



A 7-day Guide to

READING AND MEMORISING SCRIPTURE

#carmelprays Devotionals 2020

DAY 1 | Reading and Memorising Scripture

I had some feedback/questions that basically revolved around how difficult it is to follow a Bible Reading Plan and memorise Scripture. The reasons ranged from lack of discipline to not liking the rigidity of a reading plan. This week, our readings will seek to help you address some of these challenges. Here are some introductory thoughts and perspectives:

Forming your mind around Scripture saves time: As you cultivate the habit of thinking like God and feeling for the things that matter to Him, you will get involved with trivial pursuits much less. You will feel more energetic. This only needs to protect you from one bad romantic or business partnership and you would have saved a lot of time. Obeying and reading the Bible saves lots and lots of time. Keeping the Word in our hearts saves time.

Build your reserves: When you pay prayerful attention to what God is saying to you in His Word, you will develop a heightened awareness of His Presence. This will give you confidence in decision-making and you will start to see yourself responding to situations from a reservoir of strength, rather than be a reactive person whose life is characterised by an endless string of “unhappy emergencies”. Review how Jesus met the temptations of Satan in the desert. Don’t we wish for that type of steadiness in our soul?

A Suggested Method: This is not *the* method. It is not even the superior method or necessarily a super good method. It is a method that I use that I have found suitable for my personality. One of the difficulties in reading the Bible from cover to cover is that it can get boring at some parts. Sometimes, if I follow a plan and I read something interesting and want to follow it through, the plan does not allow for that.

Step 1: Buy four bookmarks

Step 2:

- One bookmark for Genesis to Esther,
- One bookmark for Job to Malachi,
- One bookmark for Matthew to Acts,
- One Bookmark for Romans to Revelation

Step 3: On a typical day, read at least one chapter/bookmark, so your bookmarks are all moving. If you read slower, you can move two bookmarks a day. If something

interesting occurs and you read more, you can leave the other bookmarks for the next day. This ensures that you have flexibility. Every week, all your bookmarks need to be moving to ensure balance. When one bookmark has reached the end of the segment, let the rest catch up before starting a new cycle. Sometimes, I do play around with it. Eg. I may do two cycles for the New Testament and one cycle of the Old Testament. Just enjoy.

How to memorise Scripture: The difficult part is the Scripture reference. The second difficulty is some verses can be hard to remember. What should we do when some wonderful verses are difficult to remember? The solution is simple. If you struggle to memorise one verse, try memorising a whole chunk. The reason why one verse is difficult is because we have no context. Our memory bank consists only of isolated single verses. Remember by the sections. This week, we will do Psalm 100 together. Ask the Lord to inject these verses into your being. As they come alive, you will get excited as they nourish your soul. Just follow this 7-day devotional one day at a time. Voila, you will find that it is not so hard after all!

When tough times or temptation come, the Holy Spirit will often quicken your soul to recall Scripture if you have been slowly but consistently feeding your soul meditatively with His Word. When difficult decisions have to be made, if we have been walking with the Spirit through the texture of Scripture and prayer, we will find it easier to recognise His fingerprints in the decision we are wanting to make.

Use a hamburger technique. Start with a Scripture Reference, then the text and close with the reference.

Join in starting tomorrow.

Ps Ng Liang Wei

DAY 2 | Reading and Memorising Scripture

Psalm 100

¹ Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth!

² Serve the LORD with gladness!

Come into his presence with singing!

³ Know that the LORD, he is God!

It is he who made us, and we are his;

we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

⁴ Enter his gates with thanksgiving,

and his courts with praise!

Give thanks to him; bless his name!

⁵ For the LORD is good;

his steadfast love endures forever,

and his faithfulness to all generations.

Psalm 100

Read through the Psalm three times, aloud.

Practise Verse 1:

¹ Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth!

Step 1: Actually make a joyful noise! Say Psalm 100:1

Step 2: Read the verse aloud with actions and end with saying "Psalm 100:1" out loud

Ask the Spirit to guide your thoughts.

What struck you about this verse today?

Electronic Tip:

You can consider using the YouVersion app's audio. On a tired day, just play the Scripture audio and listen.

DAY 3 | Reading and Memorising Scripture

Psalm 100

¹ Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth!

