

Pastor David's Philippians Memory Challenge

June 1 – July 5.

John 15:7

“If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.”

I am launching a **35-Day Philippians Memory Challenge**.

Why? Because I have always dreamed of being able to recite an entire chapter of the bible - AND you become more intimate with the scripture when you memorize long blocks of the text. By memorizing the scripture, you are literally taking the word of God into your heart!

Revelation 1:3: *“Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy... and blessed are those who hear it and take to heart what is written in it.”*

I adopted the memorization method popularized by **Dr. Andrew Davis** (often called the *Bible Memory Goal* or extended passage memorization method). This approach has been used and encouraged by well-known pastors, including John Piper, along with many others who emphasize whole-book memorization. If you want to read his method exactly - go to the Andrew PDF and video resources at the bottom of this document.

By July 5, you will have memorized the entire book of Philippians.

Now then - why am I really doing this? So that I have do it! You will be my motivation and perhaps I and others can be yours.

Sidenote: I already started to see if this can even be done. At first, it is a bit daunting and frankly a little frustrating. But if you follow the method, it is amazing!

Folks, I am an old dog and it even works for me! How's that for motivation!

The Goal

By July 5, you will have:

- ✓ Memorized Philippians 1–4
- ✓ Strengthened your long-term Scripture recall
- ✓ Hidden God's Word in your heart

How to Participate

Either (recommended)

1. Download the **Coldspring Methodist Church App**
(Available on the Apple App Store and Google Play)
2. Open the app.
3. Tap the **Bible icon** at the bottom of the screen.
4. Tap the **Calendar icon labeled "Plan."**
5. There you go....

I will be posting the scripture for the day in the Reading Plan.

Note: After each verse there is an option to click and read the entire chapter. You might want to do that to see the text alongside text not in focus. But you do not need to click the link "Read Full Chapter". I find it annoying but cannot remove it from the app page.

OR

Simply use your bible and follow the daily reading guide. The reading plan will be available to print.

This is scheduled to start on Monday June 1, but you can start anytime - but go in order.

Small Group Anyone?

I am considering a Sunday Morning gathering of fellow memorizers (is that a word?) We can compare note on how it is going - share the fascinating things we are discovering. I'll share one here. In Phil. 1:1 and front of 1:2, Paul uses the form "Christ Jesus." At the end of 1:2 he switches to "Jesus Christ." Why? Is there a reason? Is it to follow the Greek grammar. Is it because of the context? Also I noticed this in verse 1:3 Paul writes this; "I thank my God every time I remember you." I got more comfortable saying "I thank my God every time I think of you." I feel that is an ok adjustment, but it also is a powerful statement - sounds like a song lyric. The point is to use the translation of the bible that best works for you.

Anyway, please consider meeting on Sundays (or another day) for a half hour to chat about our progress.

How the Method Works

This is a cumulative memorization method. Each day you will:

1. Recite what you have learned so far
2. Memorize **3 new verses** (or as modified below)
3. Review the entire passage in sequence you have memorized that day.

The key principle is daily repetition of the whole book-so-far.

The Daily Pattern

Each day follows a simple, repeatable structure. You build forward a little at a time.

Average time: 15–20 minutes per day for new verses. As you progress and are reading entire chapters from memory - it is a bit longer.

Philippians has **104 verses total**.

Breakdown by chapter:

- Chapter 1 — 30 verses
- Chapter 2 — 30 verses
- Chapter 3 — 21 verses
- Chapter 4 — 23 verses

Total: **104 verses**

Chapter Breaks Naturally Happen (at 3 Verses Per Day)

- Chapter 1 (30 verses) → completed on Day 10
- Chapter 2 (30 verses) → completed on Day 20
- Chapter 3 (21 verses) → completed on Day 27
- Chapter 4 (23 verses) → completed on Day 35

This pace assumes you read three verses every single day without stopping to complete in 35 days. But what if you can read more in a day - or less. Then your goal for completion is the only thing that has changed. You are still ingesting God's word in to your heart every day! Praise Jesus!

