

# The LCF Connection

March 2018

## What is Your Favorite Bible Verse?

We asked what your favorite Bible verse is—or at least one of your favorites (since it can be so hard to narrow it down to just one). Thanks so much for your replies, noted below. How many of these references of favorite Bible verses do you recognize because they are verses that you have memorized?

Matthew 11:28-30  
Reuben Sairs

Isaiah 40:5  
Phyllis Swartz

Psalms 139:13-16  
Bob Zachrich

Romans 8:24-25  
Andrea Biscup

Psalm 26:10  
Sandy Hauge

Jeremiah 32:27  
Rob Swartz

1 Samuel 17:45  
Jim Jones

Matthew 24:35  
Pam Stanforth

Philippians 4:13  
Trish Eaton

Ephesians 3:20-21  
Shannon Scheffel

John 13:7  
Katy Miller

Exodus 14:14  
Pam Shay

Romans 15:13  
Marcus Freed

Psalms 29:11  
Doris Swartz

Isaiah 26:3 and Romans 8:28  
Audrey Maust

2 Timothy 1:7  
Tasha Slaubaugh

John 1:1  
Steve Swartz

Psalm 23:1-3  
Dorothy Jones

You will find these favorite verses written out on page 3. Take some time to meditate on, and possibly memorize, these priceless treasures from God's Word.

### Inside this Issue

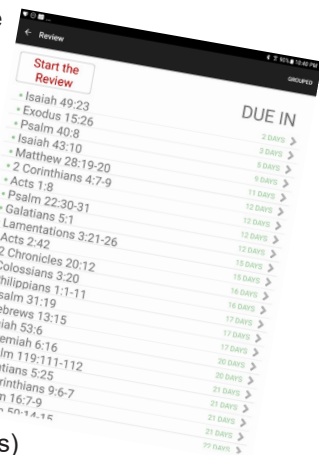
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## Why Memorize Scripture?

by Doris Swartz

Recently, a friend got me thinking when she asked me what benefits there are for memorizing scripture. As I pondered her question, I was reminded of how many great reasons there are for us to take the time and effort to hide God's Word in our hearts. When we memorize a verse or passage, the Holy Spirit can bring it to our mind at any time and at any place (even if we don't have wifi connection, light to read, etc. and even if we can't recall it perfectly word-for-word) to help us fight temptation, to encourage us when we are feeling down, and to help us recognize lies that Satan (and/or others) would like us to believe. He can help us recall verses to use in our prayers or to share with others who are having questions or going through difficult times. Scripture is one of the primary ways that God reveals his will to us—helping us know what he wants us to do or not to do. 2 Timothy 3:16 & 17 says, "All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work." That is a priceless tool to have and use!

But...I find it really difficult to memorize—especially since I am over 50 and have a hard time remembering anything at all! And then, once I finally do get a verse (or section of verses) memorized, if I don't go over it on a consistent basis, it feels impossible for me to recall it a year or two later. That is why I am a big fan of a simple app called Scripture Typer. It is a tool that helps me to overcome my memory challenges so that I am able to hide the treasure of God's Word in my heart. Scripture Typer was the first app that I purchased when I received my tablet for Christmas five years ago, and I have used it regularly (often daily, but at least weekly) ever since, enabling me to memorize hundreds of verses!



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Scripture Typer has given me a renewed desire to spend time in God's Word and allow it to change me by memorizing it, reviewing it, and meditating on it regularly. Following are some of the practical reasons why I enjoy using Scripture Typer to help me do that.

