

# Memorization Tips

Memorizing God's Word is one of the foundational goals of the Awana program.

While we assist and encourage children to memorize Scripture, it is important we convey the incredible importance and power of God's Word. Children should know why we put all the time and effort into memorizing verses. Below are some techniques to help your clubbers.

- Pray with clubbers for God's help to memorize.
- Use repetition as much as possible by repeating the verse with clubbers over and over again.
- Encourage your T&T clubbers to use the Ultimate Adventure Flashcards. Each card contains a Bible verse from their T&T handbook.
- Print the verse on stiff cardboard or premade blank puzzles. Cut the cardboard (paper can also be used) into puzzle pieces. Have the clubbers assemble the puzzle as they learn the verse. Store the puzzle pieces in a resealable plastic bag for review at another time.
- Write individual words on 3x5 index cards. Shuffle the cards and ask clubbers to arrange them in order. When finished, clubbers can challenge other clubbers to a race.
- Read the verse out loud with clubbers several times until they can pronounce all the words correctly.
- Help clubbers understand the meaning of the verse by restating it in your own words. It's much easier for clubbers to memorize when they understand the meaning behind the verse.
- Underline the main words of the verse for the clubber. Help him identify the main subject, verb and object in each sentence of the verse. Be sure to ask permission to mark in the clubber's handbook before you start underlining.
- Break the verse into meaningful parts by putting parentheses around phrases. For example, Titus 3:5: *(Not by works of righteousness) (which we have done) (but according to His mercy) (He saved us) (by the washing of regeneration) (and renewing of the Holy Ghost).*
- Use the first letter of each word in the verses as a memory aid. For example, write out on a piece of paper Romans 5:1 in this way: T B J B F, W H P W G T O L J C. *Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.* Let the clubber try to recall the words of the verse just by looking at the first letter of each word of the verse. Let her keep practicing until she can say the verse without the letters.
- Write out the verse on a chalkboard or marker board (dry erase board). Erase a word at a time to help a clubber learn his memory verse. Each time he correctly says the verse, erase another word until he knows the entire verse.
- Write out verses on 3x5 index cards for clubbers to carry with them throughout the week. Encourage clubbers to pull the cards out and review them while they are waiting for the school bus or other "down times" during the week. Suggest that they say the memory verses right before bedtime and first thing in the morning.
- Set the verse to music using a familiar tune. For instance, use a nursery rhyme tune to remember a handbook section and it will come more naturally. The names of the books of the Bible are also easy to memorize when set to music. Cassette tapes and CDs, with all the memory verses set to music, are also available for Cubbies, Sparks and T&T (see the *Awana Ministry Guide*).