

# WHY WE MEMORIZE SCRIPTURE

The discipline of scripture memory is without a doubt one of the most significant of the disciplines in your life. God will use scripture memory to not only bring about change and transformation in your life, but also to challenge and encouraged other believers.

***There are many reasons one should memorize scripture. Here are a few:***

## **TO SHARE THE WORD WITH OTHERS.**

We have countless opportunities to share a word of witness or encouragement with others. When we have the word committed to memory we can share as we are prompted by the Holy Spirit. (Colossians 4:6, 1 Peter 3:15)

## **TO OVERCOME TEMPTATION.**

How can a young man keep his way pure? By keeping your word. I have sought you with all my heart; don't let me wander from your commands. I have treasured your word in my heart so that I may not sin against you. (Psalm 119:9-11)

When faced with temptation the Lord Jesus responded by saying "It is written". In the same way, if we have memorized God's Word, it will be a powerful tool when faced with the lies of the enemy.

## **TO BATTLE AGAINST DISCOURAGEMENT.**

Finally brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable—if there is any moral excellence and if there is anything praiseworthy—dwell on these things. (Philippians 4:8)

In addition to temptation, we all face discouragement. One tactic of the enemy is to try to get us to dwell on those things that are not profitable. We must mediate on God's truth.

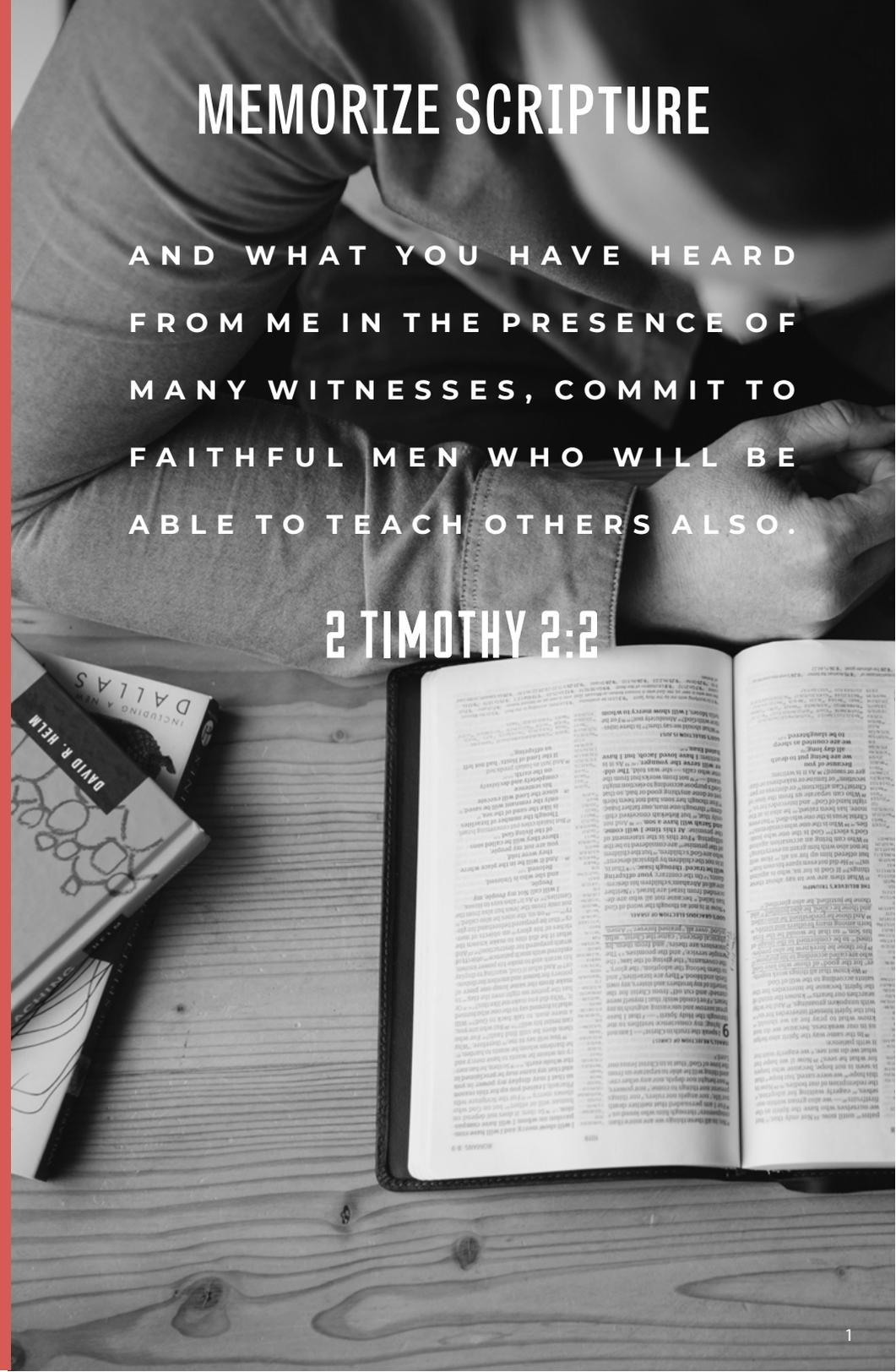
## **TO RENEW YOUR MIND**

Our minds are renewed by the Word of God. (Romans 12:2) One wonderful way to renew your mind and embrace God's truth is to memorize and meditate on the Word.

# MEMORIZE SCRIPTURE

AND WHAT YOU HAVE HEARD  
FROM ME IN THE PRESENCE OF  
MANY WITNESSES, COMMIT TO  
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ABLE TO TEACH OTHERS ALSO.

## 2 TIMOTHY 2:2





# HOW TO MEMORIZE SCRIPTURE

There are a number of different ways to memorize scripture, but they are all based on three foundational principles:

1. **MAKE IT A PRIORITY** – You will never be successful at scripture memory unless it becomes a priority during your quiet times or within your daily devotional habits
2. **DO IT REGULARLY** – This is one of those habits that you will lose if you don't use. Consistency is an important component to this discipline. This is a difficult discipline and requires a lot of effort but it returns extraordinary benefits.
