

Jan 9-15 : Week 2

Recited to _____

Learn *Matthew* 5:1-2 □□□□□□

Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him.

² And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying:~

Jan 16-22 : Week 3

Recited to _____

Review *Matthew* 5:1-2 □□□□□□

Learn *Matthew* 5:3-5 □□□□□□

³ Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.⁴
Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.~

Jan 23-29 : Week 4

Recited to _____

Review *Matthew* 5:1-5 □□□□□□

Learn *Matthew* 5:6-8 □□□□□□

⁶ Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

⁷ “Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

⁸ “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.~

Jan 30-Feb 5 : Week 5

Recited to _____

Review *Matthew* 5:1-8 □□□□□□

Learn *Matthew* 5:9-10 □□□□□□

⁹ “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

¹⁰ “Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Feb 6 - 12 : Week 6

Recited to _____

Review *Matthew* 5:1-10 □□□□□□

Learn *Matthew* 5:11-12 □□□□□□

¹¹ Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Feb 13 - 19 : Week 7

Recited to _____

Review *Matthew* 5:1-12 □□□□□□

Learn *Matthew* 5:13-14 □□□□□□

“You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet.

¹⁴ “You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden.

Feb 20-26 : Week 8

Recited to _____

Review *Matthew 5:1-14* □□□□□□

Learn *Matthew 5:15-16* □□□□□□

¹⁵ Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

Feb 27 - Mar 4 : Week 9

Recited to _____

Review *Matthew 5:1-16* □□□□□□

Learn *Matthew 5:17-18* □□□□□□

¹⁷ “Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. ¹⁸ For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished.

Mar 5- 11 : Week 10

Recited to _____

Review *Matthew 5:1-18* □□□□□□

Learn *Matthew 5:19-20* □□□□□□

¹⁹ Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰ For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

Mar 12 - 18 : Week 11

Recited to _____

Review *Matthew* 5:1-20 □□□□□□□□

Learn *Matthew* 5:21-22 □□□□□□□□

²¹ “You have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘You shall not murder; and whoever murders will be liable to judgment.’ ²² But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment; whoever insults his brother will be liable to the council; and whoever says, ‘You fool!’ will be liable to the hell of fire.”

Mar 19 - 25 : Week 12

Recited to _____

Review *Matthew* 5:1-22 □□□□□□□□

Learn *Matthew* 5:23-24 □□□□□□□□

²³ So if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift.”

Mar 26 - Apr 1 : Week 13

Recited to _____

Review *Matthew* 5:1-24 □□□□□□□□

Learn *Matthew* 5:25-26 □□□□□□□□

²⁵ Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are going with him to court, lest your accuser hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you be put in prison. ²⁶ Truly, I say to you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.”

Apr 2- 8 : Week 14

Recited to _____

Review *Matthew* 1:1-26 □□□□□□

Learn *Matthew* 5:27-28 □□□□□□

²⁷ “You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ ²⁸ But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lustful intent has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

Apr 9 - 15 : Week 15

Recited to _____

Review *Matthew* 5:1-28 □□□□□□

Learn *Matthew* 5:29-30 □□□□□□

²⁹ If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body be thrown into hell. ³⁰ And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body go into hell.

Apr 16 - 22 : Week 16

Recited to _____

Review *Matthew* 5:1-30 □□□□□□

Learn *Matthew* 5: 31-32 □□□□□□

³¹ “It was also said, ‘Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.’ ³² But I say to you that everyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of sexual immorality, makes her commit adultery, and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

Apr 23 - 29 : Week 17

Recited to _____

Review *Matthew* 5: 1-32 □□□□□□

Learn *Matthew* 5:33-35 □□□□□□

³³ “Again you have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘You shall not swear falsely, but shall perform to the Lord what you have sworn.’ ³⁴ But I say to you, Do not take an oath at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, ³⁵ or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King.

Apr 30 - May 6 : Week 18

Recited to _____

Review *Matthew* 5: 1-35 □□□□□□

Learn *Matthew* 5: 36-37 □□□□□□

³⁶ And do not take an oath by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. ³⁷ Let what you say be simply ‘Yes’ or ‘No’; anything more than this comes from evil.

