

## Verses

### Learning Bible Verses

Keep a notebook or set of index cards for verses. Write one verse, with reference, on each piece of paper or card.

Write the verse five times on paper, saying it aloud each time.

Divide the verse into words or phrases, writing each word or phrase on a separate piece of paper. Say the words or phrases one by one until you can say the whole verse without looking.

Write down the first letter of each word. Try to say the verse, practicing until you master it.

Say the verse aloud several times, then try to write it down. Check your work. Repeat until you get it right.

Make up hand or body motions to go along with the words. You can use a sign language book to help you.

Draw pictures of the verse.

Put the words to a familiar tune and sing it over and over.

Record the verse, pausing afterwards, then record and pause again. Do this five to ten times. Play the recording, saying the verse during each pause.

### Reviewing Bible Verses

Write the verse on one side of a card and the reference on the other side. Look at the reference and try to say the verse. If need be, write a key word along with the reference to jar your memory.

Write a verse on one card and the reference on another card. Do this for all the verses you are learning. Mix up the cards and correctly match the verses to the references, reciting as you go.

Take your notebook or cards with you and practice while driving, while waiting for an appointment, or whenever you have downtime.

Ask someone to quiz you. God can use this to teach others His Word.

Put verses on the refrigerator, bulletin board, mirror, etc., and recite each time you see it. Post them by your computer or kitchen sink and recite while using the internet or doing the dishes.

### Teaching Bible Verses

After explaining the verse, repeat it seven to ten times for retention. Always say the reference with each verse. Make visuals neat and colorful.

**Erase a Word-** Write the verse on a dry-erase board. Erase words or phrases, then recite the verse from memory, including the words or phrases erased.

**Sing a Verse-** Put the words of the verse to a familiar tune. Sing several times as a group, then have the girls sing it, then the boys. Perhaps it could be sung as a round.

**Balloon Words-** Inflate enough balloons to write a word or a phrase on each balloon. Each time you say the verse, pop one of the balloons. Continue saying the verse until all balloons are popped.

**Verse Scramble-** Write each word of the verse on a separate piece of paper. After saying the verse several times, scramble the words and have students put them in correct order. Set a time limit.

**Varied Voices-** Say the verse as a group using different tones of voices each time, such as baby, elderly, husky, squeaky, high-pitched, rapid, slow and drawn out, soft, loud, etc.

**Crazy Stand-ups-** Have children stand up and say verses according to who you call on, such as those who ate breakfast this morning, those who brushed their teeth today, those with socks on, those with blue eyes, those who like broccoli, etc.

**Quieting the Verse-** Say the verse in unison, whispering the last word or phrase. As you repeat the verse, whisper another word or phrase until you whisper the whole verse.

**Stop-N-Go-** Have children recite the verse while one child holds up his right hand to signal stop. Whoever continues to say the verse after the signal is out. Continue until only one person is left. That person then gives the hand signals.

**Add-A-Word or Subtract-A-Word-** Repeat the verse over and over, either deleting the last word from the end each time, or adding a word each time (beginning with the first word).

**Bean-bag Toss-** Pass a beanbag in a circle while reciting the verse. Have a designated person say “stop” (while not looking) and whoever is holding the beanbag has to quote the verse.

**Ping Pong-** Have children line up in two rows tossing a ball or an object back and forth across the rows to the next person in line while saying the next word in the verse as they catch it.

**Sign It-** Use sign language to help students remember the verse as they recite it.

**Double It-** Say the verse reciting each word once, then twice, then three times.

**Rhythm-** Repeat the verse as a chant using the format of the game “Rhythm”. Children slap both hands on their knees; clap hands together; snap fingers on right hand and say first syllable of the verse; snap fingers on left hand and say the second syllable. Continue the pattern until the entire verse is said.

**Popcorn-** Have a child pop-up and say one word or one phrase at a time. You can do this with individuals or as groups.

**Behind the Easel-** Write the verse on a white board, choose one child to turn around, and have another child point to a word. The remaining children repeat the verse, clapping in place of the designated word. The first child has to guess the word that was omitted. To make it more difficult, choose two or three words.

**Simon Says-** After children recite the verse several times, the leader erases the verse and says one word at a time, having the children repeat it. The teacher continues, purposely saying a word incorrectly. Anyone who repeats the incorrect word is out of the game. Play continues until one child is left. That child then becomes the leader.

**Verse Puzzle-** Write the memory verse on poster board and cut it into puzzle pieces. Let the group put the puzzle together. Make two puzzles and have a competition between two groups.

**Memory Verse Duck-Duck Goose-** Have children sit in a circle. Pick a child to walk around the circle touching the head of the next person who should say the next word in the verse. If a mistake is made, the person who was

touched tries to say the entire memory verse. If this is accomplished, the child takes a strike and starts the memory verse over beginning with the next person in the circle. Three strikes will put you in the toilet bowl (the middle of the circle). If the child completes the memory verse, he/she trades places with the last person touched. The new child begins the memory verse with any person.