

Suggestions for Chapters to Memorize

Looking for a chapter to memorize? Of course, you should be led by the Holy Spirit, but if you are looking for some ideas, I have compiled a list of chapters I think are good for memorization. When we memorize a verse, it is in isolation, and the same is true for a chapter. We should always be familiar with the context in which the verse or chapter appears. So make sure to read the book from which a chapter comes, if possible (or perhaps at least the chapters before and after it).

This list includes chapters I consider to "stand alone" fairly well. I list the verse numbers to give you an idea of the length, but you should be led by the Lord. He might want you to know a longer chapter than you think you can learn! Whether you choose one chapter to know or are ready to memorize a dozen, this will hopefully get you started.

Psalms (various lengths)

Generally, each Psalm can be considered a complete unit in itself. Also, there is a huge variety of lengths. Therefore, I leave it to you to browse through them and find something which seems good to you and to the Holy Spirit. Have fun!

Isaiah 53, 55 (12 and 13 verses)

Read through these and notice the (hopefully) familiar passages in them. Chapter 53 is an awesome prophetic chapter about Jesus and His sufferings, and chapter 55 speaks of God's ways and thoughts being higher than ours, and how His word shall not return to Him void.

John 17 (26 verses)

This is Jesus' high priestly prayer, which He said right before being betrayed, sentenced, and crucified. I first memorized it because I wanted a chapter that was entirely the words of Christ (which it is, except for the first line). If you have a Bible with the words of Christ in red, you will see how red the chapter is. What I like about this chapter is that it shows us a great example of how Jesus prayed to the Father. Have you ever wished you could have listened in when Jesus prayed? This chapter gives you that opportunity and privilege.

Acts 2 (47 verses)

Did you ever wish you could have been there when the church began?

Memorize this chapter and you will get a good feel for it. (You could even memorize Acts 1 as well). Memorizing Scripture makes it about as real as it can get, as far from the actual events as we are now. "Be there" on the Day of Pentecost by memorizing Acts 2!

1 Corinthians 13 (13 verses)

This chapter comes in the context of chapters on spiritual gifts. It is known as the "Love Chapter" and is a great reminder of what a life of love looks like. Memorize this fairly short chapter and you will have an awesome way to walk in the spirit when you are tempted to be unloving.

1 Corinthians 15 (58 verses)

I know what you're thinking... 58 verses? Yes, it is long, but this chapter has a lot to offer: Christ's death, resurrection, our hope in Christ, the last enemy being destroyed, corruption putting on incorruption, death being swallowed up in victory, God giving us the victory through Christ.... It builds so nicely to the end with the description of our resurrection. The conclusion of "be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord" can inspire you no matter what you happen to be doing when you recite it.

2 Corinthians 4 (18 verses)

This has several gems in it, including verse 6, verses 7-9 (we have this treasure in earthen vessels), and verses 16-18 (we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are unseen). It begins and ends by saying "do not lose heart." That is a pretty good way for a chapter to be framed.

Hebrews 11 (40 verses)

This is the "Hall of Faith" chapter, a reminder of some of the great men and women of the faith, and what they endured and how they held fast to God and His promises. You might want to add Hebrews 12:1-2 at the end of it also. Meditate on what life was like for these men and women, and it may give you some good perspective on what God is calling you to be faithful in.

There are so many more great chapters, so open up your Bible and have fun looking!