FRANCES HUNTER

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A SYSTEMATIC PLAN TO HELP YOU MEMORIZE GOD'S WORD.

MEMORIZING MADE EASY

by Frances Hunter

Scripture quotations are taken from: The Authorized King James Version (KJV)

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Memorizing is easy, but recalling is difficult!

Does that make sense to you? If not, I want you to think what you would do if I said, *Faith is the substance*. . Would you complete that scripture? Of course you would! Why? Because you've heard it so many times.

What if I said, For God so loved the world... what would be your natural reaction? To complete the scripture, of course.

What makes memorizing difficult? Nothing!

What is the secret, then? Recalling, or bringing it back into the conscious part of your mind!

The devil had a ball for many years telling Charles and me that we could not memorize scriptures because we were "too old" and "too far away" from school. The devil said our minds were past the ability to go in that particular direction.

The devil hasn't had an original thought from the beginning, and he has told the same lie to people for generations past, and many have believed this statement from him. Remember the devil is a liar, and there is no truth in him!

Did the devil ever tell you that you were getting forgetful because you couldn't remember things?

We have a tendency to believe what the devil says instead of what the Word of God says, *For God hath* not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind (II Tim. 1:7). Therefore, we have a sound mind. I do not have a "forgetful" mind (that's not scriptural); I do not have a "blank" mind (that's not scriptural); I do not have a "scatter-brained" mind (that's not scriptural either); I do not have a dull mind, nor is my mind sluggish or listless.

My mind is sharp, because I have the mind of Christ!

DON'T WRITE "HOT" CHECKS

Are you aware of the fact that you have a heavenly bank account which has limitless funds on which you can draw? The resources in this account are endless!

Are you aware of the fact that God can bounce checks from your personal heavenly bank account? There are certain areas where there is nothing on deposit for you, and any time you write a check on the account which has no balance, it is going to be a "hot" check!

When you write a check for sickness, that's a "hot" check!

When you write a check for poverty, it won't clear the Bank of Heaven.

When you write a check for a "forgetful" mind, that check is going to bounce for sure!

When you write a check for unhappiness and misery, it will come flying back to you because there is none of that on record in heaven!

GET RID OF THE DEVIL'S BIBLE

Too many of us get up every morning and begin the day by confessing what the devil's bible says.

You're going to say, "Well, not me! I don't read the devil's bible. I didn't even know that he had one!"

Let me tell you some of the quotes I've heard from the devil's bible that people are horrified when they discover where they got their information! It seems that his bible is so easy to memorize and yet we claim we have difficulty memorizing God's Word!

Have you ever said anything like this?

"I feel terrible this morning."

"My back aches."

"My sinus has really given me a headache this morning."

"I hate to get out of bed because I never have any energy. I'm always tired!"

Those are direct quotes from "Lies 2:2 Many" of the devil's bible.

Have you ever been guilty of quoting those verses? Where did you find them? In God's Word? No! His Word says just the opposite. You got them right out of the devil's bible.

TRY GOD'S WORD

When we begin to memorize and quote God's Word, we wake up in the morning saying, *Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospers* (3 John 2).

It's a good idea to do a little confessing along with the memorizing. Start with saying, "My body is healthy. I do not have sickness. I do not have weakness because the mighty energy of Jesus Christ flows through me!"

Try this one a few mornings in a row, and see what happens. "I am a beautiful person because I have been made in the image of God! I do not have poverty. My pocketbook is overflowing because of God's prosperity. My Father is wealthy, and he gives me everything I need! No sin, no sickness, no disease nor poverty can come against my house because Jesus Christ is Lord!"

LINE UP YOUR CONFESSION FOR MEMORIZING

Right now I want you to begin to get your confession lined up correctly. Say with me, God hasn't given me a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind! Therefore. 1 have a sound mind and I can memorize scripture. I can also recall scripture as I need to

because the Holy Spirit will bring to my remembrance anything 1 need to know. I have perfect recall! I have perfect ability to memorize!"