May 7 - 13 : Week 19

Recited to _____

Review *Matthew* 5: 1-37 □□□□□□

Learn *Matthew* 5: 38-39 □□□□□□

³⁸ “You have heard that it was said, ‘An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.’ ³⁹ But I say to you, Do not resist the one who is evil. But if anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also.

May 14 - 20 : Week 20

Recited to _____

Review *Matthew* 5: 1-39

Learn *Matthew* 5: 40-42

⁴⁰ And if anyone would sue you and take your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. ⁴¹ And if anyone forces you to go one mile, go with him two miles. ⁴² Give to the one who begs from you, and do not refuse the one who would borrow from you. ,

May 21 - 27 : Week 21

Recited to _____

Review *Matthew* 5: 1-42

Learn *Matthew* 5: 43-45

⁴³ "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' ⁴⁴ But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, ⁴⁵ so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven. For he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. ,

May 28 - June 3 : Week 22

Recited to _____

Review *Matthew* 5: 1-45

Learn *Matthew* 5: 46-48

⁴⁶ For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? ⁴⁷ And if you greet only your brothers, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? ⁴⁸ You therefore must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect. ,

June 4 -10 : Week 23

Recited to _____

A week to Review Matthew 5

Review the first chapter of Matthew: *Matthew 5:1-48* □□□□□□□□

June 11 - 17 : Week 24

Recited to _____

Review *Matthew 5: 1-48* □□□□□□□□

Learn *Matthew 6:1-2* □□□□□□□□

¹ “Beware of practicing your righteousness before other people in order to be seen by them, for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven.

² “Thus, when you give to the needy, sound no trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be praised by others.

Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. ,

June 18- 24 : Week 25

Recited to _____

Review *Matthew 6: 1-2* □□□□□□□□

Learn *Matthew 6: 3-4* □□□□□□□□

³ But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing,

⁴ so that your giving may be in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you..

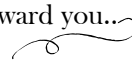
June 25 - July 1 : Week 26

Recited to _____

Review *Matthew* 6: 1-4 □□□□□□

Learn *Matthew* 6: 5-6 □□□□□□

⁵ “And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites. For they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, that they may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. ⁶ But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you...



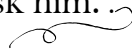
July 2 - 8 : Week 27

Recited to _____

Review *Matthew* 6: 1-6 □□□□□□

Learn *Matthew* 6: 7-8 □□□□□□

⁷ “And when you pray, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do, for they think that they will be heard for their many words. ⁸ Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.



July 9 - 15 : Week 29

Recited to _____

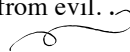
Review *Matthew* 6: 1-8 □□□□□□

Learn *Matthew* 6:9-13 □□□□□□

⁹ Pray then like this: “Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. ¹⁰ Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

¹¹ Give us this day our daily bread, ¹² and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

¹³ And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. .




July 16 - 22 : Week 29

Recited to _____

Review *Matthew* 6:1-13 □□□□□□

Learn *Matthew* 6:14-15 □□□□□□


¹⁴ For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, ¹⁵ but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses. 

July 23 - 29 : Week 30

Recited to _____

Review *Matthew* 6: 1-15 □□□□□□

Learn *Matthew* 6: 16 □□□□□□

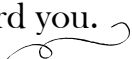
¹⁶ “And when you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward... 

July 30 - Aug 5 : Week 31

Recited to _____

Review *Matthew* 6: 1-16 □□□□□□

Learn *Matthew* 6: 17-18 □□□□□□

¹⁷ But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, ¹⁸ that your fasting may not be seen by others but by your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you. 

Aug 6 - 2 : Week 32

Recited to _____

Review *Matthew* 6: 1- 18 □□□□□□

Learn *Matthew* 6: 19 -21 □□□□□□

¹⁹ “Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust¹⁹ destroy and where thieves break in and steal, ²⁰ but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

Aug 13 -19 : Week 33

Recited to _____

Review *Matthew* 6: 1-21 □□□□□□

Learn *Matthew* 6: 22-23 □□□□□□

²² “The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light, ²³ but if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!.”

Aug 20 - 26 : Week 34

Recited to _____

Review *Matthew* 6: 1-23 □□□□□□

Learn *Matthew* 6: 24 □□□□□□

²⁴ “No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.”

Aug 27 - Sept 2 : Week 35

Recited to _____

Review *Matthew* 6: 1- 24 □□□□□□

Learn *Matthew* 6: 25-27 □□□□□□

²⁵ “Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? ²⁶ Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? ²⁷ And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life?

