



Navigators Discipleship Tool

The *Topical Memory System (TMS)* is a simple, easy-to-use system for memorizing key Bible verses that point to essential gospel truths.



HOW TO MEMORIZE SCRIPTURE

A Simple, Easy Bible Memory System

If you or a friend are inspired to memorize Scripture but aren't sure where to start, this resource is the perfect launching point to begin "hiding God's Word in your heart" (Psalm 119:11).

We pray this new journey into Scripture also helps you *abide in*—or stay deeply rooted in—Christ, which Jesus tells us is the key to having Kingdom impact in this world (John 15:5).

A Proven Approach

Memorizing Scripture is as an excellent strategy for spiritual growth. It allows you to have gospel truths ready at all times, whether your day brings you temptation, heartache or a friend in need of encouragement. Many thousands of people have shared that this system was what finally worked for them after years of trying other approaches.

Step 1: Pick an area of gospel truth you're motivated to understand more deeply

Use this topic and verse outline as a guide. It has been curated by The Navigators based on experience helping people of all ages grow in Christ since the 1930s. Keep a picture of this list on your phone!

Step 2: Dig into the context

- Find the verse in your Bible and read the paragraph before and after it.
 - Use this context to gain a clear understanding of what the verse means. You may want to read the verse in other Bible translations or consult a commentary.
 - Read the verse through several times thoughtfully, aloud or in a whisper. This will help you grasp the verse as a whole. Each time you read it, say the topic, reference, verse, and then the reference again out loud.
 - Discuss the verse with God in prayer, and ask for His help memorizing Scripture.
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Step 3: Memorize in Bite-Sized Pieces

- Memorize the topic and reference first.
 - Next, memorize only the first phrase of the verse. Once you can recite the topic, reference and first phrase from memory several times, continue to add each additional phrase, one by one.
 - Consider why each word was selected as you memorize it.
 - Think about ways the verse applies to you and your daily circumstances.
 - Writing the verse out can be helpful. This deepens its impression in your mind.
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Step 4: Review with Friends

- Review the verse immediately after learning it, incorporate it into your prayers, and repeat it frequently over subsequent days to others. This step is crucial for fixing the verse firmly in your mind because we tend to forget things recently learned.
- Invite a friend to memorize with you! Set a time each week to check in and review verses. In just ten minutes you can give each other enough accountability to grow by leaps and bounds in your love for God and knowledge of His Word.
- Review! Review! Review! Repetition is the best way to engrave the verses on your memory.

You can order the complete TMS from our publisher NavPress (which includes a helpful guidebook, pocket-sized memory verse cards and a verse card holder) for yourself or as a gift for friends at navlink.org/tms. We also have another edition called *TMS: Life Issues*, found at navlink.org/tms-life

LIVING THE NEW LIFE

Christ the Center
Obedience to Christ
The Word
Prayer
Fellowship
Witnessing

2 Corinthians 5:17
Romans 12:1
2 Timothy 3:16
John 15:7
Matthew 18:20
Matthew 4:19

Galatians 2:20
John 14:21
Joshua 1:8
Philippians 4:6-7
Hebrews 10:24-25
Romans 1:16

PROCLAIMING CHRIST

All Have Sinned
Sin's Penalty
Christ Paid the Penalty
Salvation is not by Works
Must Receive Christ
Assurance of Salvation

Romans 3:23
Romans 6:23
Romans 5:8
Ephesians 2:8-9
John 1:12
1 John 5:13

Isaiah 53:6
Hebrews 9:27
1 Peter 3:18
Titus 3:5
Revelation 3:20
John 5:24

RELIANCE ON GOD'S RESOURCES

His Spirit
His Strength
His Faithfulness
His Peace
His Provision
His Help in Temptation

1 Corinthians 3:16
Isaiah 41:10
Lamentations 3:22-23
Isaiah 26:3
Romans 8:32
Hebrews 2:18

1 Corinthians 2:12
Philippians 4:13
Numbers 23:19
1 Peter 5:7
Philippians 4:19
Psalms 119:9,11

BEING CHRIST'S DISCIPLE

Put Christ First
Separate From the World
Be Steadfast
Serve Others
Give Generously
Develop World Vision

Matthew 6:33
1 John 2:15-16
1 Corinthians 15:58
Mark 10:45
Proverbs 3:9-10
Acts 1:8

Luke 9:23
Romans 12:2
Hebrews 12:3
2 Corinthians 4:5
2 Corinthians 9:6-7
Matthew 28:19-20

GROWTH IN CHRISTLIKENESS

Love
Humility
Purity
Honesty
Faith
Good Works

John 13:34-35
Philippians 2:3-4
Ephesians 5:3
Leviticus 19:11
Hebrews 11:6
Galatians 6:9-10

1 John 3:18
1 Peter 5:5-6
1 Peter 2:11
Acts 24:16
Romans 4:20-21
Matthew 5:16