

March 2021



SCRIPTURE MEMORY FELLOWSHIP

*"Your word I have hidden in my heart,
that I might not sin against you"*

— Psalm 119:11 —

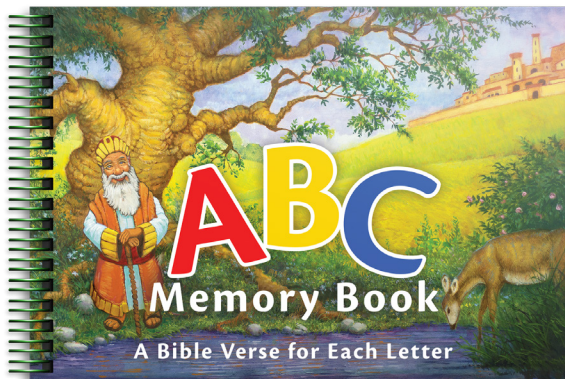
KNOW SCRIPTURE. LIVE SCRIPTURE. LOVE SCRIPTURE.



New: Updated ABC Memory Book

"And that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus." (2 Tim. 3:15)

It's hard to overstate the value of helping children memorize God's Word. What we learn as children can stick in memory for a lifetime. Of all the songs, nursery rhymes, and storybooks so readily fed to these young minds, nothing comes close to the enduring value of Scripture.



Scripture Memory Fellowship is pleased to present a brand-new edition of the *ABC Memory Book*, now available in **KJV**, **NKJV**, and **ESV**. For decades, parents, teachers, and grandparents have used this beloved book to help little ones learn a Bible verse for each letter of the alphabet. Full-color pages feature beautiful artwork, the alphabet letter, Scripture text in large font, and a brief child-level devotional. A Scripture song CD is also available in the NKJV.

The ABC Memory Book is perfect for family devotions, Sunday school classes, and baby shower gifts. See scripturememory.com/abc or call 888.569.2560 to order.



MEMORIZER TESTIMONY *by Anna M.*

"I had convinced myself that due to a traumatic brain injury, I could not do any rote memory. I started using VerseLocker, and I am amazed that I actually CAN memorize Scriptures! It has changed my whole perspective. I especially like the 'words' practice and the convenience that my memory verses are just a click away. I can categorize verses, and there are a plethora of topical memory verses I can add to my list. Thank you for creating this app!"

INDONESIA UPDATE *by Phil Walker*

These are exciting days for Scripture memory in Indonesia! In December, Mona came on staff as our full-time secretary, bringing much-needed communication and support to memorizers and friends throughout Indonesia. We're also excited to welcome Elpin to our team. She will remain in her home village for now and is recruiting a small army of young Scripture memorizers who are learning Scripture songs and memorizing verses with her. Elpin also recently brought Scripture songs into three nearby public schools. Please pray for Mona and Elpin as they continue serving in their new roles.



Mona



Elpin

Commit the Morning Watch to God *by Randy Williamson*

"O God, You are my God; early will I seek You..." (Psa. 63:1)

Andrew Murray considered dedicating the first 30 minutes of the day to God as essential to his spiritual well-being. He described it as "the morning watch" saying, "We know of no act attended with larger good to ourselves or others than the formation of an undiscouragable resolution to keep the morning watch and spend the first half-hour of the day alone with God."

The psalmist David made a similar commitment in Psalm 63:1 when he declared, "early will I seek You." The Hebrew word for early might also be translated as "earnestly with priority." Blessing comes when we commit the morning watch to seeking God in His Word with priority and zeal.

Try incorporating memorization as a part of your very own morning watch with the Lord. A key to hiding God's Word in your heart is repetition over time. Doing it first thing in the morning ensures that you are consistently practicing this needed spiritual discipline. Think of the growth in the Lord and knowledge of the Word that could be yours by making memorization part of your devotional time in the morning!



APP IMPROVEMENTS

VerseLocker is now available for iOS in the Apple App Store! That means it's now easier than ever to memorize Scripture on your iPhone or iPad. VerseLocker has also been upgraded with several new features, including verse reminders that allow you to schedule your verses for periodic review. Download the free app by searching for "VerseLocker" in your app store, or memorize online at scripturememory.com/verselocker.

