

DISCOVERING GOD'S WORD

MERIT BADGES

Bible Memorization



PURPOSE

To help Cadets begin to understand the spiritual discipline of having personal devotions. They will understand that memorizing the Bible is simply hearing and remembering what God is saying to them.

SCRIPTURE

2 Timothy 3:16 (CEV)

Everything in the Scriptures is God's Word. All of it is useful for teaching and helping people and for correcting them and showing them how to live.

Psalm 119:9, 11, and 105

⁹How can a young man keep his way pure? By living according to your word.

¹¹I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you.

¹⁰⁵Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path.

LEARNING

Having a conversation with someone involves two things — talking to them and listening to what they say. When you have a conversation with God, you talk to Him through prayer. He talks to you through His Bible — also called the Word of God. In a sense, it is the words of God, because He tells us many things in it.

1. What good is the Bible for people? Use the code to fill in the answers.

	5	6	7	8
1	P	L	E	T
2	H	M	V	I
3	C	O	A	R
4	G	S	N	W

T E A C H I N G,
1,8 7,1 7,3 5,3 2,5 8,2 4,7 5,4

H E L P I N G,
5,2 1,7 1,6 5,1 8,2 7,4 4,5

C O R R E C T I N G,
5,3 6,3 3,8 8,3 1,7 3,5 1,8 2,8 4,7 5,4

and S H O W I N G
4,6 5,2 3,6 4,8 8,2 7,4 4,5

T H E M H O W
1,8 2,5 1,7 6,2 2,5 6,3 4,8

T O L I V E.
8,1 3,6 1,6 8,2 7,2 1,7

The Bible itself tells what it's good for. It is God's Word and is useful in telling people how to act, in telling them when they're sinning and how to correct it, and training people in life.

2. King David of Israel truly loved God's Word. In Psalm 119, he wrote how much he loved it. It's the longest chapter in the whole Bible. Use the code box to see what David said in verse 105. He said God's Word was a

L A M P and a L I G H T.
1,6 3,7 6,2 1,5 6,1 2,8 4,5 2,5 1,8

What do you think it means?

David absolutely loved God's Word. He described it as a lamp and a light, showing him the path. That means it showed him the way to live.

3. In verse 9 of the same psalm, David gives a great reason for memorizing Bible verses. What will living according to God's Word do for you? Write the first letter of each object on the line above it.

S T A Y P U R E


Why do you think it will help you to memorize it?

We already learned that the Bible shows us how to live. This text adds that when we do that, our way is kept pure. In other words, God's Word keeps us from sin. That may seem obvious at first, but it's profound. And don't forget, a Cadet must be pure.

Just two verses later, in verse 11, David gives a solid reason for memorizing God's Word (hiding it in your heart). What is that reason?

This repeats the aspect of purity and sinlessness. Memorizing God's word helps keep one from sinning.

4. God's most important commandment is to love Him. If you love Him, what will you do? How will memorizing His Word help?

Counselor, let the boys think about this and give as many answers as they can think of before you remind them of the Cadet verse, John 14:15. If they love Him, they will obey His commandments. In order to obey the commands, you have to know what they are. You can find out by reading the Bible, which is where God's commands appear. And the best way to remember them is to memorize them.

DOING

The doing items are self-explanatory.