



part 2 of 2—

Why Memorize Scripture?

Audio

Tape It

Use a tape player to let one, two, or more students recite the verse. Then play it back for them to hear.

Act It

Let students create motions that illustrate words of the verse. They can perform these in time with the verse recorded on the tape.

Sing-a-Verse

If a verse has been set to music, such as some of the Psalms or Proverbs, provide the song on a tape. Or let students sing the words of a verse to a familiar tune.

Chant-a-Verse

Let teams take turns saying phrases of a verse in sequence.

Tactile

Erase-a-Word

Write a verse on the chalkboard and say it together. Let a child choose a word to erase each time the verse is said until the entire verse is erased and the students can say the verse without word clues.

Relay

Divide the class into two teams. Line up each team in sin-

gle file in front of the chalkboard. Draw a vertical line down the center of the chalkboard. On your signal, let one student from each team race to the board and print the first word of the verse. He must then race back to his team, and the next person goes to the board. Continue until the entire verse is written on the board. The team to complete it first wins.



Hot Potato

Use an object, such as a rubber ball or a small beanbag as the "hot potato." Seat the students in a circle. Let them pass the object around the circle until you give the signal to stop.

Whoever is holding the "hot potato" must recite the memory verse.

Awards

Providing incentives is a great way to encourage students to learn. Offer a small prize to those who are able to recite or write the verse each week, or allow students to work toward a larger prize by memorizing several verses over a period of several weeks.

Whenever using a reward system, remember that all students need an equal chance to receive the award. It is never a good idea to cause competition between individual students. Make sure to set up contests in such a way that students compete with themselves for rewards, not each other. For instance, give prizes or points to every student who achieves a certain level. Make sure the level is manageable for every student, not just a gifted few. Avoid having a "grand prize winner." Rather, award each student equally who meets the level of excellence agreed upon.

Use your imagination. Be creative and make memorizing fun and rewarding for your group.

Questions for Further Study—

1. What is the difference between an award and a bribe?
2. What steps can you take to make sure each child has an opportunity to earn an award, no matter what his learning level?
3. Instead of competing against each other, whom should children compete against?
4. List some ways you can make memorization fun for your class.



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