And you have, if you believe what God's Word says, that we actually have the mind of Christ.

HAVE YOU DONE YOUR HOMEWORK?

The first thing we need to do is to start doing homework. It is going to take time to memorize scripture. But there are a lot of other things that take time, too.

It takes time to watch television.

It takes time to read newspapers.

It takes time to gossip on the telephone and fill our minds with the non-essentials of life!

When you are willing to give up some of the non-essentials of life, it is amazing how much scripture you can memorize.

When you memorize and confess God's Word, it works with power for you!

When I am studying a new subject, I type the scriptures I want to use on the subject, and keep copies of them on the bathroom mirror, copies by the refrigerator, so that while I am getting dressed or cooking, I can keep repeating them until they actually become a part of me.

What are you really thinking about while you get dressed? Most of the things we do while dressing are purely automatic, so why not put your mind in gear and start quoting scripture while you're putting on each item of clothes. You might want to pick out a particular scripture for each item of clothing you wear.

When you put on your shoes or stockings, you might say, How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings. that publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth! (Isa. 52:7).

That scripture is also a fabulous scripture to quote when your feet are hurting after you've been out walking too much, or standing too much. I often quote that when we've been having seminars, and I've been standing too long, and it's surprising how fast it brings relief!

Look up other scriptures in your concordance that pertain to your feet or shoes, and quote these when you dress that part of your body! How about, For thou hast delivered my soul from death, mine eyes from tears, and my feet from falling! (Ps.

116:8). This can also be used if if you are thinking about your eyes while you are dressing!

When you are putting on cream or make-up (if you're a woman) you might try Isa. 61:3: To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that he might be gloried.

It is also wonderful when you're putting on your dress to sing that exciting song, "Put on the Garment of Praise for the Spirit of Heaviness!"

GET A MEMORY PARTNER

Get yourself a "memory" partner.

Get someone who is as excited as you are, or make someone get as excited as you are.

Start memorizing together.

It can be your husband or wife (if they are willing and eager), but it can be just as exciting to have a telephone partner that you telephone several times during the day.

Take no time for gossiping, just quote the scripture to each other.

Charles and I use each other as "memory" partners. Let me share with you some of the ways we learn scriptures together.

We use the time on long plane trips to refresh our memories. Sometimes we are tired, and don't feel like reading the Bible, or even working our minds hard enough to learn new scriptures, so we put our seats back on the plane and hold hands. Charles gives a scripture, and

I give a scripture. Charles gives a scripture and I give a scripture.

Sometimes we will quote a part of a scripture. I will say, *The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?*

Charles answers with: the Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

Then I answer, When the wicked, even mine enemies and my foes, came upon me to eat up my flesh, they stumbled and fell.

Charles chimes in with, Though an host should encamp against me, my heart shall not fear:

Then we both usually come in together saying, though war should rise against me, in this will I be confident (Ps. 27:1-3).

This makes it extremely easy, because if one of you fails to quote it

correctly, the other one is right there to help you along.

Many times when you're riding along there is a tendency to make conversation just to be talking. We discovered a long time ago that there are things a lot more valuable than just plain chit-chatting. Even when we might be riding in an area of beautiful scenery, we see all the things that indicate the beauty of God, but we don't comment on them until later, because they are impressed on our minds, but when we are quoting scripture to each other, it puts us into a whole different world.

Scenes will often cause you to recall verses, so your conversation is seasoned with the Word of God and even chit-chat becomes healthy conversation. When you're looking at trees, there are many verses that the Holy Spirit will bring back to your mind.

The Bible says we're in this world, but we are not of the world. That's why we think it's so much fun and so exciting to keep our minds on the spiritual things of God.

TRY THIS!

A few years ago we took a group over to Hawaii, and we started them all memorizing scripture the very first day. To be real truthful, they all began to panic, because they thought they would never be able to actually memorize scriptures.