Is Your Compass Pointing True North?

by Jim Woychuk

Hikers and explorers use compasses to navigate home. Under ordinary circumstances, compasses point true north. But more than one environmental force can skew that sense of direction—certain geomagnetic storms, certain minerals, and the mere proximity to magnets can erase a compass's normally reliable indication of which way is up.

The world threatens to create a seemingly multipolar culture with no clear lines of right and wrong. As in Roman days, Jesus' followers will face hostility from those who oppose us and our doctrines of Jesus' incarnation, death, and resurrection—not because we have beliefs, but because we believe the claims of God's Word apply to all people, and that Jesus Himself is THE way, THE Truth, and THE Life (John 14:6).

There is a wisdom of God, a wisdom borne of God's Word in the heart. "I have more understanding than all my teachers, for Your testimonies are my meditation. Through Your precepts I get understanding..." (Psa. 119:99, 104). Whether our children will enter that arena of spiritual conflict armed and ready is being determined right now.

Do your children resist your efforts to plant God's Word in their lives? Of course they do! "The natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God" (1 Cor. 2:14a). May God give us grace to build into their young, receptive hearts truths that will point them home no matter what storms beset them.

SCRIPTURE MEMORY CAMP

Calling memorizers young and old! Mark your calendar for Scripture Memory Camp, July 5-9, 2021, for a week of fun and fellowship. Hosted at the lakeside campground of Southland Christian Camp in Ringgold, Louisiana, Scripture Memory Camp is an unforgettable week with God's creation, God's people, and God's Word. Mornings include Bible teaching, singing, and Scripture reciting. Afternoons feature many recreation options including kayaking, ziplining, and rockwall climbing. In the evening, campers gather for an evening service to worship the Lord and learn from His Word. It's a week you don't want to miss! Memorizers ages 3-18 can earn a scholarship by memorizing key verses from Proverbs to Malachi. For more information, see scripturememory.com/camps or call 888.569.2560.



Ministry Update: God is at Work *by Dakota Lynch*

"Also Your righteousness, O God, is very high, You who have done great things; O God, who is like You?"
(Psa. 71:19)

When it comes to memorizing Scripture, one of the most common obstacles is the idea that it will be easier tomorrow, next week, or next month. We tell ourselves that the busyness of the moment will soon pass and that, when it does, we will get back to Scripture memory and the other spiritual disciplines we've been neglecting. But realistically, life is unlikely to become less busy anytime soon. Our schedules will always be full, which means we must learn to prioritize God's Word even when it's hard to find the time (Eph. 5:16).

Paul wrote in Philippians 3:16, "to the degree that we have already attained, let us walk by the same rule." Like the Philippians, our greatest need is not new information on how to live out the Christian life; we simply need to put into practice the truth we already know. Even more than we need extra time and a better memory, we simply need to give God's Word the attention we already know it deserves. After all, it is infinitely more valuable "than much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb" (Psa. 19:10).

At SMF, our passion is to make Scripture memory a reality - not just a goal - in the life of every believer. By God's grace, this ministry continues to move forward with growing momentum. Here are just a few examples of how God is at work:

- Our *ABC Memory Book* was just relaunched with fresh artwork (pg. 1)! Please join us in praying for the countless young memorizers who will use this book in the years ahead.
- We added a new part-time staff member. Randy Williamson, a longtime Scripture memorizer, will serve as SMF's Program Administrator. We believe this addition will result in many more people knowing, living, and loving God's Word.
- Our VerseLocker app was released on the Apple App store, opening the door for us to serve tens of thousands of new memorizers around the world.
- Dozens of memorizers are on track to earn a scholarship to this year's Scripture Memory Camp. Please pray for God's Word to make a lasting impact in each heart.

Although 2021 is still young, we are tremendously thankful for the milestones behind us and the opportunities before us. Please remember SMF in prayer, and consider investing in the furtherance of this important mission.

In Christ,
Dakota Lynch, General Director



Scripture Memory Fellowship exists to cultivate systematic Scripture memorizers who know Jesus Christ and grow in His likeness for the glory of God.

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