

In Our Prayers...

**Requester's name is in parentheses*

Shirlean Johnson (Larry McKesson) – Shirlean was to have her foot removed last Monday due to surgery complications.

Melinda Black (Susie Puckett) – Melinda is scheduled for a difficult and necessary medical procedure on September 9th. Melinda is Susie's cousin.

Jim Beaver (Joe Puckett) – Jim continues to have severe complications in his feet and legs due to poor circulation.

Ongoing Health Concerns — Lyle Provost; Miriam Rodriguez; Vashara; Ken Williard's daughter-in-law; Yolanda & Judy Woody; Cailin Porter; Bobby Arnett; David Frederick; Rick Hales; Bill Harrell; Josh Martin; Karen Crowson; Terry Wells.

Brad & Sarah McGlothlin (Nathan Wheeler) – Brad and Sarah, of Oklahoma City, plan to begin studies at Bear Valley this fall.

Door for the Word – Pray for relationships with the lost that lead to opportunities to talk about Jesus.

Announcements

Silverton Singing The Silverton Church of Christ is hosting the August 5th Sunday singing today at 4:00 pm. The singing will be at the Kendall Mountain Recreation Center at 1 Kendall Place in Silverton. The Silverton church will need assistance cleaning up afterward.

September Cookout Kenny & Debbie Sutherlin are hosting a cookout fellowship at their Vallecito house. Mark your calendar for Saturday, September 19th, beginning at noon. See the note posted in the foyer for more details. This is a great opportunity to bring a guest!

The church of Christ in Durango

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Service Times

Bible Study
Sunday 9:30 a.m.
Wednesday 6:30 p.m.

Worship
Sunday 10:20 a.m.



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Making the Case for Scripture Memorization

By Jeff Randleman*

For many Christians, Scripture memorization has become a neglected spiritual discipline. We often assume that memorizing Scripture is unnecessary because we can find any verse instantly on a phone or computer. Others believe they simply are not good at memorizing. Yet Scripture memorization remains a valuable means of spiritual formation.

The Bible may never explicitly command, “Memorize Scripture,” but it repeatedly calls God’s people to know, meditate on, internalize, and obey his Word. Moses instructed Israel to keep God’s words on their hearts and to speak of them throughout the ordinary rhythms of life (Deuteronomy 6:4-7). Joshua was told to meditate on God’s law day and night (Joshua 1:8), while the psalmist declared, “I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you” (Psalm 119:11). The New Testament likewise calls believers to let the word of Christ dwell richly within them (Colossians 3:16).

Jesus himself demonstrated the value of having Scripture readily available within us. When Satan tempted him in the

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Making the Case for Scripture Memorization

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wilderness, Jesus responded by quoting Scripture (Matthew 4:1–11). He did not need to stop and search for a passage. God’s Word had already been deeply planted within him.

Memorizing Scripture strengthens us against temptation, deepens our communion with God, enriches our worship, and helps us recognize truth in a world filled with competing ideas and worldviews. It also equips us for ministry. When Scripture is stored in our minds, we are better prepared to encourage others, explain our faith, and share the gospel when opportunities arise. And when suffering comes—whether through grief, illness, persecution, or aging—God’s promises can become an anchor because we have already taken them into our hearts.

Some objections deserve consideration. Having immediate access to a Bible is not the same as having God’s Word internalized. Memorization and understanding are not competing disciplines; they reinforce one another. And memorization does not have to become legalistic. Its purpose is not to accumulate verses or earn God’s favor, but to allow his Word to shape our lives.

The best way to begin is simply to begin. Choose a meaningful verse or short passage. Read it aloud, write it down, repeat it regularly, and connect memorization with prayer and meditation. Families and churches can practice memorization together as an expression of discipleship.

The goal is not an impressive collection of memorized verses. The goal is transformation. As we consistently store God’s Word in our hearts, it shapes our thoughts, strengthens our faith, guides our actions, and helps us become more like Christ.

Orders

Luke 10:1-16

1. _____ that Jesus will send workers where there is a harvest.
2. _____ into enemy territory.
3. Go _____ .
4. Find a _____ _____ for that place.
5. Where you are welcomed, share the _____ .
6. Where you are rejected, proclaim the King's _____ of them.

Weekly Bible Reading Schedule

August 31	Mon	Isaiah 26 – 29
September 1	Tue	Isaiah 30 – 33
September 2	Wed	Isaiah 34 – 37
September 3	Thur	Isaiah 38 – 41
September 4	Fri	Isaiah 42 – 45