

The Vine

I am the vine; you are the branches...John 15:5

A publication of Valley Falls Christian Church

May 2025

Scripture memory. The eyes start to glaze over. The brain goes foggy. Why is memorizing scripture so hard?

Maybe something in us fights because it feels too much like homework. For others, it seems so 'works oriented.' We don't have to have thirty Bible verses memorized to get into heaven. Checking another box on a Christian to-do list can't add to our grace.

It is just really hard for some people. I know people who struggle with memorization. The thought of trying to commit a bunch of Bible verses to memory is intimidating, so they don't even want to begin.

Let me give you some reasons FOR memorizing scripture. David wrote that it helps us in our fight against sin (see May 1 verse).

It is a weapon in spiritual warfare. Ephesians 6 tells us the word of God is the sword of the Spirit.

We are told to think about what is pure and holy. Every thought is to be taken captive to Christ. We must set our minds on things that are above. What better way to make our hearts and minds conform to Christ than by keeping God's word hidden there?

There are stories of Christians in persecuted countries. After their Bibles were confiscated or they were imprisoned, the only way they had God's word is because they memorized it. The point being, wherever you are, you have it!

So, this month we are doing something different. I am sharing one passage every day with the challenge to try to commit it to memory.

WAIT! Don't shut me down. There's no pressure. There will not be a test! Some verses you probably already know. Some are very short. Even if you memorize a few, you have made progress! The verses are in no particular order in the list. Also, these aren't THE most important verses in the Bible. They are important, though.

Read the verse in context. Read at least five verses before and five after to get a feel of what the verse means. For instance, Romans 8:28 doesn't mean no bad things will happen. Philippians 4:13 doesn't mean you can do anything as long as you believe in Jesus.

Then you can read the memory verse to yourself a few more times. Maybe write it out a couple of times. I use the app Remember Me.

Young families, involve your kids. Make it part of family time. It only takes a few minutes. Remember, God's word is more valuable than gold and sweeter than honey (Psalm 19:10)!

Mike

Hiding the Word of Truth

- May 1: Psalm 119:11
- May 2: John 3:16
- May 3: 2 Timothy 3:16
- May 4: Romans 5:8
- May 5: Proverbs 3:5-6
- May 6: Matthew 6:33
- May 7: Acts 2:38
- May 8: Romans 8:1
- May 9: John 1:1
- May 10: Micah 6:8
- May 11: Acts 4:12
- May 12: Hebrews 13:8
- May 13: Romans 10:9
- May 14: John 14:6
- May 15: Galatians 5:22-23
- May 16: Isaiah 40:31
- May 17: 2 Timothy 1:7
- May 18: Philippians 1:6
- May 19: Romans 3:23
- May 20: Hebrews 11:1
- May 21: Philippians 3:20
- May 22: John 17:17
- May 23: 1 Corinthians 10:13
- May 24: Ephesians 2:8
- May 25: Luke 9:23
- May 26: 2 Corinthians 5:17
- May 27: Philippians 4:19
- May 28: Romans 6:23
- May 29: Lamentations 3:22-23
- May 30: 1 John 1:9
- May 31: Psalm 46:10

Church Garage Sale/Bake Sale

Friday, May 2nd, 7 AM - 6 PM

Saturday, May 3rd, 7 AM - 3 PM

Please have items marked with prices and initials. Okay to start bringing garage sale items to the fellowship hall. Call Cecelia or Mike to make sure someone is there to receive items. All items not sold will need to be picked up by their owner.

If you have a favorite baked good you would like to sell, please bring in Thursday, May 1 or Friday, May 2nd. Contact Cecelia or Carol with questions and **to volunteer to help**. We Appreciate everyone's help and support.

GRADUATES: We will recognize our graduates on Sunday, May 18th during the worship service.

Caitlyn Thomas - KU
Myles Reich - Valley Falls High School
Nolan Reich - Valley Falls Middle School
Britten Gerety - Jeff County North
Alexa Gerety - Jeff County North

Promotion Sunday - June 1. All will gather in the fellowship at the beginning of the Sunday School hour to recognize the students moving up to the next level.

VBS Meeting - Sunday, June 1st after church. This is for anyone who is interested in helping!

Jr. - Sr. High Youth Group - We want to invite all students from 6th - 12th grades to join us Sunday evenings, 5-7 p.m. in the church basement.

