

### HIDDEN IN MY HEART

A 12 Month Scripture Memorization Plan

Joe Riddle

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### **OPENING LETTER**

Immersing ourselves in God's Word through memorization offers unique solace and strength in today's fast paced world. This discipline, practiced by disciples through the ages, is more than just committing words to memory. It's about engraving the timeless truths of God upon our hearts.

Memorizing Scripture is a powerful way to keep God's Word close to us at all times. It allows His promises and commandments to guide us in moments of decision, provide comfort in times of sorrow, and instill strength in times of peril. Verse memorization aligns our thoughts with God's, helping us to cultivate a mindset that reflects His wisdom and love.

This practice is also a powerful tool for spiritual warfare. Ephesians 6:17 underscores this reality by referring to the Word of God as the "sword of the Spirit." In moments of temptation or spiritual attack, having Scripture readily available equips us to stand firm in the faith, just as Jesus did in the wilderness (Matthew 4:1-11).

Moreover, this discipline enhances one's prayer life. Praying with Scripture brings new depth to our communion and communication with God. As we echo His words and reflect deliberately upon them, our desires and petitions arc towards synchronicity with His perfect will.

Finally, memorizing Scripture enriches our understanding of God's character and His plan for our lives. It allows us to meditate on His attributes, promises, and instructions. Such thoughts invariably lead us into new realms of spiritual growth and discernment.

Scripture memorization serves as an anchor in our ever changing world. This deliberate act of fixing our hearts and minds upon His timeless Word grounds the disciple in the firm foundation of His unchanging truth. This simple practice will help the confused heart find clarity and the troubled mind find peace.

We commend your desire to embark on the soul enriching journey of hiding God's Word in your heart. It is a truly transformative practice that draws us closer to Him and equips us for every good work. Our prayer is that this resource stirs in you a greater hunger for the Word of God and the experience of how it can strengthen you in your journey with Jesus.

Respectfully, Joe Riddle Founder, Chief Researcher Danger Close Consulting

### HOW TO USE THIS RESOURCE

This eBook guides you, the reader, on a twelve-month Scripture memorization plan designed to foster deliberate thought about key facets of the nature of God. Towards that end, each month is dedicated to a specific attribute of His nature. For those so inclined, there will be a verse for each week of the calendar year. However, all are encouraged to use this resource in a manner that is manageable and constructive to building a deeper love and internalization of Scripture. Please proceed with this study at a pace that is both sustainable and enriching.

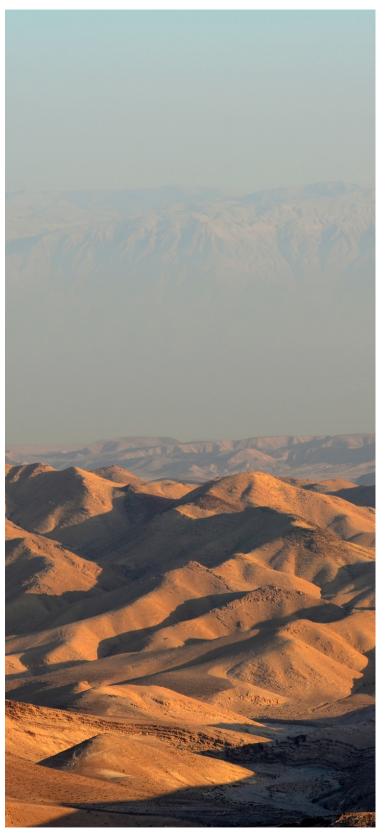
Memorization is worship! The last thing you need is another "should" or "have to" to check off from your myriad of life responsibilities. Memorizing Scripture at a realistic pace is *critical* to long term remembrance of your efforts and truly being edified by this practice. We are confident you'll inherit a wealth of verses hidden in your heart capable of inspiring and guiding you through daily life. Join us in this transformative journey of faith, one verse at a time. For those wondering, we encourage use of the ESV while integrating this resource into your devotions.

### **Some Best Practices**

How you memorize Scripture will benefit greatly from understanding the way your own mind works. We wanted to give a few time tested principles to help you carve Scripture into your own heart and soul.