- **It's easy**—It is user-friendly, quick, and simple. I don't have to type out each word (although I could choose to do that if I wanted to); I just type the first letter of each word and it fills in the rest of the word.
- **It's convenient**—I can take it with me on my phone or tablet wherever I go. I often use it while I walk on the treadmill each morning. It is available online for those who prefer to use a computer and keyboard.
- **It's customizable**—I can choose to memorize whatever verses I want and choose which of the 10 translations I want to memorize them in. There are over 50 preset categories of verses to choose from such as: Top 100 Verses, Hope, Forgiveness, or even The Books of the Bible. I can also create my own categories and add verses to them. Usually I memorize a single verse or a small section of verses, but it has also enabled me to memorize several small books of the Bible—something I never thought I would be able to do.
- **It's creative**—It includes various tools to assist in memorizing. My favorite is to draw an illustration of the verse I am memorizing to help me think through the verse and jog my memory. Other options include: recording yourself saying verses and then playing them back, using flash cards, or creating a group of people to memorize with.
- **It's motivating**—I find that it spurs me on by tracking my progress with stats, and providing incentives such as points and rankings. I don't like it when I have overdue verses highlighted in red. :) It is encouraging to see the thousands of other people around the world who are making time to memorize God's Word. Fun fact: Did you know that there are people who have memorized over 20,000 verses?
- **It yields lasting results**—Its built-in review process helps me to remember the verses I have memorized and not forget them over time. When I memorize a new verse, it comes up for review every day; then as I continue to get it right (90% accuracy or higher), the review interval changes to weekly, monthly, and then yearly. I have found that when a verse comes up for review, it is a good time for me to pause and meditate on what God is saying to me through that verse, and reflect back on when and/or why I chose to memorize it (such as a sermon that spoke to me, a temptation I was battling, a hard time I was going through, etc.).
- **It's Free/Cheap!**—Scripture Typer Lite is available to try for free and Scripture Typer Pro only costs \$10. Just search for Scripture Typer in your app store or visit [scripturetyper.com](http://scripturetyper.com).



Those are some of the reasons why I love using Scripture Typer to help me fill my mind with God's Truth. I recognize that it's one of many tools available for you to use, but it's one that has worked

really well for me. I encourage you to give it a try. Whatever tool or process you use, never underestimate the incredible value of time spent in God's Word and how the Holy Spirit can use it in incredible ways in your life! ■

## Elders' Notes

by Jesse Diller

Our elders meeting began, as usual, with shared prayer requests and time spent praying for each other and for others in the church.

Our group was small again, with Reuben & Vicki being in Europe, and still being one elder short, so we spent the evening discussing various subjects but will wait to finalize any decisions we talked about until our next meeting when we will have a larger group.

The elders team has spent quite a bit of time over the last few months discussing the logistics of our Sunday morning services, and that was a topic again. We want our prayer and sharing times to be meaningful and still fit into the rest of the service. We are working on some ideas to help the moderators as they guide us in prayer time, and we worked on the schedule for the moderators group.

We did not have an Adult Discipleship Class last fall while Rob and Doris were on sabbatical; we propose running the next one in April and May.

We discussed our membership book and the best way to ensure that our active membership matches our roll.

We spent a good amount of time discussing the leadership of LCF. Since Rob has returned from sabbatical, he has been trying to figure out how to balance life and ministry in a healthy way. We talked about several adjustments that the leadership team can make to support this. We (the leadership team) want to come alongside Rob and support him, as we explore various options.

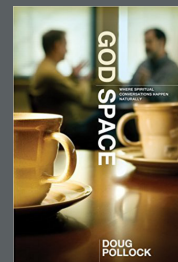
We continued to discuss the fact that our elders team is not completely filled; we considered options for next steps to fill the empty post. Keep praying that God will provide someone to serve in this role!

Our next meeting will be March 13th, 2018. ■

### Upcoming Activities

March 11 - God Space Workshop at Shiloh Mennonite Church

Trying to figure out how to start spiritual conversations without turning people off? You are invited to a **God Space Workshop** on Sunday, March 11 from 1 - 5 p.m. at Shiloh Mennonite Church. Doug Pollock, author of the book "God Space," will be serving as our guide to help us cross the us/them divide. His media-driven seminar is guaranteed to help you increase the quantity and quality of your spiritual conversations in fresh, new, and irresistible ways. Cost is \$10. For more information or to register, visit [shilohmc.org](http://shilohmc.org).