Sept. 3 - 9 : Week 36

Recited to _____

Review *Matthew* 6: 1- 27 □□□□□□

Learn *Matthew* 6: 28-30 □□□□□□

²⁸ And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, ²⁹ yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. ³⁰ But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith?

Sept 10 - 6 : Week 37

Recited to _____

Review *Matthew* 6: 1- 30 □□□□□□

Learn *Matthew* 3: 31-32 □□□□□□

³¹ Therefore do not be anxious, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ ³² For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all...

Sept 17 - 23 : Week 38

Recited to _____

Review *Matthew* 6: 1- 32 □□□□□□

Learn *Matthew* 6: 33 -34 □□□□□□

³³ But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

³⁴ “Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.”

Sept 24 - 30 : Week 39

Recited to _____

Review Matthew 6

A week to review chapter six: *Matthew* 6: 1-34 □□□□□□

Oct. 1 - 7 : Week 40

Recited to _____

Review *Matthew* 6: 1- 34 □□□□□□

Learn *Matthew* 7: 1-3 □□□□□□

¹ “Judge not, that you be not judged. ² For with the judgment you pronounce you will be judged, and with the measure you use it will be measured to you. ³ Why do you see the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye?”

Oct. 8 - 14 : Week 41

Recited to _____

Review *Matthew* 7:1-3 □□□□□□

Learn *Matthew* 7:4-6 □□□□□□

⁴ Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' when there is the log in your own eye? ⁵ You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother's eye.

⁶ "Do not give dogs what is holy, and do not throw your pearls before pigs, lest they trample them underfoot and turn to attack you.

Oct 15 - 21 : Week 42

Recited to _____

Review *Matthew* 7:1-6 □□□□□□

Learn *Matthew* 7:7-9 □□□□□□

⁷ "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. ⁸ For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. ⁹ Or which one of you, if his son asks him for

bread, will give him a stone?

Oct. 22 -28 : Week 43

Recited to _____

Review *Matthew* 7: 1-9 □□□□□□

Learn *Matthew* 7: 10 -12 □□□□□□

¹⁰ Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a serpent? ¹¹ If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask him!

¹² "So whatever you wish that others would do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets.

Oct 29 - Nov. 4 : Week 44

Recited to _____

Review *Matthew* 7:1-12 □□□□□□

Learn *Matthew* 7: 13-14 □□□□□□

¹³ “Enter by the narrow gate. For the gate is wide and the way is easy that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many.

¹⁴ For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few.”

Nov. 5 -11 : Week 45

Recited to _____

Review *Matthew* 7:1-13 □□□□□□

Learn *Matthew* 7: 15-16 □□□□□□

¹⁵ “Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves. ¹⁶ You will recognize them by their fruits. Are grapes gathered from thornbushes, or figs from thistles?”

Nov 12 - 18 : Week 46

Recited to _____

Review *Matthew* 7:1-16 □□□□□□

Learn *Matthew* 7:17-20 □□□□□□

¹⁷ So, every healthy tree bears good fruit, but the diseased tree bears bad fruit. ¹⁸ A healthy tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a diseased tree bear good fruit. ¹⁹ Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. ²⁰ Thus you will recognize them by their fruits.”

Nov 19 - 25 : Week 47

Recited to _____

Review *Matthew* 7:1-20 □□□□□□

Learn *Matthew* 7: 21-23 □□□□□□

²¹ “Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. ²² On that day many will say to me, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?’ ²³ And then will I declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.’”

Nov 26 - Dec 9 : Week 48

Recited to _____

Review *Matthew* 7:1-23 □□□□□□

Learn *Matthew* 7: 24-25 □□□□□□

²⁴ “Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. ²⁵ And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock.”

Dec. 3 - 9 : Week 49

Recited to _____

Review *Matthew* 7:1-25 □□□□□□

Learn *Matthew* 7: 26-27 □□□□□□

²⁶ And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not do them will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. ²⁷ And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell, and great was the fall of it..”

