

MEMORIZATION GUIDE

Note: You can either memorize your favorite passage of the two offered or you can really rev up your spiritual engines and memorize both in the next 21 days!
Keys to memorizing Scripture:

- Take a verse each day (There are 18 in all. We have given you one day a week off)
- Use index cards and put them in your pocket each day and recite it every time you get a minute in your day. You could cut the boxes out below and put them in your pocket or purse as well.
- Say the verse location in full (i.e. "Matthew 5:3 says...") and then say it again at the end. **THIS IS CRITICAL TO MEMORIZATION.** When doing large passages simply add the number before saying the next verse.
- SAY IT OUT LOUD. Words passing through your tongue and vocal cords solidify them in your mind.
- Add a new verse right after you have said the old one at the start of a new day, keep building them up in your mind
- Remember it will not be easy unless you commit every day to this activity.

Matthew 5:3-12 (NLT)

- 3** God blesses those who are poor and realize their need for him, for the Kingdom of Heaven is theirs.
- 4** God blesses those who mourn, for they will be comforted.
- 5** God blesses those who are humble, for they will inherit the whole earth.
- 6** God blesses those who hunger and thirst for justice, for they will be satisfied.
- 7** God blesses those who are merciful, for they will be shown mercy.
- 8** God blesses those whose hearts are pure, for they will see God.
- 9** God blesses those who work for peace, for they will be called the children of God.
- 10** God blesses those who are persecuted for doing right, for the Kingdom of Heaven is theirs.
- 11** God blesses you when people mock you and persecute you and lie about you and say all sorts of evil things against you because you are my followers.
- 12** Be happy about it! Be very glad! For a great reward awaits you in heaven. And remember, the ancient prophets were persecuted in the same way.

Galatians 5:19-26 (NLT)

- 19** When you follow the desires of your sinful nature, the results are very clear: sexual immorality, impurity, lustful pleasures,
- 20** idolatry, sorcery, hostility, quarreling, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish ambition, dissension, division,
- 21** envy, drunkenness, wild parties, and other sins like these. Let me tell you again, as I have before, that anyone living that sort of life will not inherit the Kingdom of God.
- 22** But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,
- 23** gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against these things!
- 24** Those who belong to Christ Jesus have nailed the passions and desires of their sinful nature to his cross and crucified them there.
- 25** Since we are living by the Spirit, let us follow the Spirit's leading in every part of our lives.
- 26** Let us not become conceited, or provoke one another, or be jealous of one another.

FASTING & DEVOTION GUIDE

1. Fasting from Food:
 - a. The Daniel fast will be our food guideline. It is usually a fast consisting of fruits, vegetables and water only. However, we encourage you to eat some protein as well and will allow for fish and fowl to be part of your diet.
 - b. A good rule of thumb is simply no meats and no sweets for the 21 days.
 - c. Remember, however, to still see this as food in limited quantities or it may not end up being a fast.
 - d. Get as much temptation out of your refrigerator and pantry because you will be strongly tempted to cave in.
2. Fasting from Technology:
 - a. Since we all use technology in our business world we understand your need to use laptops, computers, and phones as your job demands. However, on your free-time we encourage you to unplug as much as possible.
 - b. Commit to a four or five day a week, unplugging (ex. Mon-Thurs) from Facebook, TV, phones, Smartphones, etc. so that you can spend this time with God in prayer and to building good relationships in your family or among your friends. We see the value, however, of using technology for reading ebooks or Bibles and encourage the use of them in that way.
 - c. Where you would normally use your personal time before a screen or a phone, spend that time with reading an inspiring novel, listening to praise songs, or memorizing Scripture.
 - d. Take advantage of this newfound free time to visit friends, the sick, or the elderly. Find ways to be servant-driven as you unplug from the world of TV, Computers, and Phones!
3. Devotions
 - a. Choose one or two NT book(s) to read through every day for the next 21 days. (ex. The Gospel of John or Two Letters of Paul)
 - b. Read only a small section each day.
 - c. For extra support buy or download an ebook devotional commentary like:
 - i. *With the Word* by Warren Wiersbe
 - ii. One of the *Everyone* commentaries by N. T. Wright
 - d. After reading the daily passage compose a thoughtful prayer and post it to our churches Facebook site below:
<http://www.facebook.com/mycrosswind> I would encourage you to use this site only to share what God is doing in your life while you are unplugging from technology.
 - e. Spend time praying over your day, as well as for the people that God brings to your mind.
 - f. THIS IS IMPORTANT – Find a way to walk out what you experienced in your devotions for that day.

FIRST-FRUIT GIVING GUIDE

1. First-Fruit Giving was the ancient way to dedicate something new to God. Such as a new land, or a new crop, or a new child, or a new herd. Hebrew men and women were asked by God to bring an offering from these new blessings that spoke of pledging the rest of what was to follow. So they gave God the first and best of their crops or herds so that God's blessing would be upon the rest of what was coming in that new season of their life. **Deuteronomy 26:1-11; Nehemiah 10:35-39; Proverbs 3:9-10; Romans 11:16**
2. This year we are asking you to bring a First-Fruit offering from your finances. It will be our way of dedicating this new year of 2012 to God.
3. The offering we raise will go to two big areas of need: a) Our Benevolence Fund for families in need throughout the year, and b) The Rescue Mission, to meet the needs to minister to men in recovery.
4. THIS IS NOT YOUR REGULAR TITHE but a sacrificial offering to dedicate the rest of this year to God and his blessings over our lives.
5. Give BIG. Think of something that represents faith and sacrifice. And then stand back and see how God blesses you to pull this off!
6. DO NOT GIVE IF YOU FEEL CONSTRAINED BY GUILT OR PRESSURE. This needs to come from your heart and your faith. So take time to pray over what you want to give at the end of our 21 days together. On January 22nd we will take up this offering and celebrate the blessing of God for the coming year.

The land you will soon take over is a land of hills and valleys with plenty of rain—¹² a land that the LORD your God cares for. He watches over it through each season of the year! Deuteronomy 11:11-12 (NLT)

January 1st & January 22nd Declaration:

A wandering soul was my experience before I came to know the goodness and grace of Jesus. I was deeply lost in my own self-centered rebellion and trapped by my many sins. Then I cried out, to God, in my brokenness and pain. He heard my prayers and sent his Son to die for my sins and rise again to redeem my life. Through Jesus I have been given a brand new life by a simple act of trusting him to save me. All that I now have, in blessings and benefits, have come from his hands. He has given me abundant life, both now, and in his coming Kingdom. So here I am. I have brought a First-Fruit offering to celebrate his blessing over my life in this New Year ahead."



21 Days To Rev Up Your Spiritual Engine

A 21 Day Guideline to Fasting, Memorizing, Praying and Giving

January 1st – January 21st
PASTOR DAVID SULCER