Here's what we did, and it worked out extremely well for everyone! We gave each person one 3x5 card and on it we had them write the scripture for the day.

Writing it down yourself is tremendously advantageous because writing it impresses it on your mind. One at a time is all you need, because if you try to memorize five, six or seven in one day, you will discover that you really did not memorize any of them. Stay on the same scripture until it is firmly imprinted in your mind, then it's time to go on the second one.

Because it is so much simpler if you have a partner to memorize scripture, we had our Hawaii friends keep the card for the day in their pocket or purse, and we made everyone a partner of everyone else. Each time they saw someone who was on the tour, their job was to quote the scripture of the day. If you ran into five people at one time, they all stopped and quoted the scripture to each one. It was amazing how

many of them knew the scripture by the next day!

If you are by yourself, when you are on an elevator, or wherever you are, whip out the card and say, *Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen* (Heb. 11:1).

LEARN THE REFERENCE, TOO!

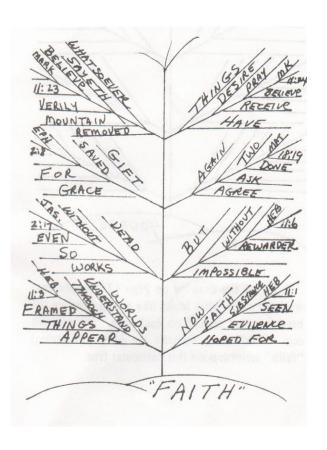
It's just as easy to memorize where the scripture is found when you're memorizing scripture, so why don't you put it all together in one package and learn both the verse and the reference. If you do this, you will discover before long that the minute you begin to quote that particular scripture, you will automatically think of Hebrews 11:1 before you finish it.

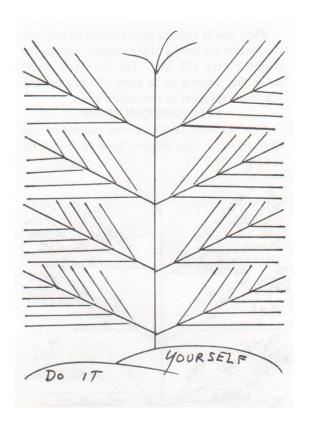
As you go through the day, take your little card out every time you sit down in a chair. Maybe you stop occasionally to have a cup of coffee. Memorize the scripture during coffee break time! That's better than just sitting there thinking about how hot the coffee is!

When you're running your vacuum cleaner, put the card on the handle of the vacuum, and say the scripture over and over. The time you spend doing this is going to be some of the best time you have ever spent in your entire life.

EVERYONE CAN DRAW!

And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season, (Ps. 1:3).





Look at the drawing on Page 20. Notice that we have made what looks like a tree. Notice the branches that go off on each side. We call this our "faith" tree, because we have put several "faith" scriptures on this particular tree.

Now look at the second tree. We begin to put fruit on the tree, and the fruit in this case is not an orange or apple. but words that will help you recall the scripture.

- 1. Make a little sub-branch go off in one direction.
- 2. Put down the first word of the scripture to help you recall the scripture. Many times the first word is the key word to putting the scripture into your mind. List the word "NOW."
- 3. Choose the next word that would really help you because it stands out in your mind! It could be

the word "FAITH" because this is a faith scripture.

- 4. Choose the next word that would help you to remember. It could very easily be "SUBSTANCE."
- 5. Choose another word, which in this case might be "HOPED FOR" and write it down.
- 6. Choose "EVIDENCE" for possibly the last word.

These might not be the words you choose, but they were the words that were outstanding in that verse of scripture for me.

7. Hang the scripture reference, Hebrews 11;l, right on the end of the branch.

Be sure to put down the words that are vital to YOU in the scripture. Don't write more than four or five for any scripture, and don't write the entire scripture. Do use enough words, however, to bring the scripture into a quick recall for you.

Now, start memorizing.

Look at your tree and say, "Now!"

What is the second word? Say it, "faith!"

