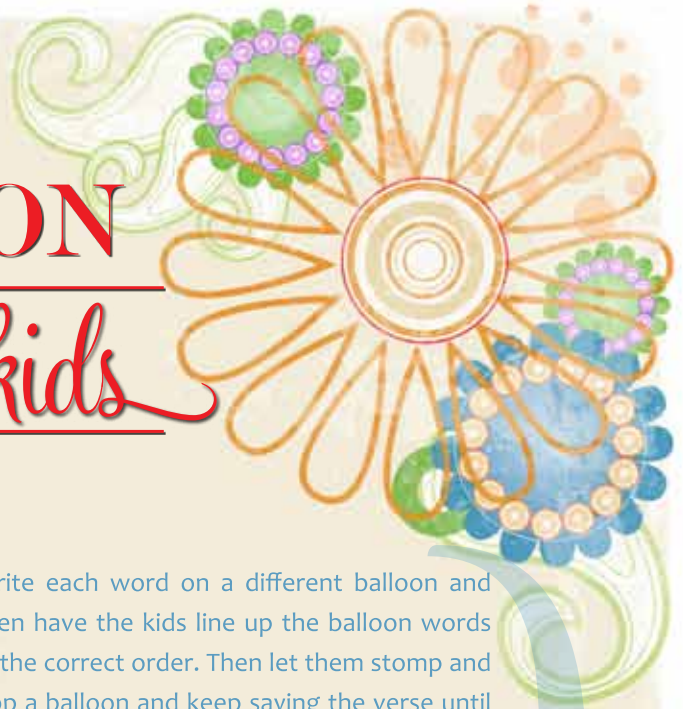


MEMORIZATION

METHODS *for kids*



Remember that understanding, familiarity, and application are more the goal than word-for-word memorization. However, there are a number of methods to help your children memorize verses.

Young Children

Young children, with limited verbal skills, can hear truths repeated in fun ways.

- Clap your hands while you say each word.
- Practice the verse during your child's devotional each day.
- Roll a ball back and forth with each word.
- Make up a song for the words.
- Play an instrument, like a drum or shaker, while you say the words.
- Get creative in application. If you are teaching John 1:3, go on a walk and name as many things as you can that are made by God. Follow that with a fun craft of looking through old magazines for "made by Him" pictures that the child can glue in a collage on a piece of paper.

Older Children

- Older children might challenge each other, or a parent, to learn a verse.
- You can help them by placing the verse on Post-its around the house, on a favorite notebook, or in the car.
- Write it on an eraser board and erase a word each day and see who can still remember it as all the words get erased.

- Write each word on a different balloon and then have the kids line up the balloon words in the correct order. Then let them stomp and pop a balloon and keep saying the verse until there are no more balloon words left.
- Teens with cell phones could text back and forth with a parent, sibling, or friends, each adding a word or two, and seeing if they can make it to the end of the verse.
- Get creative in application. Philippians 2:14 naturally lends itself to a challenge. Try keeping a tally to see which memorizer, parent or child, can do a better job of staying true to the memory verse during a day or week.

Absorption

Listening to and singing Scripture music is another great method of learning verses. It is amazing how much is absorbed this way without even working at it. One day, when my children were almost four and two, I had to smile as my daughter randomly ran up to her little brother's high chair and said, "I just want to remind you, do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good!" before running off again. I had never even discussed this verse with her, but she had heard it over and over from her music. Memorizing Scripture has wonderful ramifications for your teachable moments. Both you and your child will have some of God's Word hidden in your hearts as issues arise (Psalm 119:11).