Dec 10 - 16 : Week 50

Recited to _____

Review *Matthew* 7:1-27 □□□□□□

Learn *Matthew* 7: 28 -29 □□□□□□

²⁸ And when Jesus finished these sayings, the crowds were astonished at his teaching, ²⁹ for he was teaching them as one who had authority, and not as their scribes. ~

Dec 17 - 23 : Week 51

Recited to _____

Review Matthew 7 ~

A week to review the last chapter: *Matthew 7* □□□□□□

Dec 24 - 31 : Week 52

Recited to _____

Review Matthew 5, 6, 7 ~

A week to review all 3 chapters: *Matthew 5, 6, 7* □□□□□□

Seven Ways of Highly Effective Bible Memorization*

1. Old before New: Always take the old paths. Begin each day by reviewing the memorized verses first before learning the next verse. The goal is retention not accumulation.

2. Rinse and Repeat: And again. The only way to retain learned verses is to review them again and again over an extended period of time. Everyday's memorization rhythm: Rinse and repeat.

3. Location, Location, Location: Like the mantra in real estate is location, location, location, so it is for really remembering: memorize the location of each verse. Memorize each verse number and don't skip it. This is paramount and makes it much easier to memorize long passages and not inadvertently skip verses when reciting whole chapters. Location!

4. Take a Mental Screen Shot: Use your mental point and shoot and take a brain "photograph" of the verse. Read each new verse several times, hiding one word at a time, burning each word into your mind like light onto film.

5. Preach it: to yourself. Speak your memory verses to yourself aloud. Preach it aloud to the soul that needs it the most — our own — and say each verse with emotion and feeling. Whispering it while driving, walking, working not only is an easy way of reviewing and memorizing, it's fulfilling God's call to meditate on His Word day and night. And saying each verse aloud is a way to work the words deep into our memory: His Words never return void.

6. Repeat it for 100: For 100 consecutive days repeat aloud your memory work — all the verses, or the chapter, or the whole book. This is painless and demands no extra time: do it first thing every morning while getting ready for the day — in the shower, getting dressed, making the bed etc. Repeat it for 100!

7. Sabbath Sanctuary to see the weeds: After your Repeat it for 100, take the last Sunday of every month and make a sabbath sanctuary to read through your memory work. This will help you to "see the weeds" — any mistakes that have crept into your recitation of longer projects, chapters, books. Soak in His Word on a Sabbath — pluck out some weeds. Commit your heart — and mind — to Him again.
(*Ideas adapted from Dr. Andrew Davis)

"I know of no other single practice in the Christian life more rewarding... than memorizing Scripture... No other single exercise pays greater spiritual dividends..."

~ Charles Swindoll

online memorization helps:

<http://www.mcscott.org/> Verse Card Maker "The Verse Card Maker is a simple and efficient way to create customized business sized verse cards for scripture memory." Print out verses in the ESV and slip business-sized cards into pockets, tape on mirror, etc.

<http://www.biblegateway.com> Biblegateway Search for the verses in your preferred version and print out as many copies as necessary.

<http://www.downes.ca/memorization.htm> First Letter of the words Memorization. Type in verse, click convert, then copy and print the text of just the first letters of each verse. Read several times. The brain works hard to fill in the blanks!

Why make time to Memorize God's Word?

In the age of Google, who makes time to still memorize God? Past generations made it a priority to memorize God's Word. Are we now losing a way of life... and losing our way?

In our making to-do lists to run our lives, why not make time to let God's Word revolutionize our lives?

Because making time to memorize His Word is putting first things first. **If we fail to keep His Word in mind, we may simply fail.**

"What a heart knows by heart is what a heart really knows," urges Dennis Lennon. And what the heart knows by heart is all that can calm the heart. And direct the heart. And strengthen the heart.

What do our hearts really know? Will we who claim to be believers of the Word commit to shaping our lives with His Letters? Committing the Holy to heart is the way we commune with the Holy Himself.

Scripture repetition is the way we daily revive our faith, the slow pumping of the Word of Life into the lungs with the breath of His Words. And for the disciples of Christ, this Scripture Memorization isn't a one-time hurdle — but a life-long habit. A way of living to live the Way of Christ.

We want this to be a discipline we practice for the rest of our lives.

"Think marathon, not sprint." writes Beth Moore. She encourages, **"Never — NOT ONCE — have I ever known anyone to get to the end of a Scripture memory commitment and say that it didn't make any real difference. Not a single time."**

So this Commitment Booklet: committing our hearts to Him and His Words to heart.

