



## The Power of the Memorized Word In Fighting the Fight of Faith

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### Desired Outcomes...you will

- Treasure God's Word as your source of Salvation, Satisfaction and Sanctification
- Be inspired to begin or revitalize a Bible memorization program
- Consider the benefits of corporate encouragement
- Be informed of the Fighter Verse Bible Memory Program

### What are others saying about Bible Memory?

"Bible memorization is absolutely fundamental to spiritual formation. If I had to choose between all the disciplines of the spiritual life, I would choose Bible memorization, because it is a fundamental way of filling our minds with what it needs. This book of the law shall not depart out of your mouth. That's where you need it! How does it get in your mouth? Memorization"

Dallas Willard professor of Philosophy at the US, ("Spiritual Formation in Christ for the Whole Life and Whole Person" in Vocatio, Vol. 12, no. 2, Spring, 2001, p. 7).

"I know of no other single practice in the Christian life more rewarding, practically speaking, than memorizing Scripture...No other single exercise pays greater spiritual dividends! Your prayer life will be strengthened. Your witnessing will be sharper and much more effective. Your attitudes and outlook will begin to change. Your mind will become alert and observant. Your confidence and assurance will be enhanced. Your faith will be solidified"

Chuck Swindol, (Growing Strong in the Seasons of Life [Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1994], p. 61).

### The Word, the Power of God for S\_\_\_\_\_

Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of first fruits of his creatures. James 1:18

So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ. Romans 10:17

### The Word, the Power of God for S\_\_\_\_\_

In the way of your testimonies I delight as much as in all riches. <sup>15</sup> I will meditate on your precepts and fix my eyes on your ways. <sup>16</sup> I will delight in your statutes; I will not forget your word. Psalm 119:14-16

### The Word, the Power of God for S\_\_\_\_\_

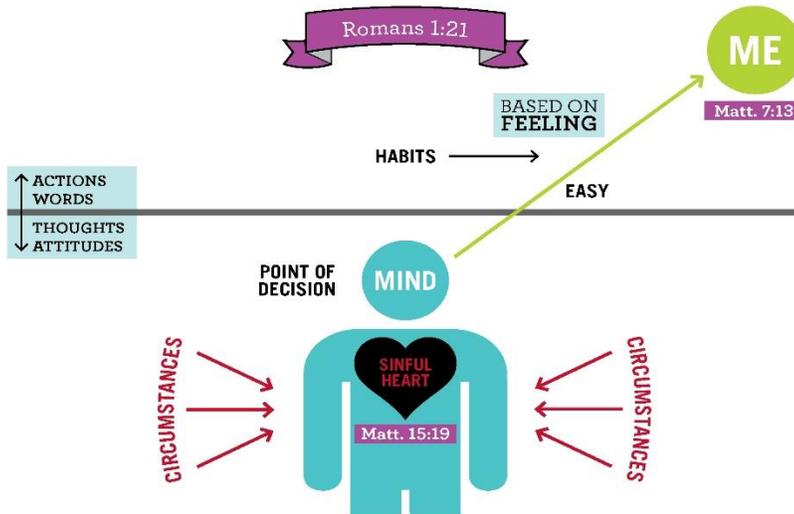
But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession 1 Peter 2:9

Strive for peace with everyone, and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord. Hebrews 12:14

Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. John 17:17



### The Defective Y Chart – Before Salvation

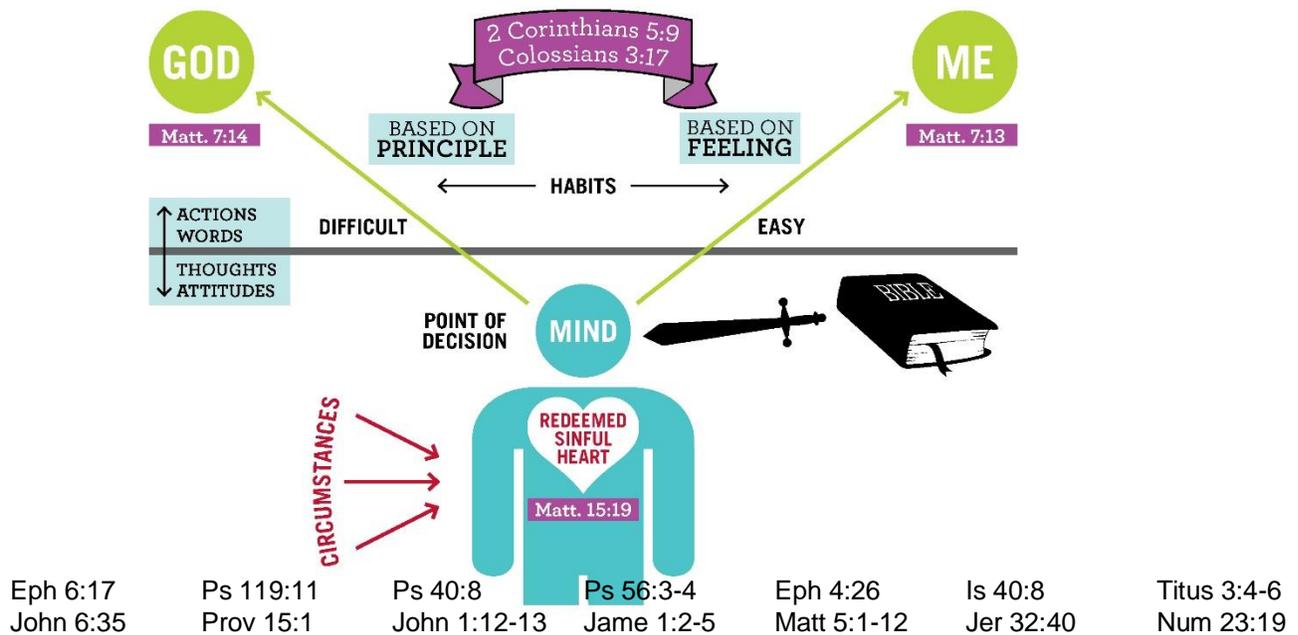


For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. **Romans 1:21**

For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false witness, slander **Matthew 5:19**

...for the gate is wide and the way is easy that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many. **Matthew 7:13b**

### The Y Chart – After Salvation





## From Childhood You Have Known

Biblical Literacy For the Next Generations

So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. **2 Corinthians 5:9**

And whatever you do in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God through him. **Colossians 3:17**

and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God **Ephesians 6:17**

I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you. **Psalms 119:11**

I desire to do your will, O my God; your law is within my heart. **Psalms 40:8**

### The Discipline of Bible Memorization

For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it. **Hebrews 12:11**

### Acronym – CARE – Elements of Bible Memorization Discipline

C \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ R \_\_\_\_\_ E \_\_\_\_\_

### Consume and Review

#### Level 1 – Daily Routine (assumes using FV App)

- Day 1 – interact with the passage 10 times (use of the senses)
- Day 2&3 – interact with the passage, use a FV quiz – goal level 5
- Day 4 – interact with passage, use FV Recite quiz. Recite the verse and playback.
- Day 5 – When confident mark FV “memorized”.
- Repeat this daily for as many days as needed
- Review daily until App automatically promotes to level 2

#### Level 2 – Weekly Routine

- Once per week, interact with the passage using your desired method
- Repeat this weekly for as many weeks as needed
- Review weekly until App automatically promotes to level 3

#### Level 3 – Monthly Routine

- Once per month, interact with the passage using your desired method
- Repeat this weekly for as many months as needed
- Review weekly until App automatically promotes to level 4 On-going



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### Application

But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. <sup>23</sup> For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. <sup>24</sup> For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. **James 1:22-24**

### Obstacles to Overcome

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- **Leading to \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_**

### The Role of Encouragement

- What if children experienced the positive overflow of the memorized Word from the lives of their parents, SS teachers, elders, and pastors?
- What if our churches became the place where children received the most encouragement to keep on, keeping on with Bible memorization?
- What if the memorized Word was very visible within the church
- What if a pastor included a portion of the memorized Word in their welcome or benediction
- What if an elder prayed the memorized Word
- What if the Worship Director incorporated the memorized Word into the worship set?
- What if on a regular basis, the pastor asked someone from the congregation to recite the memorized Word...and then, if no one in the congregation did...and an elder stood up to recite it?
- What if the memorized Word was on the church's website and bulletin every week
- What if one sermon a year was dedicated to the importance of the Word...including the memorization of it.
- What if a church dedicated one Wednesday night every year to re-invigorate and inspire the body to memorize Scripture...either to keep going...or join-in?
- What if a church felt memorization was so important that they created a task force whose purpose was to think of new and creative ways to encourage the memorization of Scripture?
- What if? What are your "What if" ideas?

### What Are Fighter Verses

A \_\_\_-\_\_\_ Bible memory program designed to help the believer \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ of faith.