- 1. Write the Scripture This can be done by copying the verse verbatim (e.g. every word, letter, and punctuation mark). Another alternative is simply writing the first letter of each word. This is faster to write but still combines mind and muscle connections. (e.g. Genesis 1:1 would "itbGcthate".) This method enables you write and recite much more.
- 2. **Sing the Scripture** Have fun with this one! Make those commutes to and from work come alive with your verse being sung at the top of your lungs. It may sound like a praise... or a lament. Learning Scripture to the rhythm of a song can help you recall it with ease at a later time.
- 3. Visualize the Scripture Allow your mind's eye to paint a vivid mental picture. Consider the picture consistently. This mental picture will create a map of sorts so that specific elements of the image can then act as keys to "decode" the verse in a manner that will call the passage to mind whenever the imagery is remembered.
- 4. **Hear the Scripture** This particular method works best when memorizing multiple consecutive verses (e.g. an entire passage or chapter of Scripture). Play it over and over again. This will help the passage "stick" in your mind.
- 5. **Say the Scripture** Recite the passage as much as possible. This is the form of memorization most people are familiar with.

No matter the strategy you use, REPETITION is essential. Like life, memorization isn't just about the final destination. Much of the life change happens on the journey. Think deeply about the verses that follow and what their truths mean for your life.



### **JANUARY**

The theme for this month is sovereignty. Christianity holds to the belief that our God is the supreme authority of the universe. All events and outcomes serve His ultimate will and purpose for His creation.

### **Memorization Verses**

Jan 1- Isaiah 46:9-10

Jan 8- Job 42:2

Jan 15- Psalm 135:6

Jan 22- Romans 8:28

Jan 29- Ephesians 1:11

- 1. Where in your life is it difficult to believe God is sovereign? Why?
- 2. How does thinking about His sovereignty strengthen your faith?



### **FEBRUARY**

The theme for this month is *love*. God loves us in a way that is entirely different than the love of this world. The way He loves is a reflection of His nature, not your performance. This is good news!

### **Memorization Verses**

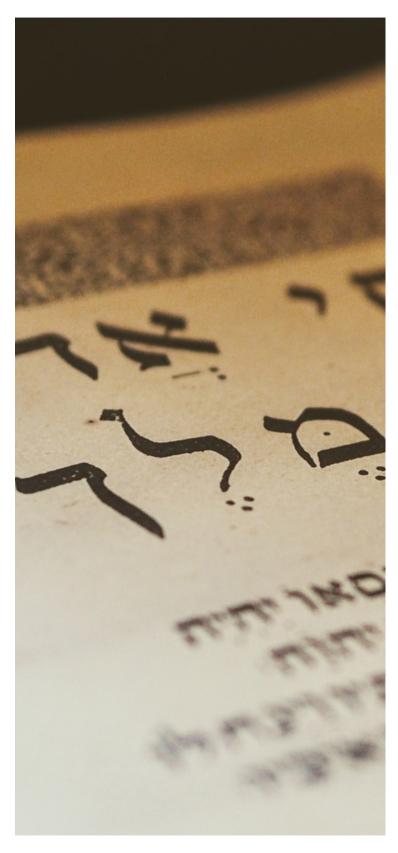
Feb 5- Psalm 86:15

Feb 12- Romans 5:8

Feb 19- Isaiah 54:10

Feb 26- Galatians 2:20

- 1. Has reflecting on God's love and sovereignty increased your faith and trust in Him? Why or why not?
- 2.Do you struggle with accepting God's unconditional love for yourself? If so, why?



### MARCH

The theme for this month is holiness. God is holy.
Christians live holy lives as a worshipful response to the grace of Jesus Christ, we are called to live lives set apart for God's glory.

### **Memorization Verses**

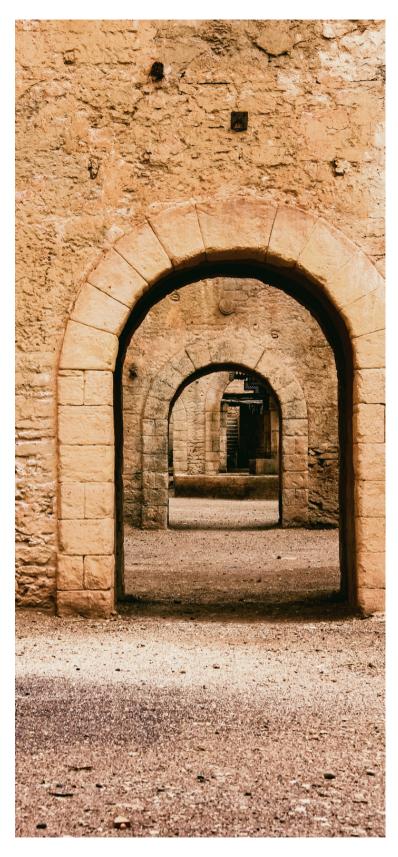
Mar 4- 1 Samuel 2:2

Mar 11- 2 Corinthians 7:1

Mar 18- 1 Peter 1:15-16

Mar 25- Revelation 15:4

- 1. How is the Holy Spirit inviting you to better reflect the holiness of God in your life and conduct?
- 2. Holy living not only remembers God's past actions but His future return. Are you living with eternity in mind?





