



HILLSIDE STUDENTS


Memorizing Scripture


 Set out snacks! Add new students to the groups app! Take Attendance!

 Play **Penny Chinny!** In this game, each player begins by placing a penny on their chin. After each player has their penny balanced, the game begins. Once the game begins, players can no longer touch the penny on their chin with their hands. The goal of the game is to be the last player standing with a penny on their chin. You can't touch any other players, but you can try to make them laugh, scare them, walk close to them, or do anything else you can think of to force them to drop their penny.

 **Huddle Up:** Use this moment to re-gather the group! In your own words, let them know why we do group and what to expect the rest of the night. If needed, have the group share names/fun facts/highs & lows/etc!

CONNECT

 **Set up Discussion:** Whether it's the alphabet, or the planets in our solar system, or the capitals of each state, we know that memorization is a skill that we embrace in school to help us learn. When it comes to growing in our faith, memorizing scripture is something that can help us in a lot of ways!

 Pre-Video Question: Have your group answer one or both questions below!

- Categorize yourself into one of the following: Inside Dog, Outside Dog, Hot Dog, Junkyard Dog, Corn Dog, or Snow Dog
- Would rather drink a 32oz cup of cane's sauce or chick-fil-a sauce? Why?

WATCH

Split up into smaller groups and navigate the discussion below:

- What stood out to you from the video?
- **Read Matthew 4:1-11.** What can we learn from Jesus' example?
- Can you think of a time when scripture changed how you responded to a hard situation?
- **Read Psalm 119:11.** What differences do you see between reading scripture and memorizing scripture?
- Which of these memorization tools seems most helpful to you and why? (Read It, Write It, Say it, Sing It, Pray It)
- How could you take one of those methods and use it this week? Who could help you?
- **Challenge:** Have everyone pick one passage of scripture to memorize this week and share their commitment with the group! (You may need to help them find one, there are some ideas listed on page 3 if you feel stuck!)
- **Don't forget:** Next week, we will start talking about the Book of James. Find more details on how you and your group can read along on page 2!

READ + DISCUSS

HILLSIDE STUDENTS

Memorizing Scripture

Scripture teaches us that the Word of God is alive, active, a guiding light, able to transform, sweeter than honey, and more valuable than gold. Unlike memorizing your homework, memorizing God's Word does something transformative inside of us. God's Word pierces our hearts and transforms the things we can't change ourselves.

One way to experience this transforming work is to hide scripture within our hearts and refer back to it in the little (and big) moments throughout our day.

Leaders, we encourage you to share a story of when having a scripture memorized helped you overcome a life storm, provided wisdom, or helped you know what to pray for! We want students to know that memorizing scripture is for EVERYONE.

Read Psalm 119:11 *I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you.*

Read Matthew 4:1-11 *1 Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. 2 After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. 3 The tempter came to him and said, "If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread." 4 Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" 5 Then the devil took him to the holy city and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. 6 "If you are the Son of God," he said, "throw yourself down. For it is written: "'He will command his angels concerning you, and they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.'" 7 Jesus answered him, "It is also written: 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" 8 Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. 9 "All this I will give you," he said, "if you will bow down and worship me." 10 Jesus said to him, "Away from me, Satan! For it is written: 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.'" 11 Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him.*

Before your group wraps up tonight, be sure to share the James reading plan with them! If they start the reading plan tomorrow, they will have read all of James 1 before your group meets again next week!

They can look up "Anchoring Time - James" in the YouVersion Bible App or scan this QR code.

You can also set up a plan to read together and track each other's progress. Find the plan, click "start plan", select "With friends", and choose the start date for the plan. Copy the link and pass it along to the students in the group!



HILLSIDE STUDENTS

Memorizing Scripture

Memorizing scripture helps us stand firm when life gets difficult. It also helps deepen our relationship with and trust in Jesus Christ. Here are some verses that you can memorize to help bring comfort and guidance.

Romans 6:23 - "For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord."

Proverbs 4:23 - "Guard your heart above all else, for it determines the course of your life."

1 John 1:9 - "But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness."

John 14:6 - "Jesus told him, 'I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me.'"

Mark 10:45 - "For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

Ephesians 2:10 - "For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."

Mark 12:29-31 - "The most important one," answered Jesus, "is this: 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these."

Acts 2:38 - Peter replied, "Each of you must repent of your sins and turn to God, and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. Then you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."

Matthew 19:26 - "Jesus looked at them and said, 'With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.'"

1 Corinthians 10:13 - "The temptations in your life are no different from what others experience. And God is faithful. He will not allow the temptation to be more than you can stand. When you are tempted, he will show you a way out so that you can endure."

Matthew 28:19-20 - "Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age."