Church Email Address - to get items included in the newsletter: news@valleyfallsc.org
Or call or text Cecelia Ragan - (785)-762-2195.

Board Meeting - Sunday May 4th following church. Board Members, please plan to stay and attend.

Men's Breakfast: Saturday, May 10th, 8 a.m. Steve is cooking.

Pocket Change for Progress: Every 3rd Sunday, we take a special offering of the pocket change you have been saving. The money is divided between VFCC outreach and youth.

Online sermon opportunity: For those who need to watch at home, church service is live streamed on YouTube (and Facebook). Previous services are also available on YouTube. Subscribe to Valley Falls Christian Church YouTube Channel.

Past sermons are available online at www.valleyfallsc.org.

Sermons

May 4 Storms
Luke 8:22-25

May 11 **Mother's Day**
Provision
Luke 9:12-17

May 18 Glory
Luke 9:28-36

May 25 Rejection
Luke 9:57-62

Guys campout. (Men, sons, grandsons)

June 6-7, Friday evening to Saturday.
At Prairie Lake in Holton, KS. There is a restroom facility on ground. Bring kayaks, fishing gear, swimming gear as there is a swim beach, snacks and drinks. Water will be provided.

Supper will be provided. Maybe breakfast too, just depends on the number of attendees.

Supper will be ready at 6:30 p.m. with a devotional time following.

Leave when you need to leave on Saturday.
RSVP to Aaron Cook by June 2 so we know how much food to get.

May	Greeters	Scripture	Communion Devotion	Servers	Nursery
4	J Mitchell	Aisha	Jay	Jay/Stan/ Brian /Aaron	Debbie/Sawyer
11	Boyce	Rhonda	Jay	Jay/Stan/ Ray /Chad	Brittany/Dakota
18	Gatzemeyer	Nancy	Jay	Jay/Stan/ Steve /Jackson	Tiffany/Junior
25	Ganger	Donna	Jay	Jay/Stan/ Clinton /Kyle	Aisha/Rhonda

May Communion Devotion and Prayer: Jay

Camera Monitor	May 4	May 11	May 18	May 25	
Sunday School	Stephen	Jay	Charles	Jarett	
Worship	Kevin	Cecelia	Ray	Chad	

Prayer Requests: Our Graduates, Brandi Leake and Becky, Leah Brown, Elaine Worner, Christy & Becky Arnold, Dodie Bolz

OUR SOLDIERS: Allison Thomas, Curtis Mitchell, Aaron Cook, Jacob Mitchell, Matthew Branam, Noe Garza, All of our troops and leaders. Our President, our nation and our government. (1 Tim 2:1-2) Decisions being made in our nation's leadership.

If you would like to be included on the text prayer chain, notify Donetta by text at 785-224-3497.

Church Offerings:

March 30 \$1499
April 6 \$2449
April 13 \$1714
April 20 \$ 844



Gyve on line: Scan the QR code to download the Gyve app.

May Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 4 Charles Moffet
- 5 Gina Kirby
- 8 Lauren Thomas
- 10 Dan Strang
- 11 Chelsea Pruitt
- 14 Jase Baker
- 19 Glee Hosler
- 22 Aaron Cook
Myles Reich
- 23 Eliza Branam
- 24 Jodee Thayer
Gary Smith
- 27 Wayne & Christy Arnold (1978)
- 28 Malia Boyce



**Return Service
Requested**

Phone: 785-945-6757
Email: office@valleyfallsc.org
On the web: www.valleyfallsc.org
Find us on Facebook!

Mike Kirby, Pastor

You are welcome to join us!

Sunday Service times:

Bible Study (all ages) 9:00 AM

Worship - 10:00 AM

Youth Group (grades 6 -12) 5-7 PM

Wednesday: Bible Study - 7:00 PM

May

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur/Fri	Sat
				1/2 Nat'l Day of Prayer Garage Sale 7-6p.m.	3 Garage Sales 7 a.m. - 3 p.m.
4 Board Meeting 5 p.m. Youth group	5 1:30 p.m. Crafters	6	7 7 p.m. Bible Study	8/9	10 8 a.m. Men's Break- fast
11 Mother's Day	12 1:30 p.m. Crafters	13	14 7 p.m. Bible Study	15/16	17
18 5 p.m. Youth group	19 1:30 p.m. Crafters	20	21 Newsletter Items Due 7 p.m. Bible Study	22/23	24
25	26 Memorial Day	27	28 7 p.m. Bible Study	29/30	31