You're going to have to remember a few words in between, but when you look at the next word, which is "substance," it will be easy for you to remember, "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for."

Look at your next word "evidence" and you will be able to remember the connecting word, so you will say, "the evidence of things not seen"

Continue looking at each of the vital words until the scripture is firmly planted in your mind.

Always remember to start with the first word of the scripture, because once you have that one recalled into your mind, you will be amazed how easy it will be to remember the rest.

Make a second branch on your tree. On this one let's memorize Hebrews 11:3 which says, Through faith we understand the worlds were framed by the Word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.

Choose the words you want to put on your tree and begin to memorize that scripture until it is burned into your heart so that you will never forget it, and say it over and OVER until it becomes a part of you.

When I first became a Christian, I was very active in Campus Crusade for Christ. They have a little booklet called THE FOUR SPIRITUAL LAWS which I read to everyone I

came in contact with because it is a tremendous way to lead people to the Lord.

Even though that was years ago, I have not forgotten those scripture references.

Why?

Because I used them so many times until they became a living, vital, breathing part of me, and exactly the same thing is going to happen to you, if you will continue saying the verse over and over again, and begin using them in your normal conversation.

Put down the first word "THROUGH." The next word I put down was the word "UNDERSTAND."

What do we understand? We understand that the worlds were framed by the Word of God.

The next word you might want to use is the word "WORLDS." You might select the word "FRAMED." I used that one because that was the word I had difficulty remembering when I was memorizing that scripture.

We may not agree on the exact words that we're going to use, but be sure that you put down the words that stand out to you.

The next word you might want to write down is the word SEEN or THINGS, whichever appeals to you the most.

You might also want to add the word APPEAR. Now let's say the words as they appear on the tree: THROUGH Faith we UNDER-STAND that the WORLDS were FRAMED by the word of God, so that THINGS which are SEEN were

not made of things which do APPEAR. (Heb. 11:3).

Be sure to hang the scripture reference of Hebrews 11:3 on the very end of the branch so you won't forget where you found it.

Say it over and over until it really becomes a part of your being. You might want to try to store in your mind a picture of each of the branches so that you will be able to recall it even when you don't have your little tree in front of you, because it is amazing what will happen to your memory when you write down the things you want to memorize.

Another beautiful faith scripture is Hebrews 11:6: But without faith it is impossible to please him; for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

Put down the first word BUT.

Now think hard. Which is the word that stuck in your mind? When I made my tree, I put down the word WITHOUT. Then I asked myself a question, "But without faith it is what?"

The next word that came into my mind was the word IMPOSSIBLE, or you might want to put down the word PLEASE. The important thing for you to remember is to write down the word that sticks in YOUR mind.

One of the words that I found especially helpful in that verse was the word REWARDER because when we understand that God is an actual rewarder of them that diligently seek him, then we can get excited about the fact that God is going to reward us as long as we have faith.

I LIKE THAT SCRIPTURE! READY FOR A LONG ONE?

Another scripture that everyone ought to know is Mark 11:23, 24. It's long — actually it's two verses, but it can really spark up your Christian life: For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea: and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith. Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ve desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ve shall have them

I told you it was long, but it has so many promises of God in it that every Christian ought to be able to rattle it off at any time.

You might want to start your tree with the same word I did, VERILY.

The next word I used was the word WHOSOEVER because one of the promises in this particular verse is that WHOSOEVER . . . it doesn't say any special kind because God is no respecter of persons, but it simply says WHOSOEVER, so I put down as my next word WHOSOEVER. And it doesn't make any difference what the mountain in your life is, write down the word SAY and follow it with the word MOUNTAIN.

You might want to use the word REMOVED as your next word, but choose the words that really speak to you. This tree will have a lot of branches on it because there are a lot of words in the scriptures.

Next try the word CAST or SEA, then try the words NOT DOUBT, because it's essential to use the word NOT before the DOUBT. Try the word BELIEVE followed by SAITH, then try WHATSOEVER.

