemiah	1h 12m	☐	☐	Zephaniah	12m	☐	☐
Esther	43m	☐	☐	Haggai	8m	☐	☐
Job	2h 19m	☐	☐	Zechariah	45m	☐	☐
Psalms	6h 02m	☐	☐	Malachi	13m	☐	☐
Proverbs	2h 04m	☐	☐	39 Books Total	76h 58m	☐	☐
New Testament		1st	2nd			1st	2nd
Matthew	2h 49m	☐	☐	1 Timothy	16m	☐	☐
Mark	1h 43m	☐	☐	2 Timothy	12m	☐	☐
Luke	2h 54m	☐	☐	Titus	7m	☐	☐
John	2h 14m	☐	☐	Philemon	3m	☐	☐
Acts	2h 45m	☐	☐	Hebrews	53m	☐	☐
Romans	1h 9m	☐	☐	James	15m	☐	☐
1 Corinthians	1h 2m	☐	☐	1 Peter	16m	☐	☐
2 Corinthians	40m	☐	☐	2 Peter	10m	☐	☐
Galatians	21m	☐	☐	1 John	17m	☐	☐
Ephesians	21m	☐	☐	2 John	2m	☐	☐
Philippians	15m	☐	☐	3 John	2m	☐	☐
Colossians	14m	☐	☐	Jude	4m	☐	☐
1 Thessalonians	13m	☐	☐	Revelation	1h 16m	☐	☐
2 Thessalonians	7m	☐	☐	27 Books Total		☐	☐

CSM TECHNIQUES



ABIDE utilizes three techniques to successfully memorize God's Word. We practice these methods in community, but they are also applicable for your private Bible memory time.

3x5 Method

Psalms 119:105 (NKJV)

"Your word is a lamp to my feet And a light to my path."

STEP 01

READ the ENTIRE memory verse x3

STEP 02

Say the REFERENCE x3

STEP 03

Say the REFERENCE and the FIRST PHRASE x 3

STEP 04

Add EACH PHRASE and say it x3

STEP 05

Say the ENTIRE verse from memory x3





Word Blur

Philippians 4:13 (NKJV)

"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

Locate the "Nails"

"Nails" are the load-bearing words that hold the verse together.

STEP 01

Identified nails: can do (main verb), all things (scope), Christ (proper noun), strengthens (key action)

Blur or Remove the Nails

"I _____ through _____ who _____ me."

STEP 02

Say the entire verse x3

Say the entire verse x3 with the "nails" removed or blurred.

Repeat, repeat again

Each repetition drives the nails deeper without showing them

STEP 03

First Letter Cypher

Psalms 23:1 (NKJV)

"The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want."

Convert the Verse to First Letters

T L i m s ; I s n w .

STEP 01

Attempt to Recite the Verse

Attempt to recite your memory verse using only the first letter of each word and accompanying punctuation.

STEP 02

The Memory Funnel



Phase 1: Active Memorization

As you begin memorizing a new passage of Scripture, review it daily until you can recite it fluently with 100% accuracy.

Phase 2: Solidification

After you memorize a passage and recite it to someone else, continue reciting it aloud daily for the next 30 days.

Phase 3: Review

Review the memory passage for four weeks, then monthly for four months, then quarterly forever. Adjust these intervals as needed based on how difficult it is to recite the passage when it comes up for review.





3 STEPS FOR SUCCESSFUL BIBLE READING AND MEMORIZATION



1. Belong to a Group

Ecclesiastes 4:12 (NKJV)

Though one may be overpowered by another, two can withstand him. And a threefold cord is not quickly broken.

Luke 4:16 (NKJV)

So He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up. And as His custom was, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up to read.



2. Set a Goal

Matthew 4:4 (NKJV)

But He answered and said, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.'"



3. Track and Share It

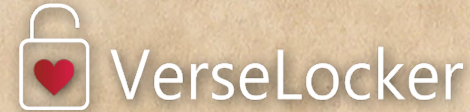
Proverbs 27:17 (NKJV)

As iron sharpens iron, so a man sharpens the countenance of his friend.

1 Timothy 4:15 (NKJV)

Meditate on these things; give yourself entirely to them, that your progress may be evident to all.

FREE RESOURCES



VerseLocker makes it easier to memorize Scripture. Practice your verses by filling the blanks, choosing the next word, listening on a loop, and more. Download the app today and start memorizing on the go.

VerseLocker.com



PRS App

The PRS App, from the The Grace and Mercy Foundation, offers the dramatized audio Bible used in ABIDE meetings, as well as a variety of other audio Bibles. It also features a variety of useful Bible listening plans. All resources are free.

prsi.org



Join the Community. ABIDE meets every Tuesday at 11 am CDT, Wednesday at 8:30 am CDT, and Thursday at 6:00 pm CDT. For more information, go to:

scripturememory.com/abide.





Abide in the Word. Grow in Faith. Walk Together.

ABIDE is a community of believers committed to reading, memorizing, and living out Scripture together. Each one-hour gathering begins with the public reading of God's Word and group recitation, creating a meaningful rhythm of worship, encouragement, and spiritual growth.

Through fellowship, you will connect with others who share your desire to know God more deeply. Through consistent Scripture intake, you will receive the spiritual nourishment that transforms hearts and equips believers to accomplish His will. Through weekly accountability, you will gain the encouragement and support needed to stay faithful to your Bible reading and memorization goals.

Come experience the joy of abiding in God's Word—together.