*Three Broad Categories*



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Biblical Literacy For the Next Generations

1. Verses that focus on the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ of our great God  
*He is trustworthy, magnificent, eternal, powerful, and compassionate*  
Isaiah 64:4, Psalm 77:13-14, Isaiah 46:9-10
2. Verses to help us \_\_\_\_\_ against our \_\_\_\_\_ desires  
*Verses that instruct us to fight against worry, anger, bitterness, fear*  
Ephesians 4:26, Psalm 56:3-4, James 1:18-19
3. Verses that focus on the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ of the Gospel  
*He saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, (Titus 3:5)*

### Fighter Verse Resources

FV App = Quizzes, Songs, Audio playback, Review, Devotionals, link Desiring God, all collections  
Fightherverse.com, FV Packs, Song CDs, Study Resources

### FV Last Appeal

### Q & A

### Fighter Verses at Home

*Working together as a family...Moms and Dads*

1. When you memorize (and apply) you will experience the benefits.
2. Your kids will benefit because you have benefitted from the memorized Word. Does this make sense...the more Christ-like you are, the better it will be for your children.
3. This is especially powerful when they see you memorizing out of joy and devotion, and not just to model not out of duty. You probably will not maintain any discipline that you are only doing out of devotion.
4. Our kids will see...this makes a difference in my mom and dad's life.

*Fighter Verses as Family Devotions*

1. FV is the Word of God
2. FV focuses on one passage/week
3. Because they are bit-sized in most cases our children can learn them easily.
4. Your helping develop a Spiritual Discipline
5. The verses are very practical as they are those that help us fight the fight of faith
6. Think of the "walk in the way" opportunities within the context of home and family...in instruction, by observation, situations around them and in circumstance.
7. The Word of God proves true (Ps 18:30) allows our kids to connect their life to the proven Word of God. They need to know AND experience God's Word is true.

*A Suggestion for Dad that relate to Family Devotions*

1. Memorize the FV on your own



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2. Pray that God will help you understand the meaning
3. Look for commands or action items
4. Pray for opportunities to apply the verse to your life (James 1:22-24)
5. Think up a few questions to ask about the verse (If you want some help go to [FighterVerses.com](http://FighterVerses.com) and read 2 devotional posts/week on the passage)
  - a. Know – ask questions that clarifies their understanding
  - b. Be – prompt them to embrace the truth of God’s Word and how it directly applies to their life.
  - c. Do – encourage them to be doers of the Word, follow-up with them challenge them...if they don’t do...or apply the Word, they will be like a man who looks at his natural face in a mirror and when he goes away he will not remember what he looks like
6. Set aside some time to interact with your children over this glorious truth. A word of caution...for too much “overflow” that floods them with your experience.
7. Draw them out. Be OK with less than perfect answers...they are on a journey.
8. Pray the verse over your children as you tuck them into bed

### **Fighter Verses at Church**

*Work on this together as a church!*

1. It is very encouraging to know that my pastor and my elders and my teachers love Bible-memorization...and are doing it. Talk about reality modeling
2. Kids will be more attentive when the pastors welcome or prayer, or communion message or the sermon is tangibly shaped by that weeks Fighter Verse
3. Give attendees opportunity to share testimonies of how God used this verse in their life
4. Small Groups can make the FV passage the Bible focus of their weekly meetings
5. Sunday School teachers encourage...and even incent some memory work.
6. Each weeks passage receives prominence
  - a. Posted in the bulletin
  - b. On the church’s homepage
  - c. Put up in the church’s bathrooms and elevators
  - d. The Missions calendar has the FV
7. The first Wednesday of the year, Bethlehem dedicates a night called The Fighter Verse Kick off where we do skits, hear testimonies of God’s goodness to us through the memorized Word, sing FV, all designed to inspire and encourage the body...this is an event for the entire body...not just the kids.
8. And corporately...most weeks our pastors will ask someone to stand and recite the passage that week...mostly it is done by children, but not exclusively...I love it when and elder stands up and recites it. We’ve had Small Groups stand and recite together, we’ve had Sunday School classes recite together and then challenge another SS class to follow them next week. We’ve had a family sing it...and one Sunday...a secret message was sent out to the congregation with the hopes of encouraging John Piper by shaking the rafters as we proclaimed...

*so that at the name of Jesus, every knee shall bow in heaven and earth and under the earth and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father. Philippians 2:10-11*