

10 Memory Verse Games

1. **Erase a Word**— Write the memory verse on a board. Erase the verse a word at a time, each time asking the children to say the verse.
2. Write each word of the memory verse on a slip of paper. Children must place the slips in the correct order.
3. Children line up or sit in a circle. Each child says a word (or phrase) of the verse, going from child to child.
4. Write the first letter of each word of the memory verse on a board. Children then try to write the verse.
5. **Ping Pong**— A child calls out the first phrase of a verse, then another calls back the second phrase, and so forth. This can be played in pairs or in teams with the children facing each other in a line.
6. Children sit around a table. Someone writes the first word or phrase of a verse (or the reference) on a sheet of paper and passes it to the next person who writes the next word or phrase, and so forth until the verse is completed. The next person starts another verse, and so forth. By timing the children to see if they can “beat” their previous time, you can liven up the activity. Timing the activity may help you determine which verses and how many to include (e.g., see how many verses they can they write in 10 minutes).
7. **Hot Potato**— Have children sit on the floor in a circle. The first child says the first word of the verse and rolls a ball to anyone in the circle. The child receiving the ball says the second word of the verse and so on.
8. **Line Up**— Write each word of the verse on a separate slip of paper. Tape a slip of paper onto the front of each child and have them line up in verse order. (Variations: Play this as a team game or tape the slips onto the back of each child and have them ask questions to find out which word is on their back and then line up in verse order.)
9. **Picture It**— Have the children write the verse, drawing as many pictures for the words as possible.
10. **Verse Relay**— Divide the children into two teams. Place a chalkboard, white board, or large sheet of paper at a distance from the starting line. Hand the first child of each team a writing implement, and on the shout of “Go” have him run to the writing surface and write the first word of the verse. Then have him return to his team and hand the writing implement to the second person. The team that finishes writing the verse correctly first wins.

10 Ways to Teach a Memory Verse

1. **Translations:** Look up your memory verse in some of the many different Bible translations. Do the verses say the same thing? Is one translation clearer than another? From which translation do the children prefer to memorize the verse?
2. **Voice Memo:** Pre-record the memory verse beforehand. Allow the children to listen to the verse at their own pace. You may want to include some explanation as to what the verse means.
3. **Find the Verse:** Place the individual words of a memory verse on strips of paper. Hide the pieces around the room and let the children find them. For an added challenge, hide a few extra words and let the children discover which are the correct ones. If they need help, let them look up the verse in their Bibles.
4. **Paraphrase:** After having learned the memory verse, let the children write the verse in their own words.
5. **Fill-in-the-Blanks:** Write your memory verse leaving out key words. Let the children supply the missing word.
6. **Whispering:** Seat the class in a semi-circle. Beginning with one of the end children, whisper the memory verse to him. Each child in turn whispers.
7. **Bible:** Let the children look up the memory verse in their Bibles and then read the verse in unison. If it is an exceptionally long verse, let mom and dad read one part of the verse; then let the kids read the next segment.
8. **Monk Writing:** Bring the memory verse with no spaces between words. Let the children draw lines to separate the words. For example: "Thoushaltnotsteal", would be "Thou/shalt/not/steal."
9. **Morse Code:** Place a copy of the International Morse Code on a piece of poster board. Write the memory verse in code and let the children translate it.
10. **Drama:** Many verses can be acted out. Sometimes you can pose a situation related to the verse too. (example: "Thou shalt not steal.")

*Adapted from bethlehem.church