

HIDE GOD'S WORD IN YOUR HEART

The Psalmist proclaims to God, *"Your Word have I hid in my heart, that I might not sin against You"* (Psalm 119:11).

Bible Memorization is a must for every child of God. I read recently, "The Bible --Know it in your head, Stow it in your heart, Show it in your life, Sow it in the world."

Often when it is mentioned that we ought to memorize Verses of Scripture there are the usual excuses made -- "I can't memorize Bible verses," "I'm too old," "It's too hard for me," and so on.

And yet, we can memorize new phone numbers, TV advertisements, Sports stars and scores, how to manipulate the latest electronic gadgets, or repeat the current joke.

The advertisement industry knows the more you repeatedly see an item the more it will be imbedded in your mind. It's interesting to notice how many TV ad jingles you hear others singing without even realizing what they are doing.

Psalm 1 in verses 1&2 make it very clear -- *"Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of the scornful -- BUT -- his delight is in the Word of the Lord, and in His Word does he meditate day and night."* To meditate is to think deeply, to apply all your efforts and senses to the task at hand.

When you read or hear a particular portion of Scripture, and a verse stands out to you, mark or underline it and go back and read it over and over again. Put a bookmark in the page, look it up the next time you open your Bible, read it again and again, recite it out loud, tell it to a family member or close friend, think deeply about it whenever you have a quiet moment, or wake up in the night. Write it on a "Post-It" Sticky paper and put it where you will see it often.

Fill your heart and mind with Bible verses or portions, teach them to your children or fellow students, share them with others -- the more you use them the more they will remain in your mind.

The Psalmist also says, *"Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in Your Sight, O Lord, my Strength and my Redeemer"* (Psalm 19:14).

And again, *"Oh, how I love your Word! It is my meditation all the day"* (Psalm 119:97).

Joshua was instructed by God, *"This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success"* (Joshua 1:8).

Success in the Christian Life depends on exactly what we fill our hearts, lives and minds with -- the things of the Lord, or the things of the world. Which will carry us through to Eternity with Him?

