SEQUOIA NOTES

Today's Sequoia Message…

Memorizing Scripture
With Ryan Dawson - Lead Pastor
November 22, 2026



- **Memorizing Scripture is <u>intentionally storing</u> God's Word in your mind & heart so that it becomes readily available to <u>shape</u> your thoughts, <u>guide</u> your decisions, <u>transform</u> your desires, & <u>influence</u> how you live.**

Deuteronomy 11:18-22 (NLT) "So commit yourselves wholeheartedly to these words of mine. Tie them to your hands and wear them on your forehead as reminders. 19 Teach them to your children. Talk about them when you are at home and when you are on the road, when you are going to bed and when you are getting up. 20 Write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates, 21 so that as long as the sky remains above the earth, you and your children may flourish in the land the Lord swore to give your ancestors. 22 "Be careful to obey all these commands I am giving you. Show love to the Lord your God by walking in his ways and holding tightly to him."

1) Ensure God's Word shapes what you <u>DO</u>.

18b "Tie them on your hands…"

Psalm 119:11 (NLT) "I have hidden your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you."

- **Does God's Word influence how I live?**

2) Ensure God's Word shapes how you <u>THINK</u>.
18c "Wear them on your foreheads as reminders…"

Romans 12:1-2 (NIV) **"**Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God —this is your true and proper worship. 2 Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will."

- **What is shaping or occupying my mind and my thinking?**

3) Ensure God's Word shapes what you <u>PASS ON</u>.

19 "Teach them to your children. Talk about them when you are at home and when you are on the road, when you are going to bed and when you are getting up."

- **What are others learning about God through my life?**

4) God's Word shapes who you <u>ARE</u>.

20 "Write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates, 21 so that as long as the sky remains above the earth, you and your children may flourish in the land the Lord swore to give your ancestors."

- **Does my life reflect that I belong to Jesus?**

22 "Be careful to obey all these commands I am giving you. Show love to the Lord your God by walking in his ways and holding tightly to him."

- **Memorizing God's Word helps you <u>hold tightly</u> to Him.**

Scripture Memorization enables us to…

- **Hear God's <u>Voice</u>.**
- **Renew our <u>Mind</u>.** *"The undirected mind tends to chaos" John Ortberg*
- **Resist <u>Temptation</u>.**
- **Draw on God's <u>Strength</u>.**

Big Idea: The more God's Word <u>fills</u> your heart, the more Jesus <u>shapes</u> your life.

Tips to Memorize Scripture:

- **Read it aloud.**
- **Write it out.**
- **Repeat it.**
- **Visualize it.**
- **We want to be so <u>steeped in Scripture</u> that we begin to think like Jesus, love like Jesus, respond like Jesus, and live like Jesus.**

2 Timothy 2:13 (NLT) "If we are unfaithful, he remains faithful, for he cannot deny who he is."

The Translation of the Bible Scriptures used today is the New Living Translation (NLT) and the New International Version

Sequoia Impact Communities are where we live out our identity as a Family of Servants on Mission.

To get plugged in email:
impactcommunities@sequoiachurch.org

Memorizing Scripture
#9 of 9 - November 22, 2026

1) What did you find interesting or helpful about this message on Memorizing Scripture?

2) Read Deuteronomy 11:18-22. What does this reveal about the importance of knowing and living according to God's Word?

3) What has been your experience with memorizing Scripture?

4) Watch Session 4 - Listening to God (Practicing The Way - Scripture Course)
https://launch.practicingtheway.org/resources/prayer

5) As you listened, what most stood out to you?

6) How have you experienced the truth of "you are what you contemplate" or "you become what you meditate on"?

7) If you could share only one insight or reflection that you want to internalize going forward from this Practice, what would it be?

8) Reflecting on the past few weeks in this Practice, how has your relationship with Scripture changed?

9) Memorize a passage of Scripture: Identify a short passage you want to put to memory. Here are some recommendations for you:

Galatians 5:22-23
Ephesians 4:29-30
Philippians 4:6-7
Colossians 3:23-24
James 3:16-17
2 Peter 1:3-4
1 John 4:15-16

Read it out loud. Every day. Four times in a row.
Write it out by hand.
Visualize it. Close your eyes and connect an image to the verse. See the words.
Recite it. Every day push your brain to recite a little more of it from memory.
Recite it to another person.

Download the Prayer Guide from Practicing The Way for more resources.

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