

## QUICK GUIDE – SCRIPTURE MEMORIZATION (60 minutes)

Scripture Passage: \_\_\_\_\_

5 min **Community and Vision** – *Lead an activity that helps your group get to know one another. Then tell the group your vision for why you are meeting and what you want to see God do.*

Activity:

Vision:

2 min **Pray** – *Ask the Holy Spirit to guide your time together.*

8 min **Purpose** – “Let’s grow our connection with God and God’s Word is by memorizing Scripture. What is your prior experience with this practice? How has it been a valuable practice for you (or not)?” *Discuss.*

12 min **Content** – “Memorization is a transformative practice as God’s Word shapes us from the inside out. First, we’ll try to understand what we are memorizing so it can truly take root in us. Let’s read the passage aloud and then discuss the meaning.” *Read the text out loud. Discuss the questions below.*

- Which characters or ideas are involved in this text? How are they connected?
- Which words or ideas are being repeated? What is being compared or contrasted?
- What is happening? What is being communicated?
- Imagine yourself in the story or hearing this text read aloud for the very first time. What are you experiencing? What do you see, hear, or smell? What are you thinking or feeling?
- Why is this passage or story here? Try to summarize it in one sentence.

Prepared summary:

15 min **Memorize** – “Now let’s work on memorizing the passage. I will guide our work, and as we memorize, let’s keep in mind the meaning of the text and how it might apply to our lives.” *Consider strategies such as utilizing a dry erase board and progressively erasing words, having the participants write the verse out on a notecard, having each person read it aloud to the whole group, etc. Be sure to utilize repetition and saying the words aloud. Encourage everyone to participate. Break into groups of 2-3 if helpful.*

Plan for memorization technique/strategy:

6 min **Debrief** – “Let’s talk about how that experience was for everyone. Was it difficult or easy for you? What did you like or dislike? How much progress did you make and were you surprised by that?” *Discuss as a whole group or in groups of 2-3.*

3 min **Review** – “Memorization isn’t complete or effective without review. To fully memorize something, we must review it often or else it won’t stick. Let’s recite our text together once more before we close.”

7 min **Reflect** – “How did memorizing this text impact your understanding of the Bible? What did you learn about God or yourself? Did you hear anything from God as we practiced memorization? What are your next steps for practicing Scripture memorization in your daily life?” *Reflect individually or together.*

2 min **Encourage and Pray** – *Encourage members to keep practicing on their own. Close in prayer.*