

## APPENDIX 2 - MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES

### 1. FRISBEES

- Glue each memory verse card onto a paper plate.
- Use them as frisbees to distribute them to the children randomly.
- Let the children stick the plates onto a wall/board in the correct order to form the memory verse.
- Have children read the verse from the plates.
- Remove one of the plates and “frisbee” it out to the children. Instruct that child who catches it to hold it for you.
- Have the children read the verse again, this time remembering the words on the missing plate.
- Remove another plate and continue in this way until all the plates are gone and the children can recite the verse from memory.
- OPTIONAL: Ask those children who have been holding a plate to read the memory verse from the plates, each reading their part in the right order. See if they can do it without any prompting.

### 2. BALLOONS - 1

- Fold/roll each memory verse card and place into a balloon.
- Each child is to burst their balloon to get the card out.
- They then have to put the cards together in the right order to form the memory verse.

### 3. BALLOONS – 2

- Divide children into teams.
- Fold/roll a complete set of memory verse cards and place into one balloon, giving each team a balloon.
- Time the teams as they bust their balloon and use the cards to form the memory verse.

### 4. BALLOONS – 3

- Write a couple of words from the memory verse onto each balloon.
- Distribute balloons to children. They are to blow them up, tie them off and arrange them in order to form the memory verse.
- Use sticky tape to tape the ends of the balloons to a wall; OR use tacks to attach to a cork board.
- TIP: When you write the words onto the balloon, have the rounded end of the balloon closest to you, otherwise when they are stuck to the wall, the words will be upside down.
- Have children read the memory verse from the balloons.
- Use a pin to burst one of the balloons (any one).
- Have children read the memory verse again, this time remembering the words that were on the burst balloon.
- Burst another balloon and continue in this way until all the balloons are gone and the children can recite the verse from memory.

### 5. PASS THE PARCEL

- Mark the memory verse in a bible and wrap it up with a number of layers of newspaper.
- Have a memory verse card (and a lollypop) stuck on each layer.
- Play some music while the children pass the parcel to one another around the circle.
- When the music stops, the child holding the parcel unwraps a layer, keeps the memory verse card they find and the lollypop.
- (If there are not enough layers for each child, make sure you have extra lollypops to give to those who missed out.
- After all the layers are unwrapped, the child that opens the bible should read the verse to refresh everyone’s memory.
- **ASK** – Who thinks they have the first words of the verse. Invite them to come and pin/stick them to the wall.
- Continue until the memory verse cards have been placed in the correct order.
- Have the children read the verse from the cards.
- Take away one of the cards and have them read it again, remembering the words from the missing card.
- Remove another card (or two at a time), and continue the process until there are no more cards and the children are reciting the Scripture from memory.

## 6. **PUZZLES**



- Use the blank puzzle cards ([Template No. 6](#) – Resource Disc).
- Write the Scripture onto the puzzle card using as much of the page as possible.
- Children can cut out the puzzle, and then put it back together.

## 7. **TREASURE HUNT**

- Prior to the children arriving, hide the memory verse cards around the room (hide a small treat with the card).
- Tell the children to hunt for the cards.
- When they find one, have them stick it on the wall where they think is the correct spot.
- When all the cards have been found, let the children decide if they are in the right order and make any corrections.
- Children read the memory verse from the cards.
- Remove the cards one at a time, with the children reading the Scripture and remembering the words on the missing cards after each removal.
- Continue until all the cards have been removed and the children can recite the Scripture from Memory.

## 8. **STEAL-A-SCRIPTURE**

AIM: Each team is trying to be the fastest at putting the memory verse together.

NEED: Have one set of memory verse cards for each team.

- Break children into small groups of 3 or 4.
- Place all sets of memory verse cards at one end of the room (face down, jumbled up and spaced out). This is the CARD BANK.
- (If you have a large number of groups, split the groups in half, position them at the ends of the room and place the card bank in the middle.)
- One person from each team runs to the Card Bank and chooses ONE card to bring back to their team.
- When the first person has returned, the second person may then do the same, and so on.
- As team members are running back and forward, the other team members are trying to put the cards in the right order.
- If the team realises that they have a card that they do not need, they must send it back to the Card Bank.
- A team member can only take one card per trip from the Card Bank, OR return one card to the Card Bank.
- Only one team member can run at a time.
- Once the memory verse has been put together, teams must return any extra cards to the Card Bank (one at a time), before they can be considered the winner.

## 9. **“BACK” TO THE BIBLE**

This activity is a bit chaotic, but it's a lot of fun.

- If you print the memory verse cards onto sticker paper, they can be easily stuck to the children's clothing.
- Attach one of the cards to the back of each child, without letting them see what their word is.
- No-one is allowed to tell another what their word is.
- The children have to organise each other into the right order.
- Don't give them any strategies, instead let them figure out how to work as a team.

## 10. **“CHINESE WHISPERS”**

- Sit everyone in a circle.
- The first person whispers the memory verse to the person sitting beside them.
- This next person then whispers what they heard to the next person, and so on until the message comes back to the first person.
- The last person speaks out loud, what was whispered to them.
- It can be very funny to hear how the message changes as it goes around the circle.
- Try this a number of times, starting with different people each time.

NOTE: If all the children know the verse, it shouldn't change too much.

## 11. DO IT YOURSELF

- If you have a large blackboard/whiteboard, give the children some coloured chalk/markers to write and decorate the memory verse themselves.
- Assign a word or words to each child.
- An alternative could be a cement path or wall where the chalk can be washed away easily.
- Coloured chalk dipped in water can also be used effectively on white/black cardboard.

## 12. FOOD FOR THOUGHT

- NEED:
- |                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| Coloured Cardboard | - White / Tan – bread (cut into squares)             |
|                    | - Pink - ham (cut into squares)                      |
|                    | - Yellow – cheese (cut into squares)                 |
|                    | - Orange – tomato (cut into circles)                 |
|                    | - Red – beetroot (cut into circles)                  |
| Coloured Paper     | - Green – lettuce (cut into squares with wavy edges) |

- Turn the Scripture into a sandwich. The sandwich can be as big as you decide to make it.
- Decide how many “ingredients” you are going to use and divide the words of the Scripture between each layer accordingly.
- Write the words onto each layer.
- Children are to construct the sandwich by forming the memory verse.
- This can be turned into a craft activity where the children make their own sandwich, choosing the ingredients, cutting out the shapes and writing the words etc.