

The Five R's – Session 2 Part 4
Build Your Own Memory Verse Arsenal
Be Ready

Key Thought:

What comes out of you under pressure reveals what has been placed within you. If God's Word is stored in your heart, God's Word will come out of your mouth when you need it most.

Introduction

We have been studying the importance of developing proper Christian character. God is not simply interested in changing our circumstances; He is interested in developing proven character within us. Character is tested, refined, and revealed through life's pressures.

Many people try to avoid difficult situations, but character tests follow us wherever we go. The location may change, the people may change, and the circumstances may change, but the lesson God is trying to teach often remains the same.

Therefore, every challenge should be viewed as an opportunity for character development.

I. Proven Character Is Developed Through Pressure

Romans 5:3-5

"Tribulation produces perseverance; and perseverance, character; and character, hope."

Pressure reveals what is really inside us.

The Greek understanding of tribulation carries the idea of:

- Pressure
- Narrow places
- Crowded circumstances

When life squeezes us, something comes out.

Luke 6:45

"Out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks."

When pressure comes:

- Fear comes out if fear is stored within.
- Anger comes out if anger is stored within.
- Faith comes out if faith is stored within.
- God's Word comes out if God's Word is stored within.

Character is revealed by:

1. What we say.
2. What we do.
3. How we respond when tested.

II. Build a Memory Verse Arsenal

One of the greatest investments a believer can make is to build a personal collection of Scriptures that are hidden in the heart and ready for use.

Psalms 119:11

"Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee."

A memory verse arsenal is not simply knowing verses.

It is:

- Storing God's Word.
- Meditating on God's Word.
- Speaking God's Word.
- Using God's Word when challenges arise.

The goal is not merely information.

The goal is transformation.

III. Why We Need a Memory Verse Arsenal

When difficult situations arise, there is often no time to search for answers.

People need help immediately.

The author shared how, during the closing of the Haggen grocery stores, many opportunities arose to encourage hurting employees and customers. Because God's Word had already been stored in his heart, he was prepared to minister in those moments.

2 Corinthians 5:7

"For we walk by faith, not by sight."

Psalms 56:11

"In God I trust without a fear. What can man do to me?"

Isaiah 41:10

"Fear not, for I am with you."

These verses were already available when they were needed.

Preparation before the battle creates confidence during the battle.

IV. Jesus Is Our Example

Jesus consistently demonstrated the importance of having God's Word ready.

Matthew 4:1-11

When Satan tempted Jesus, He responded repeatedly:

"It is written..."

Jesus did not argue.

Jesus did not panic.

Jesus did not negotiate.

Jesus spoke Scripture.

The enemy may challenge our emotions, but he cannot defeat God's Word.

V. God's Word Helps Us Help Others

A memory verse arsenal is not only for personal victory.

It equips us to minister to others.

An employee once confessed:

"I'm nervous."

Immediately several Scriptures came to mind.

Philippians 4:6-7

"Be anxious for nothing..."

Proverbs 12:25

"Anxiety in a man's heart weighs him down, but a good word makes him glad."

1 Peter 5:7

"Casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you."

The Scriptures were explained, and an object lesson was used to illustrate how anxiety weighs people down until they cast their burdens upon the Lord.

When God's Word is stored in us, we become a source of encouragement for others.

VI. We Cannot Give Away What We Do Not Have

Many people want to help others spiritually, but they have little Word stored within them.

Principle:

You cannot transfer what you do not possess.

If we are spiritually empty:

- We cannot strengthen others.
- We cannot encourage others.
- We cannot effectively fight spiritual battles.

But when we are full of God's Word:

- We become a resource.
 - We become an encourager.
 - We become an instrument in God's hands.
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VII. God's Word Is a Spiritual Weapon

The dictionary defines an arsenal as:

"A collection of weapons."

Believers possess a spiritual arsenal.

Ephesians 6:12

"We wrestle not against flesh and blood..."

People are not our enemy.

The kingdom of darkness is our enemy.

James 4:7

"Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."

To resist effectively:

- We must know God's Word.
- We must speak God's Word.
- We must obey God's Word.

Jesus quoted Scripture and then lived in obedience to it.

We must do the same.

VIII. The P.R.A.I.S.E. Acrostic

The lesson gives us a powerful reminder:

P.R.A.I.S.E.

P – Prepared

R – Ready

A – Alert

I – Instrument

S – Sharp

E – Effective

Every believer should strive to become:

- Prepared for opportunities.
- Ready for ministry.
- Alert to God's leading.
- An instrument in God's hand.
- Sharp with God's Word.
- Effective in helping others.

Practical Application

This week begin building your own memory verse arsenal.

Choose verses for:

Fear

Isaiah 41:10

Anxiety

Philippians 4:6-7

Trouble

Psalms 46:1

Spiritual Warfare

James 4:7

Faith

2 Corinthians 5:7

Patience

Romans 8:25

Encouragement

Proverbs 12:25

Memorize them.

Meditate on them.

Speak them.

Apply them.

Teach them to your children and grandchildren.

Conclusion

The goal is not simply to survive difficult times.

The goal is to develop proven character.

When pressure comes, your words and actions will reveal what has been stored in your heart.

Therefore, do not wait until you are desperate to learn God's Word.

Build your memory verse arsenal now.

Hide God's Word in your heart.

Keep your spiritual sword sharp.

And when the day of testing comes, you will be prepared, ready, alert, an instrument in God's hand, sharp, and effective for the Kingdom of God.

Bottom Line:

Place God's Word in your heart today, and it will come out of your mouth when you need it tomorrow.

[Click here.](#) Main resource.