² Serve the LORD with gladness!

Come into his presence with singing!

³ Know that the LORD, he is God!

It is he who made us, and we are his;
we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

⁴ Enter his gates with thanksgiving,
and his courts with praise!

Give thanks to him; bless his name!

⁵ For the LORD is good;
his steadfast love endures forever,
and his faithfulness to all generations.

Psalm 100

Read through the Psalm three times, aloud.

Read out loud x3 these two verses:

Psalm 100:1-2

¹ Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth!

² Serve the LORD with gladness!

Come into his presence with singing!

Psalm 100:1-2

Ask the Spirit to guide your thoughts.

What struck you about this verse today?

Electronic Tip:

“Remember Me” is a good Scripture Memory app.

DAY 4 | Reading and Memorising Scripture

Psalm 100

¹ Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth!

² Serve the LORD with gladness!

Come into his presence with singing!

³ Know that the LORD, he is God!

It is he who made us, and we are his;
we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

⁴ Enter his gates with thanksgiving,
and his courts with praise!

Give thanks to him; bless his name!

⁵ For the LORD is good;
his steadfast love endures forever,
and his faithfulness to all generations.

Psalm 100

Copy out the following 3 verses and read it out loud twice.

Psalm 100:1-3

¹ Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth!

² Serve the LORD with gladness!

Come into his presence with singing!

³ Know that the LORD, he is God!

It is he who made us, and we are his;
we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

Psalm 100:1-3

What struck you about these three verses today?

Tip:

Writing it out helps memory

DAY 5 | Reading and Memorising Scripture

Use the PRAISE acronym.

Prepare: Prepare yourself by quietening your heart. Prepare your heart to obey as God leads you.

Read: Read through Psalm 100 three times and fill in the blanks mentally

Psalm 100

¹ _____ a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth!

² _____ the LORD with gladness!

Come into his presence with singing!

³ _____ that the LORD, he is God!

It is he who made us, and we are his;

we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

⁴ _____ his gates with thanksgiving,

and his courts with praise!

Give thanks to him; bless his name!

⁵ For the LORD is good;

his steadfast _____ endures forever,

and his _____ to all generations. Psalm 100

Ask: Ask God to prompt you regarding changes that you need to make in your thoughts, words and deeds. Write these down, consider them and craft a prayer for the condition of your own soul.

Invite: Invite God to strengthen your resolve. Invite a friend to pray with you.

Start: Start acting on the changes that are in alignment with Scripture.

Evaluate: Evaluate the changes biblically and prayerfully on your own, and then with a friend.

DAY 6 | Reading and Memorising Scripture

Read: Read through Psalm 100 three times

Psalm 100

¹ Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth!

² Serve the LORD with gladness!

Come into his presence with singing!

³ Know that the LORD, he is God!

It is he who made us, and we are his;
we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

⁴ Enter his gates with thanksgiving,
and his courts with praise!

Give thanks to him; bless his name!

⁵ For the LORD is good;
his steadfast love endures forever,
and his faithfulness to all generations.

Psalm 100

Read: Psalm 100:1-4

¹ Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth!

² Serve the LORD with gladness!

Come into his presence with singing!

³ Know that the LORD, he is God!

It is he who made us, and we are his;
we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

⁴ Enter his gates with thanksgiving,
and his courts with praise!

Give thanks to him; bless his name!

Psalm 100:1-4

Tip:

To remember something well, we usually need varied exposures of the same thing.
Picture yourself walking through palace gates as you read Psalm 100:4

DAY 7 | Reading and Memorising Scripture

Read: Read through Psalm 100 three times

Psalm 100

¹ Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth!

² Serve the LORD with gladness!

Come into his presence with singing!

³ Know that the LORD, he is God!

It is he who made us, and we are his;
we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

⁴ Enter his gates with thanksgiving,
and his courts with praise!

Give thanks to him; bless his name!

⁵ For the LORD is good;
his steadfast love endures forever,
and his faithfulness to all generations.

Psalm 100

Try saying it out loud from memory.

Tip:

Why is Scripture memory important?

Because Truth fades from our hearts. Few people backslide intentionally. Prayerfully review. All we need is repetition.

Take a rest. As you keep His Word in your heart, may you not sin against Him as His Spirit uses His Word to guard your heart.