

21 Ideas to Help Kids Learn Scripture

Memory Verse Motions

Leader or kids can make up motions to the verse, and practice doing the motions while saying the memory verse.

Write It Down

Kids will remember the verse if they go over it in a variety of ways, including writing it down, and/or drawing a picture of what it means.

Echo-Game

The leader will say the verse (or phrases of it), while the kids echo it. To keep it interesting, the leader can use funny voices (LOUD, soft, sad, excited, tired, high-pitched, etc)

Sign Language

Ask someone who knows sign language to come in and teach the kids the verse in sign language.

Song

Either make up a song to go with the verse, or allow the kids to make one up, or use a song that already exists.

Hang Man

Write the verse with all blank spaces (except fill in a couple words...like "and" and "the") and play Hang Man with the kids guessing letters one at a time to try and figure out the verse.

In Your Own Words

Have the kids tell a partner (or the leader) what the verse means in their own words. This will help them grasp meaning, and not just the words.

Erase a Word

Write the verse on a chalkboard or white board, and say it with the kids over and over, erasing one or two words each time. Eventually, you will get down to no words written out, and the kids will have to say the verse from memory.

Mix It Up

Write or print the verse on several pieces of paper (one word or phrase per paper) and give one piece of paper to a kid. They will try to put them in order. You can do this in teams, as a race.

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Get in Order

Write the memory verse on pieces of paper, and tape the papers to kids' backs. The rest of the kids will help them get in order by telling them where to move, then they will all shout the verse together.

Balloon Pop

Write the verse on small pieces of paper (one word per paper) and roll them up and put them in balloons. Blow up the balloons. Give each group a balloon, which they will bat to a certain area of the room, then pop it, and get out the paper. The kids will work together to put the verse in order.

Bible Verse Burst

Write your entire memory verse onto balloons (one word per balloon, including reference) and pin or tape them to the board. Pop one of the balloons with a push pin and have the kids repeat the verse, including the missing word (you repeat it with them, but shush on the blank). Continue to pop one balloon at a time until they can recite the entire verse.

Guess Who

We select a volunteer who must go stand by a teacher with his back to the group and the memory verse visual. Whoever is teaching the verse quietly points to a word in the verse and instructs the group to read the verse inserting a *clap* for the appointed word. The volunteer then has to guess what the missing word was.

Quote the verse if you...

Tell the kids to stand up and quote the verse if they...ate breakfast this morning, took a bath last night, have brown eyes, like broccoli, made your bed today, have a sister, are wearing red, etc.

Bible Verse Showdown

The kids will stand back to back, then they count, turn and face each other and shoot, the kid who says the verse the fastest is the winner

Bible Verse Hopscotch

Using a hopscotch grid, you will add words to each of the squares so the children have to say each word or words in order as they hop through the grid.

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Bible Verse Hot Potato

Use a ball or a real potato to play hot potato! As the ball is tossed about, each word must be said individually and in order by the person catching the ball. If someone misses a word or drops the ball, they are out.

Bible Verse Match

Here's the classic Match/Memory Game. Face down scripture flash cards must be matched with another set of face down flash cards that state the meaning of the verse.

Bible Verse Ping-Pong

Two teams go back and forth quoting the verse, one word at a time. One team starts, then the other team says the next word.

Bible Balloons

The goal in the game is to keep the balloon in the air. Every time a child hits it, they first (or at the same time) say a word of the Bible verse. The idea is that the children will say the whole Bible verse by hitting the balloon to each other.

Memory Verse Boogie

Each month we have a different memory verse and with each new verse we get a different group of kids to 'choreograph' the 'boogie' . We find this helps to keep it fun. The kids are taking ownership of the process and we are getting them to remember verses along the way.