

Survival Kit!

FAST Survival Kit #4 - Knowing God's Will

Memo:

Hi! Welcome back once again. We pray this program is proving a blessing to you—giving you rich insights into how you can not only survive



as a Christian, but thrive. This study looks at another vital area: how to discern God's direction for your life. If you have ever struggled to know God's will, this booklet will help! And while we do not know God's exact plans for *your* life, we do know this: there is no limit to what God can do with anyone who will give himself fully to Christ and make room for the working of His Spirit in his heart. No limit!

We know this too: that God's plan for your life is spelled out in His Word. All the instructions you need are there, waiting for you to just dig in and find them. You will find promises to claim, counsel to follow, and warnings to heed. And it's full of great ideas! Yes, it's all there—in the Word. So, do what it takes to get as much of that Word into your heart as you can!

**The Editor,
Hid in Christ**


Bible Secrets to Memorizing Scripture


Objectives


Week 4

Name: _____ **Initialed by:** _____

Date: _____

 Your Bible Search this week is another important one. It is called **Knowing God's Will**—and looks at how to discern God's leading in your life. God has great plans for each of us, but we must learn to tune into His leading in order for His plans to be fulfilled perfectly. We pray this study helps.

 Are you ready for your next verse? Have you learned your first three thoroughly? Remember, you should be reviewing each of these verses at least once a day. Make sure you keep them together in one of the inside pockets of your verse pack. It should only take a minute or two to review them. Your verse this week is another favorite of many: **Proverbs 3:5-6**.

 You are up to numbers seven and eight of our **Keys to Scripture Memory**. Do you know the first six? More important, are you using them in your efforts to hide God's Word in your heart? The next two keys are as important as the rest, so read them carefully. Try writing out from memory all the keys we have studied so far at least once this week—in order. Can you do it?

*My tongue shall speak of thy word:
For all thy commandments are righteousness.
Psalms 119:172*

Knowing God's Will

Bible Search 4

Welcome back to another study in Christian survival. This Bible Search looks at how God leads and directs in the life of a Christian. Often the little decisions we make have lasting consequences—and much more so the big ones! How encouraging to know God is willing to lead us through them all.

Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. Proverbs 3:5-6

1. What is one privilege of being a child of God? Romans 8:14

Note: Life is filled with perplexity and distress. Yet, praise God, He is willing to guide us as His own sons and daughters.

2. How would you summarize God's desire for each of us?
Colossians 1:9

Note: To be filled with a knowledge of God's will is to be filled with a knowledge of His Word—for the Bible reveals God's will. This is one reason Scripture memory is so vitally important!

3. What is the primary way God seeks to direct us?
Psalms 119:33-35

Psalms 119:59-60

Psalms 119:97-100

Psalms 119:116-117

Psalms 119:133

Note: God's will is revealed through the Scriptures. His counsel is there. If you seek, you will find.

4. How does the Spirit often lead us?
Isaiah 30:21

John 14:26

Note: God often flashes verses of Scripture we have memorized into our mind at just the right time, to give us the exact guidance we need.

5. How thoroughly does God want to direct us in each of the following areas?

Actions: I Corinthians 10:31

Words: Ephesians 4:29

Thoughts: Philippians 4:8

Note: God is so committed to our success He is willing to give us direction in even the smallest details of life. With guidance like that, who can fail?

6. What is sometimes necessary in order to discern God's direction through the word?

Lamentations 3:25

Hosea 12:6

Micah 7:7

Note: If you are facing a tough decision, make it a point to spend some extra time seeking God through the Word and wait on Him to speak. If you must make a decision—do the best you can, based on the principles God has given you through His Word up to that point.

7. What should we do when our "impressions" seem to contradict the Word?
Isaiah 8:20

Proverbs 19:21

Note: If you sense God directing you to do something that violates a principle of His Word, you can be pretty sure it's not God!

8. What will be the results of allowing God to direct in our life? Deuteronomy 28:1-2

What a wonderful thought—the wisdom of the Almighty is available to us! He who knows the thoughts and intents of every heart, and who sees tomorrow as clearly as today is willing to guide our steps through every perplexity and trial. What's more, His great love for us and interest in our success, give the assurance His leading is always for our best. What about you? Are you willing to seek the Lord's guidance for your life? To search the Scriptures and then pursue His revealed will? There is no better guidebook, and following it is critical to your survival

☐ Yes ☐ No

Keys to Scripture Memory

Practical Suggestions

Many people, when they first begin to grasp how powerful the memory keys you have been studying really are, become so excited about memorizing, that they make a big mistake. They start trying to memorize too much—whole chapters, and even whole books of the Bible. While this is a noble ambition, what typically happens is the daily review gets bogged down with so many new verses, and the individual verses receive only sporadic meditation, at best. Soon it degenerates to rote memorization—with little or no impact on the life. We recommend instead focusing on consistency. On quality. On truly internalizing the Word. In the long run you will be far more successful!

Key #7. Stick to Short Passages

Whom shall he teach knowledge? and whom shall he make to understand doctrine? them that are weaned from the milk, and drawn from the breasts. For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little. Isaiah 28:9-10

Though it is tempting, avoid trying to memorize long passages, such as whole chapters or books of the Bible—especially at first. Start with just a verse or two, here and there. This is how the Holy Spirit teaches—precept upon precept, line upon line, "comparing spiritual things with spiritual" (I Corinthians 2:13). You do not need to memorize an entire chapter in order to get the context of a single key verse—and rarely is it necessary to quote an entire chapter to answer some friend's question or objection. Look over the context, yes, but focus your efforts on memorizing key verses and then building those verses into your life. Longer passages are not only more challenging to memorize, but they are harder to review, and much more difficult to retain.

Once you have memorized several hundred verses, you can always go back and try a couple of longer passages if you wish. Select a passage with several parts already memorized and simply fill in the missing pieces, one or two verses at a time. Make sure you continue to follow all the principles we have talked about so far as you do. But again, wait until Bible memorization has become a way of life, and you have several hundred verses to prove it! Your patience will be well rewarded.

Key #8. Memorize Fresh Verses

*And these words, which I command thee this day,
shall be in thine heart. Deuteronomy 6:6*

Ask God to begin pointing out specific verses He wants you to memorize. If you are spending time with God each morning, in prayer and Bible study, He has probably already begun impressing certain key verses on your heart. Maybe you have started noticing verses that you hear in a sermon, or perhaps some friend has a knack for sharing especially encouraging Scriptures. Maybe you have run across some favorite verses in these Survival Kit studies. However, God sends you verses—we recommend memorizing them while they are fresh. If possible, that same day!

When God speaks to our heart, He wants His words to be remembered. He wants them reviewed, over and over, so they make a lasting impact on our life. So we will not forget the lessons He has taught us. See Deuteronomy 4:9.

Assigned verses are important—especially at first, but they should be supplemented with verses given you directly by God. Eventually you will want to be able to find key verses entirely on your own, on a regular basis. It is these fresh, personal verses that will prove most meaningful. So be alert. And learn to look for them morning by morning as you meet with the Lord.