### **APRIL**

The theme for this month is omnipotence. We previously reflected on God's sovereignty. If He is sovereign then He must also be all powerful. No corner of creation, no ruler, no life circumstance is stronger than Him.

### **Memorization Verses**

Apr 1- Exodus 15:11

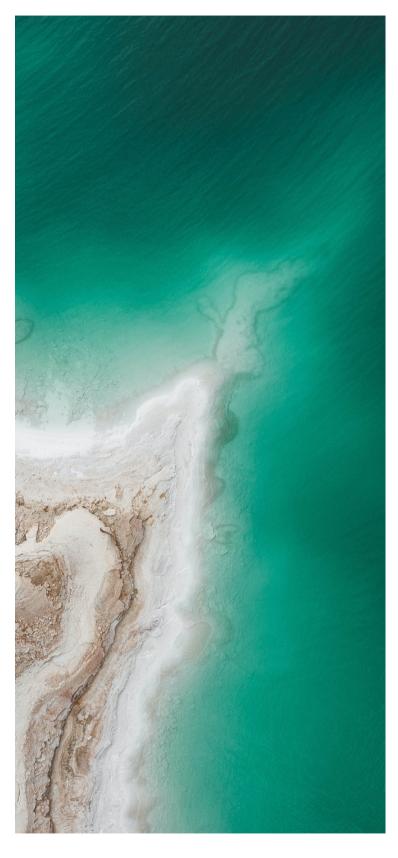
Apr 8- Jeremiah 32:26-27

Apr 15- Colossians 1:16

Apr 22- Hebrews 1:3-4

Apr 29- Jude 24

- 1. Have you ever felt powerless, only to then see God's power at work in your story?
- 2. Where in life are you finding it hard to trust God is powerful. Why?



### **MAY**

The theme for this month is omniscience. God knows the whole of your life story from beginning to end and everything in between. He never has to guess as He leads you through the twists and turns of life. He knows all things.

### **Memorization Verses**

May 6- Psalm 139:1-4

May 13- Proverbs 15:3

May 20- Isaiah 46:10

May 27- Hebrews 4:13

- 1. Have you ever faced challenges that made you question God's all knowing plan? If so, why?
- 2. How could these verses guide someone wrestling with a major decision in their life?



### **JUNE**

The theme for this month is omnipresence. God is <u>fully</u> present everywhere... not just part of Him but the entirety of His being. He is not far off nor is He separated from you by your sins.

### **Memorization Verses**

Jun 3- Psalm 139:11-12

Jun 10- John 14:16-17

Jun 17- Philippians 4:4-5

Jun 24- Colossians 1:17

- 1. In which area of your life is the Holy Spirit guiding you to be more aware of God's presence?
- 2. Has contemplating God's omnipotence, omniscience, and omnipresence deepened your faith?



### **JULY**

The theme for this month is *mercy*. God is merciful. He does not punish us- which we deserve. Instead, He blesses us. His mercy makes it possible for us to be in relationship with Him.

### **Memorization Verses**

Jul 1- Exodus 34:6

Jul 8- Lam. 3:22-23

Jul 15- Ephesians 2:4-5

Jul 22- Hebrews 4:15-16

Jul 29- Titus 3:5

- 1. How does the promise of new mercies every morning impact your current challenges?
- 2. Has reflecting on God's merciful nature changed the way you approach prayer? Why or why not?



### **AUGUST**

The theme for this month is *justice*. Our sovereign God is just. Being made in His image, humanity desires to see injustice made right. God's justice will be clearly seen by all when Christ returns.

### **Memorization Verses**

Aug 5- Psalm 33:5

Aug 12- Isaiah 1:17

Aug 19- Luke 4:18-19

Aug 26- Romans 1:18

- 1.Do you see a link between absolute truth and justice? Why or why not?
- 2. How does embracing absolute truth, as shown in Scripture, enable Christians to uniquely respond to injustice in society?



### **SEPTEMBER**

The theme for this month is immutability. You may not have heard that word before, but it's one of our favorites here at DC. Why? Immutability means God does NOT change. He is consistent in His nature, promises, will, and gifts.

### **Memorization Verses**

Sept 2- Numbers 23:19

Sept 9- Malachi 3:6

Sept 16-2 Timothy 2:13

Sept 23- James 1:17

Sept 30- Hebrews 13:8

- 1. How does God's unchanging nature provide comfort in our ever changing world?
- 2. Does His immutability increase your faith? Why or why not?