Want to do one chapter per week? (what an accomplishment!)

Simply adjust your plan like this.

Week 1 – Chapter 1 (30 verses)

- $30 \text{ verses} \div 6 \text{ memorization days} = 5 \text{ verses per day}$
- Day 7 = full chapter review. If you have some verses that are tough - keep at them and then use the review day to polish those off.

Week 2 – Chapter 2 (30 verses)

- Same pattern: **5 verses per day for 6 days**
- Day 7 = full chapter review

Week 3 – Chapter 3 (21 verses)

$21 \text{ verses} \div 6 \text{ memorization days} = \text{about } 3\text{--}4 \text{ verses per day}$

- Days 1–5: 3–4 verses per day
- Day 6: finish remaining verses
- Day 7: full chapter review

This week is lighter and gives breathing room.

Week 4 – Chapter 4 (23 verses)

$23 \text{ verses} \div 6 \text{ memorization days} = \text{about } 3\text{--}4 \text{ verses per day}$

- 3–4 verses daily
- Day 7: full chapter review

Daily Drill for Three Verses a Day

Day One. *(Philippians 1:1–3)*

Step 1: Memorize Verse 1

- Read out loud **1 time**: "*Philippians 1:1 - Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus, To all God's holy people in Christ Jesus at Philippi, together with the overseers and deacons.*"
- Then repeat it from memory **10 times** as best you can.

It's okay to glance down if you need help — try to remember more each time.

Tip: Say the reference ("Philippians x:xx") out loud each time. This helps anchor the verse in your memory.

Step 2: Memorize Verse 2

Read aloud: "*Philippians 1:2 - Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.*"

- Read it out loud **1 time**.
- Then repeat it from memory **10 times**.

Step 3: Memorize Verse 3

- Read aloud **1 time**: "*Philippians 1:3 - I thank my God every time I remember you.*"
- Then repeat it from memory **10 times**.

Step 4: Put It Together

- Now say **Philippians 1:1–3** out loud from memory.
- Repeat the full section **1 time**: "*Philippians 1:1-3 - Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus, To all God's holy people in Christ Jesus at Philippi, together with the overseers and deacons. Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I thank my God every time I remember you.*"

If you struggle - cheat a little and try it again until you have it (or almost).

Day One is complete. BOOM!

Day Two

The pattern shifts slightly:

- Recite **Philippians 1:1–3** one time from memory. (Reenforcing the previous day)
- Memorize the next three verses **Philippians 1:4–6** using the same method as Day One (read 1 time, repeat from memory 10 times).
- Recite **Philippians 1:4–6** together from memory 10 times.
- Bonus - try to recite yesterday and today 1 time. (**Philippians 1:1–6**)

Day Three and Beyond

From this point forward is the daily rhythm is:

- Start each day by recite everything you have memorized so far - **one time** (By Day 3, that is **Philippians 1:1–6.**)
- Recite the three verses **Philippians 1:4–6** that you learned yesterday **10 times** This strengthens yesterday's work.
- Memorize today's three new verses **Philippians 1:7–9** (Read **1 time**, then repeat from memory **10 times**. Repeat for all three verses)
- Recite today's entire passage from memory 10 times.
- Bonus - optional

This becomes your pattern each day until you finish the *Epistle to the Philippians*.

Congratulations you just memorized 30% of Chapter One on day one.

The power of this method is repetition and steady accumulation.

You are not cramming.

You are building something that lasts. Keep going — one day at a time.

If You Miss a Day

Do not quit.

Simply continue with the current day's assignment and keep building forward. The strength of the method is steady accumulation over time.

