

Effective Youth Ministry Free Resource

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Regards,

Ken and Julie Moser

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Memory Verse Activities

Memory verse activities designed to help your group get to memorize Bible verses.

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This document contains memory verse ideas that were collected after *Creative Christian Ideas* went into print. For more memory verse ideas see "*Creative Christian Ideas*" for Youth Groups and "*Programs 2 Go*" by Ken Moser.

If you have a great memory verse idea that you have created – send it to us and, if suitable, we will update this document to include it along with your name.

Memory Verse Activities

These are some ideas for introducing a new memory verse to your group.

Skits/dramas

Divide into 2 or more groups and have the group prepare a skit about the memory verse. Make sure they say it during the skit (including the verse reference). To give variation you can have cards with words on them (eg. Names of animals), each group has to choose a card from you and the word on the card has to be incorporated into the skit.

Shrinking verse

This is ideal if the verse is not too long.

Shrinking verse: put the memory verse with reference on Powerpoint. Tell the group anything they should know about the verse (e.g. John 15:14 is Jesus speaking to his disciples.) Have everyone read the verse aloud in unison - including the reference. When they are done show the next slide with the same verse but in smaller print and read aloud in unison again. Repeat a couple more times with the verse shrinking smaller and smaller each time. Make the print in the final slide so small that it cannot be read – hopefully by then they will be able to recite the verse from memory.

Then turn off the Powerpoint and ask any volunteers to recite the verse with reference.

Emotions and styles

Put the memory verse with reference on Powerpoint. Have everyone read the verse aloud in unison - including the reference. Then repeat the verse again, but this time have everyone say it in a 3-4 different emotions or styles. These could include:

Shouting out loud

Speaking in a whisper

A happy voice,

An angry voice,

A British accent (unless you are British, in which case you might want to use an American accent)

Like a pirate

Hopping on one foot

Graffiti memory verse (idea by a Sydney Youth Minister – if you know who this is let us know)

This activity is after you have spent a few weeks learning the memory verse.

Give sidewalk chalk to the group and have them write the memory verse in large letters across the church car park or another cemented area on church property.

Memory verse crazy ball

PREPARATION: You will need balls in two different colours, enough for one ball for each person in the group. (For example, if there are 20 people in your group you will need 10 blue balls and 10 red balls.)

Separate the balls into the two different colours. On each ball write a word (or a couple of words) of the memory verse (including the reference). (In other words, you will make two sets of the memory verse written on two coloured sets of balls.)

RUNNING THE MEMORY VERSE: Divide the group into two teams and have the each team stand in a row facing each other on opposite sides of the hall/meeting room. Assign a ball colour to each team. Throw the balls (both colours) into the middle of the room. The team members all run and grab one ball each from their assigned colour (ie., red team grabs red balls, blue team grabs blue balls). They then quickly gather as a team and each team has to put their verse in order before the other team. You can repeat this a couple of times.

First round they can talk

Second round only one person can talk

Third round no-one can talk

As you can see we need more ideas to add to this list! Please let us know what you come up with so we can share them with others.