March 18 - CMC Disciple Making Tour at LCF

In Jesus' last words before he left earth to go to heaven, he sent his disciples on a journey to make more disciples. What happens on this journey to make disciples? On Sunday morning, **March 18th**, Steve and Phyllis Swartz will trace the journey of disciple making. On Sunday afternoon, they will meet with LCF leaders in a workshop format to apply the journey to LCF.

March 29 - Maundy Thursday service, 7 p.m.

April 1 - Easter Sunday

We are happy to welcome Elisabeth Yoder to our LCF Connection Editorial Team! She has also agreed to help out with LCF's social media presence. If you do not know Jeff & Elisabeth yet, we encourage you to introduce yourself to them.

## Getting to Know... Jeff & Elisabeth Yoder

*Interviewed by Theresa Hennis*

### Where are you both from?

Jeff is originally from Arthur, IL, and I (Elisabeth) have lived in Plain City, OH for the majority of my life.

### What size families do you come from?

Both Jeff and I come from big families. Jeff is the oldest of 8 children and I am the 6th out of 9. This is a picture of my family that was taken at our



wedding last October (you may recognize some of them).

### Where did you meet?

We met at Rosedale Bible College where we both attended from 2013-2015.

### What was unique/different/memorable about your wedding?

We did our best to have a relaxed, easy-going atmosphere which we really enjoyed, and I believe our guests did, as well.

### How did you learn about LCF and when did you start attending?

Jeff attended LCF a few times while we were at Rosedale and really enjoyed it. So, when he moved to Ohio in January of 2017, we decided that LCF was a good fit and have been attending ever since.

### Who or what has made a difference in your life or impacted you in some significant way?

Probably the greatest influencing factor in both of our lives up to this point has been being raised in Christ-centered homes which gave us both a solid foundation in Christ. Our time at Rosedale also helped us establish a firm foundation for our faith.

### What do you want to be when you "grow up"?

Jeff enjoys woodworking which is what he currently does, but he is working on developing a photography business which is what he would like to do in the long run. I am not completely certain of what the future holds for me. I would like to eventually be a counselor of some sort who does a bit of writing on the side.

### Do you have a hobby or pastime that you love?

I love to paint, draw, write, and read when I have free time which doesn't happen often. Jeff loves to read and practice his photography. Together, we love to do things outdoors such as hiking, canoeing, and exploring. We also love to travel and often have multiple trips in the works.

### Are you attending college/university? What are you studying?

I am currently attending Regent University where I am pursuing an English degree with a Writing concentration and a Psychology minor.

### What role will you play in the social media side of things for LCF?

In my discussions with Rob and Doris, we weren't completely sure what shape my position will take. It's the sort of thing that will take shape as we move forward. I hope to use social media to keep members in the loop as to what is going on and events in the church, as well as using it to allow people to come to know us better. ■

## Some of Our Favorite Bible Verses

### John 13:7 - Katy Miller

Jesus replied, "You do not realize now what I am doing, but later you will understand."

### Isaiah 40:5 - Phyllis Swartz

And the glory of the Lord will be revealed, and all people will see it together.

### John 1:1 - Steve Swartz

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

### Exodus 14:14 - Pam Wang

"The Lord will fight for you; you need only to be still."

### Psalms 46:10 - Sandy Hauge

He says, "Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth."

### Matthew 11:28-30 - Reuben Sairs

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

### Ephesians 3: 20-21 - Shannon Scheffel

Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

### 1 Samuel 17:45 - Jim Jones

David said to the Philistine, "You come against me with sword and spear and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the Lord Almighty, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied."

### Psalms 139:13-16 - Bob Zachrich

For You formed my inward parts; You covered me in my mother's womb. I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; marvelous are Your works, and that my soul knows very well. My frame was not hidden from You, when I was made in secret, and skillfully wrought in the lowest parts of the earth. Your eyes saw my substance, being yet unformed. And in Your book they all were written, the days fashioned for me, when as yet there were none of them.