3. **ENJOY THE SCRIPTURE** – Our goal is to know God's Word and to obey it. Take time to meditate on the truth of the verse or passage you are memorizing and apply it to your life.

If you are finding scripture memorization to be especially tricky, here are some tips to help you get started:

**Break the Scripture into Phrases** – It can be difficult to memorize a large verse or passage, especially if it is wordy. It is much easier to memorize several short phrases and then add them together.

**Create an Acronym for Lists** – Many of us were taught to memorize "ROY G BIV" when learning the colors of the rainbow. The same principle works with scripture. Come up with an acronym that makes sense for difficult passages or lists within a verse. For example, when Paul says, "He gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers" in Ephesians 4:11, you might remember the order as "Ape Street."

**Understand the Context** – View each reference or verse you are memorizing as the hook of a hanger that is holding the context surrounding that verse. By understanding the context it not only helps us understand the meaning of the verse but also helps us commit it to memory.

**Use the Verse** – Try to incorporate the verse into conversations or when you are praying. It will become easier to recall a verse if it becomes a part of your normal vocabulary.

**Say it out loud to someone** – It is difficult to say it to yourself, but there is an added pressure when quoting it out loud. Find someone to say your verses to. It will help you solidify them even more.

**Develop a system to review your verses** – The goal is not just to say a verse once and forget it. You want to keep it for years to come. Incorporate a system to review your verses. As part of your regular routine to memorize new verses, take a few minutes to review older verses at the same time. A lot of people work on them while driving, post them on the bathroom mirror, use note cards, or even use an app like the Fighter Verse app on their phone. Find a system that works for you.

**Don't Make Excuses** – Everyone is busy and it is difficult to memorize, but if it is important to you, you'll be able to do it. It might take some prioritization, but finding the time and making the effort to memorize God's Word will always be worth it.

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