

# Scripture Memory System

Praise God that you desire to hide His Word in your heart (Ps. 119:9, 11)! He will bless you abundantly because of your commitment to keeping His Word near you (Deut. 30:11-14), and He will transform you, beginning with the renewal of your mind (Rom. 12:1-2). Let me encourage you to make this a life habit. Upon reading these directions, do not be discouraged if they are confusing at first. The system may initially seem complicated, but it is incredibly simple once you get the hang of it. Persevere and He will reward your efforts (Jer. 29:13).

## Materials Needed:

Index cards

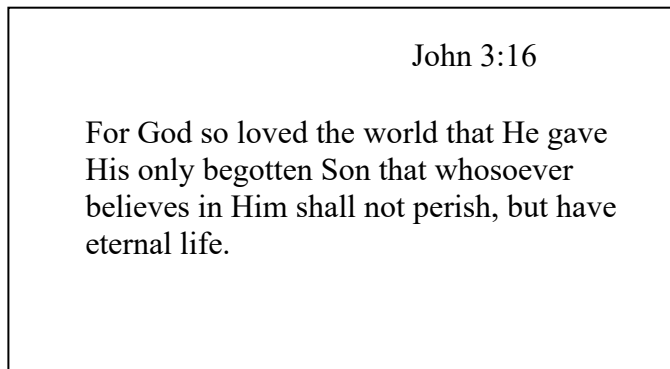
Verse pack<sup>1</sup>

Index card box (like a recipe box)—also called a verse box

Determination to begin a new habit

## Directions:

1. Write down the verses you already have memorized on index cards. Most likely, there are a couple of verses that you already know, such as the one below.



2. Your verse pack is divided into two sides: **new** and **review** verses (the new cards go on the side with the plastic on the outside). Place up to 12 of the cards with the verses you already know in the review side of your verse pack in biblical order. If you had more than 12 verses already memorized, the remaining cards can be placed in the index card box in biblical order.
3. Match the number of already-memorized verses you placed in the review side with an equal number of newer verses that you wish to memorize or that you do not know as well. For example, if you have four verses on your review side, then pick four newer verses, write them on cards, and place them on the new verse side of your verse pack. These verses should be placed in order of how well you know them with the ones you know the best at the back.
4. Go through the verses on both sides of your verse pack each day. At the very least, read through each of the verses. This can be done almost anywhere since the verse pack is small enough to fit into your back pocket or your bag. Waiting in line is a great place to do a quick review.

5. Pick a day of the week to rotate your verses. On that same, selected day every week, you add a select number of cards to your new side. I suggest a weekly goal of memorizing 1-2 new verses per week.
6. Write the new verses on index cards. Place the new verse(s) at the front of the new verse side, since you know it the least. Remove the same number of verses from the back (the verses you know the best) of the new verse side and place them in your index card box according to where they go in the books of the Bible. If you had less than 12 verses on the new verse side of your verse pack, keep all the verses on the review side until you have 12 verses, then you can begin moving them. Twelve verses per side is a good, doable goal.
7. On the review side, remove the verses and place them in the verse box in biblical order with the other cards in the box (I use a small bookmark to keep track of my place in the verse box). Select the same number of cards that you have on your new verse side in the order that they are in your verse box (maximum 12). You should be selecting verses in biblical order. The following week you will select the next group of verses, moving you in biblical order through all the verses you have already memorized.
8. Remember to review all the verses in your verse pack each day. If you feel that you have too many verses in your verse pack, then adjust accordingly. Perhaps you will only want six verse cards on each side of your verse pack. Do what you must do in order to make this a consistent habit.

### Tips for a More Effective Scripture Memory System

1. **Know why you are memorizing (Psalm 119:9,11).** Do this to draw close to God—not to impress others. Also, do not overdo it. The key to effective Scripture memory is quality, not quantity. You do not want to get burnt out. Do not write more than three verses on each verse card. If you want to memorize a longer passage, break it into smaller chunks and spread them out over several cards.
2. **Meditate on each verse you memorize.** You will remember verses much more easily if you chew through the verses until you understand their meanings. This will help you use them to encourage others or apply Scripture to all situations in your life. Seek to share them with others. You will feel encouraged when you have taken advantage of an opportunity to share what you have worked so hard to learn.
3. **Keep on schedule.** Even if you do not feel you know all your verses for the week, rotate them on your scheduled day. If you neglect to do this, you may get stuck in a rut. You will get back to the verses you may not feel you know as well when you review them.
4. **Set goals for yourself.** Try to keep a consistent weekly goal for how many verses you would like to memorize. Also, write down references for verses you have always wanted to memorize and keep the list in your verse box, so that you have a list of verses you can add to your verse pack.
5. **Find a specific time during the day which is good for reviewing your verses.** This may be waiting at the bus stop, walking to classes, when you get up in the morning, after dinner—whatever seems to be a good time for you. Carry your verse pack with you. You will be surprised how many spare moments you find during the day for memorizing verses.

