

Teaching a memory verse

So you're teaching the memory verse.

Helping children hide some truths about God in their hearts is an amazing gift that we can give children as part of their faith journey. So teaching a memory verse is one way to do that.

Not all children will be brilliant at it. They will struggle to learn all the words in the right order but as long as they understand the context and the meaning it will help them as they grow in their faith and as they follow Jesus.

Here are some things to keep in mind.

Keep it relevant

Why are you teaching this verse? It should be to reinforce what they are learning in the whole session. Make sure it is linked to your theme.

Make the connection

Make sure the verse actually means what you are teaching. Don't manipulate it to fit the purpose of your theme!

Think about the Bible version

The version that your congregation uses normally may not be the best version for children. It is ok to use something different if the words are easier for children to learn and to understand.

Keep it simple

When you teach a memory verse you want the children to most of all remember the verse not simply the way it is taught! Also think about how easy the verse is to learn. You actually want the children to remember it! Make sure it is also not too long— or always too short!

Encourage a response

Does the verse encourage the children to give a response to God? For example, does it make them more thankful, know God better or challenge a behaviour? We want the children to grow in their faith, not simply learn some words.

Lastly, make sure you teach the memory verse in a way that is fun and helps the children to understand. Your attitude and presentation will help to hide those truths about God in the hearts of the children.