### **OCTOBER**

The theme for this month is grace. Our God is gracious. People use mercy and grace interchangeably, but these words are not the same. God is gracious- He blesses the unworthy!

### **Memorization Verses**

Oct 7-2 Corinthians 12:9

Oct 14- Romans 6:14

Oct 21- Ephesians 2:8-9

Oct 28- 2 Timothy 1:9

- 1. Is there an area in your life where you are trying to earn His grace even though Scripture teaches it is a gift?
- 2. How has involvement in a church community deepened your understanding of grace?



### **NOVEMBER**

The theme for this month is eternal. Our God is without beginning and without end. He is the great I AM. Everything in this earth withers and fades, but our God is forever. He is our sure foundation.

### **Memorization Verses**

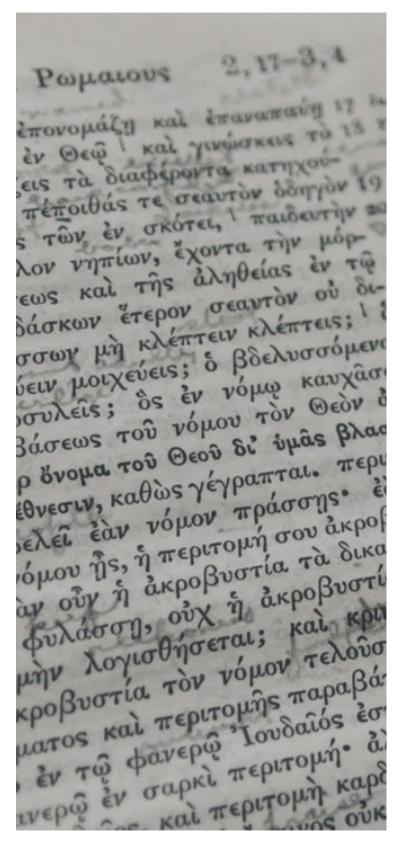
Nov 4- Deut. 33:26-27

Nov 11- Isaiah 40:28

Nov 18-1 Timothy 1:17

Nov 25- Revelation 1:8

- 1. How can you acknowledge the eternal nature of God in the current decisions you are navigating?
- 2. Does the reality of eternity meaningfully influence your daily life?



### **DECEMBER**

The theme for this month is faithful. God remains constant through all of life's challenges.... and He's not done with you yet! He has walked with you in 2024 and He goes before you into 2025.

### **Memorization Verses**

Dec 2- Deuteronomy 7:9

Dec 9- Psalm 36:5

Dec 16-2 Thess. 3:3

Dec 23- Hebrews 10:23

Dec 30- 1 John 1:9

- 1. How does God's faithfulness shape your approach to confession of sin, as mentioned in 1 John 1:9?
- 2. How have you seen the faithfulness of God in your own life in 2024?

### MEET

### JOE RIDDLE



**LIFE & CAREER** 

Joe launched Danger Close Consulting in 2022. He currently serves as a preaching & teaching pastor at Wave Church where he has served in varying roles since 2010.

He completed a masters degree of divinity at Regent University in 2023. His area of specialty is Biblical language studies.

He regularly speaks in church, conference, and intensive lecture settings.

Joe Riddle, Founder & Chief Researcher

His three children (Uzi, Cruz, and Goldie) keep him on his knees believing for God's wisdom and protection.

When Joe isn't serving churches through the efforts of Danger Close, you are likely to find him training for an upcoming endurance event.

Feel free to drop Joe a message at joe@dangercloseco.com. He'd love to hear from you!



### **About Danger Close Consulting**

There are more demands on pastors than ever before. In this ever-changing world, one thing remains: you are called to preach and teach the Word of God boldly and without compromise. Here at Danger Close Consulting, we know balancing ministry life with the demands of regular sermon preparation can feel about as safe as a knife fight in a phonebooth... and we are here to help! Danger Close Consulting specializes in coming alongside you amid the ministry fight to provide support, encouragement, and equipping so you can stay the course in all Christ has called you to do for His name and renown.

### **Danger Close Consulting Objectives**

- Provide a faith filled, professional, & external sounding board for Gospel communicators committed to improving their craft.
- Offer a full spectrum of services that enable Gospel communicators to focus on the elements of preaching and teaching that bring them true joy and fulfillment.
- Through consultation and research, Danger Close accelerates the efforts of Gospel communicators to serve in the fulfillment of the Great Commission.



### THE RESEARCH TEAM YOU DIDN'T KNOW YOU HAD.

For more information about how we can support your ministry efforts, please email Joe at joe@dangercloseco.com



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