

What can I do to encourage reading, memorization, understanding and application of Scripture?

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| <p>If you are a Parent</p> | <p>Pray for your kids to trust Christ as Savior, and that the Holy Spirit would lead them into all truth. Read the Bible with your kids on a regular basis. Discuss the passages with them. Memorize verses along with your children. Help your children prepare for church throughout the week. Send them to church with a Bible. Provide Bible study resources, either software or reference books, and teach your kids how to use them. Talk to your children about what they are learning in church and Sunday School. Review your child's goals with the church workers.</p> |
| <p>If you are a Pastor</p> | <p>Encourage Bible reading and memorization from the pulpit, through announcements, on websites, and in social media. Make reading assignments that correlate with your sermon series. Provide annual Bible reading schedules for your congregation and families. Establish a Bible memorization program and review verses during the service. Provide assistance in the area of application of verses. Help your leadership and church workers understand we are more concerned with understanding and application than mere rote memory. Make Bibles available for all children. Award them to those who earn them through consistent attendance. Set up a Bible Memory small group with verses to memorize and incentives for completing the program. Consider an entire service dedicated to reading Scriptures; Wednesday evening, New Year's Eve, or other special meeting.</p> |
| <p>If you are a Children's Ministry Director</p> | <p>Encourage workers to be involved in a memory program such as Awana. Encourage those who teach kids to use their Bibles for the message. Give guidelines to each of your speakers, emphasizing application of truths being presented. Conduct a year-end awards ceremony to recognize those who complete their assigned work; memory verses and Bible studies. Give special recognition to adults who complete Bible studies and reading. Make sure children are recognized for their achievements in a timely fashion. Assign children to the same workers each week to help build relationships. Schedule service activities for children so they can apply what is being learned. Schedule outreach activities for children to demonstrate witnessing skills. Have extra-credit challenges available for your achievers.</p> |

If you are a
**Children's
Worker**

Do the same Bible study and memory work as your students.
Bring your Bible to church and use it in your group.
Pass on tips to parents to help the child prepare for church lessons.
Post charts with goals for your clubbers to work through their lessons.
Ask questions and discuss the verses being memorized by your kids.