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Sermon Notes

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## **An Appeal for Scripture Memorization**

### **A. Verses That Encourage Memorization**

#### **1. John 15:7**

**vs. 7-8** *If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you. 8 This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.*

#### **2. Colossians 3:16**

**Colossians 3:16** *Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God.*

#### **3. Psalm 1:1-3**

**Psalm 1:1-3** *Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked or stand in the way of sinners or sit in the seat of mockers. 2 But his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night. 3 He is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither. Whatever he does prospers.*

#### **4. Joshua 1:8**

**Joshua 1:8** *Do not let this Book of the Law depart from your mouth; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful.*

#### **5. Psalm 119:11**

**Psalm 119:11** *I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you.*

#### **6. James 1:22-25**

**James 1:22-25** *Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. 23 Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like a man who looks at his face in a mirror 24 and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. 25 But the man who looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues to do this, not forgetting what he has heard, but doing it-- he will be blessed in what he does.*

7. Deuteronomy 6:6-7

***Deuteronomy 6:6-7 These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. 7 Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.***

8. Matthew 4:4

***Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"***

9. Proverbs 2:1-6

***Proverbs 2:1-6 My son, if you accept my words and store up my commands within you, 2 turning your ear to wisdom and applying your heart to understanding, 3 and if you call out for insight and cry aloud for understanding, 4 and if you look for it as for silver and search for it as for hidden treasure, 5 then you will understand the fear of the LORD and find the knowledge of God. 6 For the LORD gives wisdom, and from his mouth come knowledge and understanding.***

10. Proverbs 7:1-3

***Proverbs 7:1-3 My son, keep my words and store up my commands within you. 2 Keep my commands and you will live; guard my teachings as the apple of your eye. 3 Bind them on your fingers; write them on the tablet of your heart.***

## B. Removing Objections to Scripture Memorization

1. "I don't have a **good memory**"
  - You have a far better memory than you think you do!!
  - Your memory will improve with use
2. "It will take too much time... I'm just **too busy**"
  - Too busy for prayer, for family devotions, for personal quiet times, for church attendance?????
  - Judgment Day: every minute will receive scrutiny!! Can you imagine Christ saying "You spent too much time memorizing scripture?"
  - Can you imagine groaning on your deathbed, "What a waste of time, memorizing? Why did I ever do that?"
3. "I'm too lazy and it's **hard work**"
  - Philippians 2:13 "It is God who works in you to will and to act according to His good purpose."
4. "I'm not very interested...it seems **boring**"
  - The devil has already done a great work in you if you think this
  - RISE UP!!! Shake off the devil's numbing poison!!
5. "I've tried before and **it never really worked**"
6. "I'm **too old** (or **too young**)"
7. "**I read** the Bible every day... **why** do I need to **memorize** it?"
8. "I don't know what **translation** to use"
9. "I might become **prideful**"
10. "**I don't know how** to do it"

### C. Benefits to Scripture Memorization

1. Protection from sin and from straying away from God
2. Deeper understanding of God's word: automatic meditation
3. Tools for the Holy Spirit to work growth in you: instruction in righteousness, deep conviction of sin
4. Constant readiness for evangelism
5. Redeeming the time, storing up treasure in heaven
6. Material for deep teaching of the word of God to others
7. Rich, deep, heartfelt worship
8. Enriched prayer life
9. Blessed homelife: marriage, and parenting
10. Ability to bless others through wise counsel