To recall the 24th verse I would put down THINGS, DESIRE, PRAY, BELIEVE, RECEIVE, HAVE.

Do that on a separate piece of paper, will you, and then see how fast that verse of scripture comes back into your mind We used a lot of words in that particular scripture, but that's all right because that scripture is such a vital one for us to have at our fingertips at all times. We are often snared by the words of our mouth, and because we can have whatsoever we say, we certainly ought to be saying the right things.

Right now, I want you to say that verse out loud, even if you have to read it completely, because in memorizing scriptures, one of the things I want to impress upon you is that it's vital to say the scriptures out loud even if you have to say them to your walls. It's always wise to READ the scripture out loud several times before you make your memory tree.

If you don't have a partner in your own home to share scripture memorization with, say the verses out loud to your walls, your furniture, your sink, your food! You have no idea how these things might respond, because God is really doing the supernatural these days!

THREE WAYS

When you READ a scripture with your EYES, one part of your learning reflexes is activated.

When you SAY it with your MOUTH, another area begins to be active.

When you HEAR it through your EARS, that's the THIRD way.

This way you will be using three avenues of learning for memorization, whereas if you only look at a scripture, you are only utilizing a certain percentage of your capabilities of memorizing the Word of God.

In our house, I probably have a little more time at home to memorize than Charles does, because he goes into the office more often than I do. The majority of my work is done in our office at home, so there are those

little moments when I can quickly pick up the scriptures or leave them lying all over the place so that wherever I go, there is a scripture than can talk to me.

If I go to the kitchen to get a drink of water,

there's a scripture at the faucet.

If I'm on the telephone, there's a scripture right there that I can read or say while I'm waiting for the telephone to ring.

I understand very well that this is a lot easier to do at home than in an office, but you might want to put one scripture on your desk where it can be easily seen, and every time you look at it, that particular verse will go into your mind. In an office you certainly can't go around quoting scripture out loud all the time, but you can at least form the words in your mouth. This won't help as

much as saying them out loud, but it will help.

A friend of mine who is a walking concordance because of her knowledge of the Bible, places scriptures in her car which she memorizes as she drives along. When you get accustomed to doing this, sometimes just one little peek will get you started on the entire scripture. She is a nurse, and at work she places the little scripture card in her cuff, and peeks at it as she goes up and down the halls.

Because Charles has more of a problem than I do finding the right time to memorize scriptures, I did something one day without realizing what a complete blessing it was going to be to Charles.

I made a cassette tape, and put it in Charles' car, and when he turned the engine on, this is what I said: "Charles, I know that YOU want to memorize scripture, and so do I, but it's more difficult for you because of time, so I'm going to put some on tape and every time you go to the office, I want you to drive along and repeat these scriptures with me. Then when you come home at night, we'll be even with each other and can both quote the scripture for the day."

Do you know what happened? Charles memorized the scriptures just by listening to me say them to him in the car. He would begin to say them right along with me, then when he got off on the wrong track, my speaking the scripture would get him right back on the right track.

TRY RECORDING YOURSELF!

I'm going to make a suggestion to you that you take your tape

recorder and make a little tape for yourself. I never put more than six on one particular tape, and this is the way I do it. I decide on a subject such as the WORD. A very important verse to know is Jeremiah' 1:12 where God says, "I will hasten my word to perform it."

You don't have to worry about good quality on the tape, because you will probably be the only person who listens to it. The Word says, So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God (Rom. 10:17). Whenever I use that scripture, I always say, So then faith cometh by hearing and hearing and hearing and hearing and HEARING by the Word of God. The more you listen to the Word of God, the more of an impression it is going to make upon your heart.

It's important that the first scripture you put on a tape is an easy

one to remember, so let's put on the tape the scripture mentioned above, and do it just like this: *I will hasten my word to perform it* (Jeremiah 1:12).

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I will hasten my word to perform it (Jeremiah 1:12).

