



Romans 8: The Gift of the Gospel Scripture Memory Challenge

"Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things."

(Philippians 4:8)

As we walk through Romans 8 as a church for the next six weeks, we want to challenge you to commit these gospel-rich verses to memory. Scripture memory is a way for us to meditate on the Word of God and to strengthen our knowledge and appreciation of it. When Jesus was tempted by Satan in the wilderness (Matthew 4), three times he used his knowledge of Scripture to reject Satan's lies. Of the importance of Scripture memory, Donald Whitney writes, "One of the ways we can experience more spiritual victories is to do as Jesus did—memorize Scripture so that it's available for the Holy Spirit to take and ignite within us when it's needed." What better passage to commit to memory than these words of Paul about the gift of the gospel!

The following guide helps to break down this task into manageable steps. Over 42 days, it just takes focusing on one verse a day (plus some days for rest and review) to memorize the entire chapter! Follow along and check verses off when you're able to recite them. The text in this booklet comes from the ESV, but if you have another preferred translation, feel free to use that instead.

Memorizing a large chunk of Scripture may seem intimidating, especially if you've never attempted to do so before. Take the challenge one step at a time, pray for God's help, and you will be surprised at what you can do! Even if it takes longer than 42 days for you to get it down, the benefits of committing to this challenge can last for months and years. May God bless the reading of and meditation on his Word to strengthen our faith and fuel our worship!

— Pastor Chris and the FBC staff

Make A Plan

Here's a few suggestions:

- Don't do it alone! Take this challenge on with friends for accountability or do this together as a family.
- Read the verse out loud several times together as a family. If helpful, write out the verse by hand several times as well until you can say it without looking.
- Review the verse throughout the day – don't cram it all into one short session.
- Each time you add a new verse, recite the verses that come before also. That will help to cement those words in your mind as you add new ones.

On reflection days, review the verses you have learned, then use the questions for journaling, family conversation, or group discussion.

Alternative Challenge

If you aren't sure you're up for the full chapter, or want to make an accommodation for younger kids, try the following schedule to commit to memory key verses throughout the chapter.

Done	Week and Dates	Memorize
☐	Week 1 October 12–18	Romans 8:1
☐	Week 2 October 19–25	Romans 8:13
☐	Week 3 October 26–November 1	Romans 8:18
☐	Week 4 November 2–8	Romans 8:26
☐	Week 5 November 9–15	Romans 8:28
☐	Week 6 November 16–22	Romans 8:38–39

Romans 8:1–6

☐

Day 1 – October 12

¹ *There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.*

☐

Day 2 – October 13

² *For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death.*

- ☐ **Day 3 – October 14**
³ For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh,
- ☐ **Day 4 – October 15**
⁴ in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.
- ☐ **Day 5 – October 16**
⁵ For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit.
- ☐ **Day 6 – October 17**
⁶ For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace.

Romans 8:7–11

- ☐ **Day 7 – October 18**
⁷ For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot.
- ☐ **Day 8 – October 19**
⁸ Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.
- ☐ **Day 9 – October 20**
⁹ You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him.
- ☐ **Day 10 – October 21**
¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness.
- ☐ **Day 11 – October 22**
¹¹ If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.

Day 12 – October 23

Reflect and Review

Take some time to reflect on what you've committed to memory so far. Consider the following questions, either privately in something like a journal, or in discussion with your family or accountability partners in this challenge.

- When you fail or struggle with sin, how do you think God views you? How does Paul's promise that there is "no condemnation" for those in Christ challenge your thinking?
- What tends to occupy your thoughts throughout the day? Do you feel your mind is more "set" on things of the flesh, or things of the Spirit? How can you help to reorient your focus?
- Which truth from these verses has been the most comforting to you? Which has challenged you the most?

Close in prayer, thanking God for these gospel truths and asking for grace to live out what he has shown you in his Word.

Romans 8:12–19

☐

Day 13 – October 24

¹² So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh.

☐

Day 14 – October 25

¹³ For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.

- ☐ **Day 15 – October 26**
¹⁴ For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.
- ☐ **Day 16 – October 27**
¹⁵ For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, “Abba! Father!”
- ☐ **Day 17 – October 28**
¹⁶ The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God,
- ☐ **Day 18 – October 29**
¹⁷ and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.
- ☐ **Day 19 – October 30**
¹⁸ For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us.
- ☐ **Day 20 – October 31**
¹⁹ For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God.

Day 21 – November 1

Reflect and Review

Again, take some time to review what you’ve memorized so far and reflect on them, using these questions as a guide.

- Where do you need to put to death sinful habits or thinking in your life? How can you face that battle in the Holy Spirit’s power?

- Paul says we are adopted into God’s family through the Holy Spirit. How should that change the way you view and relate to God?

- Which truth from these verses has been the most comforting to you? Which has challenged you the most?

Close in prayer, thanking God for these gospel truths and asking for grace to live out what he has shown you in his Word.

Romans 8:20–27

- ☐ **Day 22 – November 2**
²⁰ For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope
- ☐ **Day 23 – November 3**
²¹ that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God.
- ☐ **Day 24 – November 4**
²² For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now.
- ☐ **Day 25 – November 5**
²³ And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.
- ☐ **Day 26 – November 6**
²⁴ For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees?
- ☐ **Day 27 – November 7**
²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.
- ☐ **Day 28 – November 8**
²⁶ Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words.

**Day 29 – November 9**

²⁷ And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

Day 30 – November 10**Reflect and Review**

Once more, review vv. 1–27 today and use the following questions as you reflect on these gospel truths.

- Paul makes clear that being a child of God does not exempt us from suffering. How are you experiencing the “groaning” of the creation. How do these verses provide hope?
- How should the truth that the Spirit intercedes for us as we pray (v. 26) affect the way that you approach your prayer life?
- Which truth from these verses has been the most comforting to you? Which has challenged you the most?

Close in prayer, thanking God for these gospel truths and asking for grace to live out what he has shown you in his Word.

Romans 8:28–33

- ☐ **Day 31 – November 11**
²⁸ And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.
- ☐ **Day 32 – November 12**
²⁹ For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.
- ☐ **Day 33 – November 13**
³⁰ And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.
- ☐ **Day 34 – November 14**
³¹ What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?
- ☐ **Day 35 – November 15**
³² He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?
- ☐ **Day 36 – November 16**
³³ Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies.

Romans 8:34–39

- ☐ **Day 37 – November 17**
³⁴ Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us.
- ☐ **Day 38 – November 18**
³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword?
- ☐ **Day 39 – November 19**
³⁶ As it is written, “For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.”
- ☐ **Day 40 – November 20**
³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

☐**Day 41 – November 21**

³⁸ For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers,

☐**Day 42 – November 22**

³⁹ nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

FINAL REFLECTION

Congratulations – you just memorized a whole chapter of the Bible! As you reflect back on the rich truths of this chapter as a whole, spend some time considering these questions.

- What do you feel is “against” you in your life right now? How does the knowledge that God is “for” you affect how you view that struggle?
- When are you tempted to doubt Christ’s love and your security before God? How does the closing of this chapter speak to those fears and insecurities?
- Through this whole chapter, what truth about the gift of the gospel do you most need to be reminded of in your daily life?

Close in prayer, thanking God for these gospel truths and asking for grace to live out what he has shown you in his Word.