Some help from the creator of the method - Dr. Andrew Davis

[Full Length PDF book - An Approach to Extended Memorization of Scripture](#)

[He MEMORIZED 43 BOOKS of the BIBLE! \(here's why & how\)](#)

[Overcoming Barriers to Scripture Memorization \(Andrew Davis\)](#)

[An Approach to Extended Memorization of Scripture by Dr. Andrew Davis, Video #2](#)

Philippians Memory Challenge

Day	Date	Memorized (1x)	Previous Day's 3 (10x)	New Verse 1 (10x)	New Verse 2 (10x)	New Verse 3 (10x)	All 3 New (10x)
1	1-Jun			1:1	1:2	1:3	1:1-3
2	2-Jun		1:1-3	1:4	1:5	1:6	1:4-6
3	3-Jun	1:1-3	1:4-6	1:7	1:8	1:9	1:7-9
4	4-Jun	1:1-6	1:7-9	1:10	1:11	1:12	1:10-12
5	5-Jun	1:1-9	1:10-12	1:13	1:14	1:15	1:13-15
6	6-Jun	1:1-12	1:13-15	1:16	1:17	1:18	1:16-18
7	7-Jun	1:1-15	1:16-18	1:19	1:20	1:21	1:19-21
8	8-Jun	1:1-18	1:19-21	1:22	1:23	1:24	1:22-24
9	9-Jun	1:1-21	1:22-24	1:25	1:26	1:27	1:25-27
10	10-Jun	1:1-24	1:25-27	1:28	1:29	1:30	1:28-30
11	11-Jun	1:1-27	1:28-30	2:01	2:02	2:03	2:1-3
12	12-Jun	1:1-30	2:1-3	2:04	2:05	2:06	2:4-6
13	13-Jun	1:1-2:3	2:4-6	2:07	2:08	2:09	2:7-9
14	14-Jun	1:1-2:6	2:7-9	2:10	2:11	2:12	2:10-12
15	15-Jun	1:1-2:9	2:10-12	2:13	2:14	2:15	2:13-15
16	16-Jun	1:1-2:12	2:13-15	2:16	2:17	2:18	2:16-18
17	17-Jun	1:1-2:15	2:16-18	2:19	2:20	2:21	2:19-21
18	18-Jun	1:1-2:18	2:19-21	2:22	2:23	2:24	2:22-24
19	19-Jun	1:1-2:21	2:22-24	2:25	2:26	2:27	2:25-27
20	20-Jun	1:1-2:24	2:25-27	2:28	2:29	2:30	2:28-30
21	21-Jun	1:1-2:27	2:28-30	3:01	3:02	3:03	3:1-3
22	22-Jun	1:1-2:30	3:1-3	3:04	3:05	3:06	3:4-6
23	23-Jun	1:1-3:3	3:4-6	3:07	3:08	3:09	3:7-9
24	24-Jun	1:1-3:6	3:7-9	3:10	3:11	3:12	3:10-12
25	25-Jun	1:1-3:9	3:10-12	3:13	3:14	3:15	3:13-15
26	26-Jun	1:1-3:12	3:13-15	3:16	3:17	3:18	3:16-18
27	27-Jun	1:1-3:15	3:16-18	3:19	3:20	3:21	3:19-21
28	28-Jun	1:1-3:18	3:19-21	4:01	4:02	4:03	4:1-3
29	29-Jun	1:1-3:21	4:1-3	4:04	4:05	4:06	4:4-6
30	30-Jun	1:1-4:3	4:4-6	4:07	4:08	4:09	4:7-9
31	1-Jul	1:1-4:6	4:7-9	4:10	4:11	4:12	4:10-12
32	2-Jul	1:1-4:9	4:10-12	4:13	4:14	4:15	4:13-15
33	3-Jul	1:1-4:12	4:13-15	4:16	4:17	4:18	4:16-18
34	4-Jul	1:1-4:15	4:16-18	4:19	4:20	4:21	4:19-21
35	5-Jul	1:1-4:18	4:19-21	4:22	4:23		4:22-23

Congratulations - You Have Memorized Philippians 1:1-4