



## MEMORY-BASED LEARNING

J.J. Turner, Ph.D. ©

When the Psalmist affirmed that he was wonderfully and fearfully made, he no doubt was including his ability to remember; a function of the brain given by God. God has always commanded man to use his memory in serving Him. There are numerous passages that sustain this fact:

Remember the Sabbath (Ex. 20:8).

1. Remember the commandment of the Lord (Num. 15:39).
2. Remember you were slaves (Deut. 5:15).
3. Remember Abraham, Isaac and Jacob (Deut. 9:27).
4. Remember the words of Moses (Josh. 1:13).
5. Remember the works of the Lord (Psa. 77:11).
6. Remember your Creator when you are young (Eccl. 12:1).
7. Peter remembered the words of Jesus (Matt. 26:75).
8. "This do in remembrance of Me" (Lord's Supper, Luke 22:19).
9. "Have these things always in remembrance" (2 Pet. 1:15).

Memorizing God's word is a lost practice among many Christians. One of the results of teaching and learning in a Bible class is to emphasize memory-based learning. Read Psalm 119 to see the power and blessing of knowing God's word in your heart (memory).

This is why the teacher and student will use repetition and interval reinforcement in order to cement the word of God in the mind for recall and usage. If information is registered in the brain only one time it is doubtful that no more than 10 percents will be remembered after 30 days. But if there are six to seven exposures to the information over a 30 day period, as much as 90 percent of the message will be remembered. This requires effort.

There are several keys to remembering Scripture and key points in lessons:

1. Take notes and review them frequently for 7 days. Read and reread.
2. Read the passage 7 times and visualize the setting of the words. Feel the words.



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3. Use the verse or material in a conversation as frequently as possible 7 times.
4. Keep a notebook (3x5) and write the verse or key points out every day for 7 days.
5. Associate the verse or material with something you already know.
6. As you accumulate Scriptures in memory set aside a period of time to repeat them.
7. Find one intentional thing to do each day for 7 days with the verse or material.
8. Make up a song or story in which you use the word or point.

Remembering God's word should be a priority for both teacher and students. The word in one's heart is a powerful force for spiritual living and growth.