### Philippians 4:13 - Trish Eaton

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

### 2 Timothy 1:7 - Tasha Slaubaugh

For God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.

### Psalms 23 - Dorothy Jones

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside quiet waters. He restores my soul; he leads me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

### Romans 15:13 - Marcus Freed

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

### Matthew 24:35 - Pam Stanforth

Heaven & earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.

### Romans 8:28 and Isaiah 26:3 - Audrey Maust

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. (and) You will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are steadfast, because they trust in you.

### Romans 8:24 & 25 - Andrea Biscup

For in this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what they already have? But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently.

### Jeremiah 32:27 - Rob Swartz

"I am the Lord, the God of all mankind. Is anything too hard for me?"

### Psalms 29:11 - Doris Swartz

The Lord gives strength to his people; the Lord blesses his people with peace.



# A Rewarding Valentine Dinner / Youth Fundraiser

by: David Perkins

Love was in the air and so was the beautiful aroma of thirty-five pounds of grilled chicken breast. The LCF Youth Group and their leaders provided a Valentine's dinner at the church for over sixty people on the evening of Sunday, February 11. People brought along their sweethearts, their friends, their families, and their empty stomachs for this great time of fellowship.

On the menu was grilled chicken breast, baked potatoes, corn, strawberry-tossed salad, dinner rolls, and brownies with ice cream for dessert. All the food was served to the attendees by the youth themselves, who were trained how to be professional servers by Pam Stanforth just for the occasion. Many thanks to Pam for her instructions and all the decorations she provided for the event.

The hard work of the youth was rewarded as they saw everyone leaving with full tummies and smiling faces from the fun evening. Eighty-nine potatoes later, the youth were able to raise a whopping total of \$805 from attendee donations to go towards their future overseas mission trip. Thanks to everyone who contributed and participated in this wonderful night. Be on the lookout for more fun youth events in the near future. ■

## Thanks for Serving!

There are so many people here at LCF who serve in so many different ways! We appreciate each and every one of you—from those who make the coffee and run the sound, to those who work in the nursery, lead us in worship, work in the library, lead small groups, and so much more!!

We like to take the opportunity when someone completes a term of service to make sure they are recognized and appropriately thanked for all they have contributed. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the following people:

- Dave Stewart for serving 3 years on the LCF Council.
- Gabrielle Stewart for serving 1 year as Nursery Coordinator.
- Danny Ndungu for serving 1 1/2 years as Junior Youth Leader and as Moderator.

We are also grateful for those who are willing to step up to take on new responsibilities! Thanks so much to these new leaders:

- Becky Hostetler for joining the LCF Council for a 3-year term.
- Molly Rosati for serving as our new Nursery Coordinator.
- Katy Miller for leading the Junior Youth.
- Dave Stewart for leading the Benevolence team.
- Phil & Lucy Elfrink, Dan & Jenn Frederick, Lyndon & Sheila Miller, Reuben & Vicki Sairs, and Rob & Doris Swartz for leading our winter semester small groups.

We would like to thank those individuals who have taught Sunday school classes regularly (at least one quarter each year for several years): Becky Hostetler, Phil Elfrink, Shannon Scheffel, Dale and Sharon Headings, Lisa Miller, and Audrey Maust. Thanks, also, to Colleen Wolford, our Children's Ministry Coordinator, for the great job she does making sure that we have teachers each quarter! ■

*"I thank my God every time I remember you.*

*In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now."* Philippians 1:3-5



## The LCF Connection

A monthly newsletter designed to enhance communication at London Christian Fellowship

What did you think? If any of the stories in this Connection sparked an idea or opinion you'd like to share, email us at [secretary@lcfweb.org](mailto:secretary@lcfweb.org). Editors: Theresa Hennis, Amie Smith, Elisabeth Yoder, and Doris Swartz  
If you prefer that we do not use photos of you in the Connection, you may opt out by emailing us at [connection@lcfweb.org](mailto:connection@lcfweb.org).