

Hidden In My Heart | Pastor Steve 06.30.2019
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Memory Verse: Psalm 119:11 (NIV)

"I have hidden your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you."

Read Psalm 119:1-16.

Psalm 119 verse 16 says "I will delight in your decrees and not forget your word."

- How do you make sure you do not forget Gods Word?
- Why should we memorize Scripture?

Psalm 119: 9-11 says ⁹How can a young person stay pure? By obeying your word. ¹⁰I have tried hard to find you—don't let me wander from your commands. ¹¹I have hidden your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you."

The Bible makes it clear we should memorize Scripture.

- Have you ever memorized Scripture? Do you currently make an effort to memorize Scripture?
- When was the last time you memorized Scripture?
- When would it be helpful for you to have verses memorized? (Helping to comfort or counsel someone you know, sharing the Gospel with unbelievers, teaching your children, reminding yourself of comfort or hope in a time of need or stress)
- Can you recall a time when you wished you would have had Scripture memorized?
- How do you memorize Scripture? (Songs, flash cards, reading the bible, helping children memorize, listening to the Bible when driving)

We know that the devil will take any opportunity to separate us from God. **1 Peter 5:8-9** (NIV) warns us to ⁸Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. ⁹Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kind of sufferings."

- Why is it important for us to know God's Word and have it written on our hearts and in our minds at all times?
- Do only believers know God's Word? Do non-believers have Scripture memorized? Why?

We also know Satan knows the Scriptures. We know he used his knowledge of the Scriptures in order to test Jesus. Read **Matthew 4:1-11**.

- How did Satan use the Scriptures to test Jesus?
- How did Jesus use the Scriptures as his defense?

Knowing the enemy knows scripture should make us want to study and know more. **Hebrews 4:12** (NIV) reminds us, ¹²For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart." This means when we have the Word of God written on our hearts and minds we have the strongest weapon. We have the active, living Word of God within us.

Romans 12:1-2 (NIV) A Living Sacrifice

¹²Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. ²Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will." If the Word of God is on your heart, your mind will be renewed and transformed. The only way to truly follow after God's heart is to be transformed by His Word and our minds renewed.

- How has memorizing Scripture changed you on the inside and how you see / live in the world?

Read Psalm 18:27-46 & Ephesians 6:13-18

- When have you seen Gods Word help you in a battle in your life of the life of someone you know?
- When have you been able to use Scripture that you memorized to help you or someone around you?
- How will you change your daily routine to include memorizing Scripture? How can you help the people you love to do the same?