

The Sword!
Scripture Memorization: A Must For Today

Leader's Manual

Introduction

What an awesome privilege is yours! As you lead this class God will be using you in powerful ways to help fellow believers pursue a journey that has been life changing for many. You will, indeed, be blessed as you guide them in planting pure truth into their minds and hearts, not just a verse here and there, but building verses into chapters and chapters into books.

Many have said they had never experienced the joy and power of Scripture as they did when they began memorizing it in its full context. And such comments have come from some who have been Christians since childhood, enjoyed profound Christian teaching for many years, and/or even served as pastors and Bible teachers themselves.

It is vital for you as the leader of the class to know, first hand, the profound delight and powerful impact that memorizing God's Words can have on a life. It must be vibrant and living to you because your enthusiasm will be contagious and set the pace for your class. Never lose sight of the fact that what you are promoting is the memorization of Scripture given to us by the Creator of the universe, the King of all kings, the Lord of all Lords. Scripture is actually the only piece of eternity we have in this world. It is truth, the only pure truth available to us amidst a world of perversion and uncertainty.

But be aware that you are entering enemy territory. No one knows better than the devil himself, what will happen in the lives of God's people if they start taking Scripture seriously. He has worked hard to inflict believers with a resistance, almost aversion to the suggestion of *memorizing* Scripture. You will be challenging his stronghold. You will be assisting part of God's army to get a firmer grip on the Spirit's mighty Sword. And you can be sure you will not go unnoticed or unopposed. Paul said in I Corinthians 16:9:

*. . . a wide door for effective service has opened to me, **and** there are many adversaries. (NAS)*

Notice he said, "**and**" *there are many adversaries*, not "**but**" *there are many adversaries*. In other words, don't be surprised at the darts that start heading your way when the Lord starts using you to promote the memorization of His Word. Just expect them. Make your class the object of much prayer and have others pray with you that God's protection will be upon you and on all those involved. It will be important for you to warn your class that they also should prepare for spiritual assaults from the enemy.

You are about to begin a wonderful course of helping some of Gos's family to gain a greater insight into the only part of eternity available to us on this globe. Happy memorizing!!

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Getting Started

Suggested Format: (Adjust and alter it to fit your situation.)

8 - 10 minutes - prayer and praise

30 - 38 minutes - lesson and discussion

15 - 20 minutes - sharing Scripture that has been memorized

This study course is based on the book *The Sword! Scripture Memorization: A Must For Today* written by May McClure. It will be necessary for you and everyone in your class to have a copy. It can be downloaded free of charge from Sword of the Spirit Ministries' web site sosministries.org, or purchased for \$10 plus s/h by e-mailing us through the "contact us" link on that site or by calling us at 503/554-7439. Group rates are available.

Each one in your class will need their own Study Guide. You can download an original from this web site to copy for your class. You may want to charge for the cost of copying but because the material is copyrighted, it may not be sold for profit. For a more professional look, you may want to use colored paper for the cover page. Each lesson should be given out a week in advance.

In preparing for your weekly lesson you will need both the student's Study Guide and a Leader's Manual. Some of the questions are for personal reflection and others will be adequately explored in class discussion, so your Leader's Manual may not address every question in the Study Guide. Because this study course was written by the author of the book, any first personal references are her.

Most of the Scripture references in the Study Guide are included in your Leader's Manual to save you time in looking them up, although you may want to check the context in some cases.

If you have a large class and/or some are reluctant to quote their Scripture in front of the whole class, you may want to separate into smaller groups for your time of sharing. If someone is having difficulty, suggest that they mix their quoting with just reading the Scripture. If time permits, encourage them to share how the Lord has been blessing them through the Scripture they are learning.

Your comments and suggestions regarding this course would be a great help in improving it for others and would be greatly appreciated. Please go to our "Contact Us" link on this web site (sosministries.org) to help us out in this area or call us at 503/554-7439.