Be sure to put it on at least three times, and read it slowly enough so you can really get it into your spiritman which will make it much easier to remember.

Put a second one on just the same way, but let's combine two: *Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee,* because *For ever, 0 Lord, thy word is settled in heaven* (Ps. 11 9:11, 89).

Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee," because "for ever, 0 Lord, thy

word is settled in heaven (Ps. 119:11, 89).

Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee," because "for ever, 0 Lord, thy word is settled in heaven (Ps. 119:11, 89).

I deliberately picked the first scriptures to memorize on the Word, because we need to understand the integrity of the Word of God. We need to understand that the Bible is the same as God speaking to you right out of his mouth, because that's what the Word is.

Stop the tape recorder after you've heard it from your own voice three times, and then try saying it yourself. Then back the tape recorder up and listen to see if you said it correctly! You might want to back it up and say it at the same time you say it on the tape recorder. It will not

only correct you, but it will prompt you as well.

Charles and I go to bed every night listening to cassette tapes. Sometimes we listen to teaching tapes. Sometimes we listen to spiritual feast tapes containing nothing but scriptures on healing or other subjects. I believe if you listen to scriptures on healings over and over and let them wash over you day and night, you will be healed of any disease you have because the devil and his sickness can't stand in the presence of the Word of God.

If prosperity is what you need in your life, start memorizing the scriptures on prosperity. A good one to start with is *Give and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same*

measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again (Luke 6:38).

Right along with Luke 6:38, memorize III JOHN 2: Beloved. I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and he in health, even as thy soul prospereth. Those two scriptures memorized at the same time are an unbeatable combination.

Keep quoting them, and keep confessing them by saying, "Prosperity is mine. Healing and health are mine. I have given and it's coming back to me running all over the place. Hallelujah – prosperity is mine!" Keep saying that long enough and it will be yours!

Let me give you some good suggestions on making a tape for your car or your kitchen or whatever. Don't put too many verses on a tape at one time.

Don't put different subjects on one tape. Stick to just one subject, because it will be the same as if you try too many on a tree and try to memorize them all at one time. You end up with applesauce instead of a bunch of apples because you get them all messed up, and when you get them all mixed together, the flavor of one goes into another and pretty soon you'll discover you don't have a whole apple at all.

Put expression in your voice when you read the scriptures, and think in your mind what you are saying, so that you won't just be memorizing words. Don't make Phil. 4:19 come out sounding like but my god shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus. If you will put

expression in your voice when you record a scripture, and into your voice when you say it, the verse will really be quickened to your heart, and it will be easier for you to remember.

Be willing to commit to the Lord a certain amount of time each day. Don't be legalistic and say it has to be a certain amount every day, but do make a point to have some time set aside each and every day to memorize scripture.

If you're vacationing, this is a good way to make the miles exciting while you're driving. Recently Charles and I were driving between cities for meetings, and some days we would spend two or three hours as we were driving along just memorizing scripture. Between a husband and wife it can be a spiritually rewarding time, and when

your children are with you, it can be a wonderful time for teaching them.

Remember to make little cards and leave them all over your house so vou can memorize scripture wherever you are. And who knows, some unsaved member of your family might just learn some from observation! Put some by your dryer or wherever you fold clothes. It's amazing how much you can learn while doing a tedious, timeconsuming job. !f there's a job in your house you dislike doing, you could perk up that job by pasting a scripture by the dryer which says, This is the day which the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it (Ps. 118:24).

Keep your scripture cards at your fingertips. We have them all over our house: in the bathroom, on the

refrigerator, on the desk lamp, just anywhere we pass by often.

If healing is what you need, look up every healing scripture in the Bible and memorize your favorites until there isn't any way the devil can have any kind of a hold on your body.

If you have an incurable disease, the best scripture I know of to memorize is Ps. 118:17: *I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the Lord.* Say it over and over and over and OVER until the devil knows you really mean business!

Here are some additional trees. After you memorize all this fruit, you can start your own orchard! Hallelujah!

