

Supplement to Lesson 12

Appendix A - *Helps and Hints on How to Memorize*

1. When is the best time for you to memorize and what method or methods have you found most helpful.

2. a) From page 180, what three things are emphasized as being important to remember as you progress on your journey of memorizing Scripture?

b) Why do you think they were emphasized?

3. Finish this statement: It is not getting to know the words that is important, it is _____

4. This exercise is to help you spot different types of built in prompts that might prove helpful in jogging your memory. How many can you find in the examples given?

Example: I Cor. 13:12 (NLT) *Now we see things imperfectly as in a poor mirror, but then we will see everything with perfect clarity.*

see things: words starting in alphabetical sequence - **st**; imperfectly as in **a**: very unusual - words starting with two vowels used twice, alternately, **i - a - i - a**; then we: alphabetical sequence - **tw**; we will: double w's; see everything with: acronym - **sew**;

a) **Rev 21:4 (NIV) *There will be no death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.***

b) Revelation 4:1 (NIV). . . . *And the voice I had first heard speaking to me like a trumpet said. . .*

c) Revelation 4:8 (NIV) *Each of the four living creatures had four wings and was covered with eyes all around even under his wings.*

d) Psalm 91:2 (KJV) *I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress . . .*

e) Psalm 91:15-16 (KJV) *He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble: I will deliver him, and honour him. With long life will I satisfy him, and shew him my salvation.*

f) Revelation 4: 9 (NIV) *Whenever the living creatures give glory, honor and thanks to him who sits on the throne . . .*

5. Read the quote from Charles Swindoll's book on the back cover and list the ways he sees memorizing Scripture enhancing the life of any Christian.

My Testimony:

It is now fifteen years since the Lord started *Sword of the Spirit Ministries*. Seven years since *The Sword* was written. I have been a Christian for 64 years. Although I had memorized numerous verses and short passages, it was a bumpy, erratic journey until I started to anchor my life in God's precious word by memorizing it in its full context. I am now 78 years old. My husband has just had his 90th birthday. He is in a wheelchair and is in a difficult time of life. At this period of my life I can't thank the Lord enough for the great blessing and privilege it is for me to have Scripture etched on my mind and secure in my heart. When I seek to draw closer to Him, I am drawn to the Scriptures I have memorized to meditate and delight in. I don't have to run for my Bible. I have a ready resource any moment of the day or night. It is a treasure for which I will forever be thankful.

Yes, I still memorize and no, it is not terribly difficult even on top of my great pile of years. I have found that once I trained my mind to memorize Scripture, it has become easier as I have gone along. Even though I am older, I am finding it much easier now than when I started fifteen years ago.

I don't know what your circumstances are as you are reading this but I would encourage you with all the admonition that God can impart not to take the memorization of God's Word lightly or discard it easily. You will never find greater returns for your investment of time. I can assure you, however, the evil one will try his worst to frustrate your commitment and scuttle your good intentions. Whenever we have taken a new step in this ministry his hurtful darts have whizzed past us with great velocity and some have scored stinging blows. With the writing of this course we have winced with his attacks. So, yes, the devil will do his best to discourage and deter you, but always remember, *greater is He that is in you than he that is in the world*. The rewards will far outweigh any of the negatives you may encounter. **Remember: No eye has seen, no ear has heard, and no mind has imagined what God has prepared for those who love him.** (I Cor 2:9 NLT) So, my dear friend in Christ, keep your eye on the goal. **Press on toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.** (Phil 3: 14 KJV)

Take the Sword of the Spirit which is the word of God. Don't leave it lying on the coffee table.