

Here's how my family uses this resource:

I print out each week of verse & questions for my kids to answer and they have fun illustrating the verse some way, painting it, using one of the color sheets I have linked, making it out of Legos, and we always write it on our big chalkboard so that it's in front of us all week. If you don't have a chalkboard, display the kids verses on the refrigerator. My older kids like to display theirs on the bathroom mirrors so they can read and work on memorizing the verses while they brush their teeth.



We also read the verse in a couple of translations during the week. It broadens our understanding. There are tons of ways you can tweak these ideas. I recommend putting your children in charge of getting their dad involved. It works out really well and is usually hilarious.

Some ages will need more help than others, like I said, make this your own. Figure out how it works for *your* family. You can write the verse in their journal on Monday, pray it on Tuesday, answer questions on Wednesday, illustrate it on Thursday, and play a memory game with it on Friday. That is just a suggestion, the only rule is not to hold this rigidly. I repeat: make it work for *your* family! If you memorize two verses in the next 8 weeks, that is two verses you didn't have before.

Please, if you have any questions, shoot me an email laurenmitchellwrites@gmail.com I love suggestions!!!

During the week, my kids will also:

- Find the verse themselves in their own Bible and highlight or underline it.
- Write the verse in their journal (this can be a really cool step for artistic children, let them illustrate the verse as well.) I have attached printable coloring sheets for the verses. If your kids don't have a journal, use one of the thousand spiral notebooks left over from school and let them decorate the cover.

- Read the verses in context, sometimes even the whole chapter (Having the kids read to each other out loud promotes more discussion. This is even a great step to do over a couple of weeknight dinners.)

Side note:

The biggest thing that impacts my older kids is their journaling of this verse. They write the verse in their journal and then they use it to write a prayer. Writing it out themselves is a step I wouldn't skip because it really helps them own it. Praying it gives the verse a whole new dimension for them because it lets the verse walk right into their lives. That scripture embedded in their hearts and implanted will produce the fruit that I could never make happen.



Form our home to yours,

The Mitchells

Week 1:

"Keep your heart with all diligence for from it flow streams of living water." Proverbs 4:23

Conversation Starters:

Things that we let in through our eyes, ears, and mind settle in our hearts. Some things we don't want to have in there. We have to be really careful what we let in.

We get to decide what we keep in our hearts, kind of like packing for a trip. You only want things in your suitcase that you are going to need. You wouldn't take snow boots to the beach.

Sometimes there are things we have seen that we don't want in our hearts anymore. Can you think of anything like that, maybe something scary? We can always ask God to remove them and make our hearts fresh. Then, we can practice remembering things that we want to remember and think about. Things that remind us of God's love, our parents, or even friends.

What are some things you don't want in your heart or mind anymore?

What are some good things that you want to remember and store in your heart?

How can you practice remembering them?

[coloring sheet link](#)

or

[coloring sheet link](#)

Week 2:

"Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry."
James 1:19b

Conversation Starters:

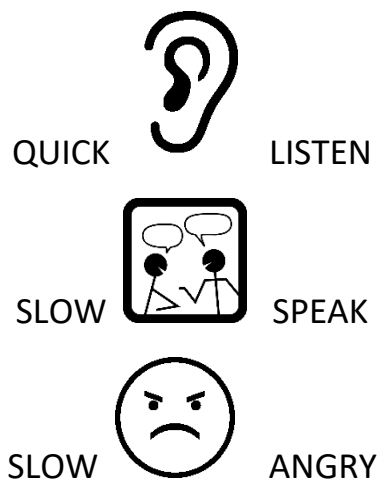
Sometimes it can be hard to listen. We get so excited to tell people what we want to say that we can forget to let them say what they need to say. Then other times, we just don't want to listen. When we listen first, it helps us to really know what we should say. When we slow down before we speak, it can keep us from saying angry things.

Why do you think it's important to listen?

How do you feel when people really listen to you?

How do you feel when they don't?

How can you practice listening this week?



[coloring sheet link](#)

Week 3:

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." 1 John 1:9

Conversation Starters:

Confessing our sins sometimes makes us think or feel we are in trouble. That isn't what it is meant to be. We aren't telling God something He doesn't already know about. He knows all of our sins, the ones we have already done, and the ones we haven't even committed yet. He has also already forgiven us for all of them. When Jesus died on the cross, he said "it is finished". He paid for all sin past, present, and future. When we confess our sins to God, we are telling him that we have seen our sin and understand that we are wrong. It reminds us to be thankful for our forgiveness. It helps us to put it behind us, it reminds us that God has forgiven us, and it sets our minds in the Truth.

Do you ever feel like God has stopped loving you when you sin?

Did you know that God tells us in the Bible that nothing can separate us from the love of Christ?

Romans 8:38 says this:

"And I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from God's love. Neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither our fears for today nor our worries about tomorrow—not even the powers of hell can separate us from God's love." NLT

God does not stop loving us. Confessing our sin is important because it opens our heart back to God and can keep us from repeating the sin.

[coloring sheet link](#)

Week 4:

Proverbs 3:5

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own understanding; think about Him in all your ways, and He will guide you on the right paths." HCSB

or my favorite translation of this verse:

Trust God from the bottom of your heart; don't try to figure out everything on your own. Listen for God's voice in everything you do, everywhere you go; he's the one who will keep you on track.

Conversation Starters:

How can you "think about God in all your ways?"

How can we rely on God instead of our understanding of things?

How does that help with everyday problems?

Practice listening for God's voice this week. It is easiest to hear Him when we don't have distractions and we can be still. Try to practice being quiet and sitting with God.

[coloring sheet](#)

Week 5:

"Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see."

Hebrews 11:1

Conversation Starters:

What is faith?

Why should we have faith in God?

How can we be certain of what we can't see with our eyes?

How can you "see" that your parents love you?

What other senses are equally as important as sight?

Follow the link below to a printable coloring sheet.

[coloring sheet](#)

Week 6:

"We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ."

2 Corinthians 10:5

Conversation Starters:

Do you know that you can catch a thought?

You can catch a thought just like you can catch a cold.

You can catch fear, and anger, and sadness. You can catch thoughts from people that you are with, and you can catch them from Satan because he wants to confuse you. But the good news is that you can take your thoughts captive. They are not the boss of you.

Taking your thoughts captive means you capture them, and then you decide if they are good and can stay or you get rid of them and you replace them with what God says is true.

Have your thoughts tried to boss you around and control how you feel?

What are some thoughts that you don't like?

Talk to Jesus about them and find something true that He says to replace them.

[coloring sheet link](#)

Week 7:

"Teach me your way, Lord, that I may rely on your faithfulness; give me an undivided heart, that I may fear your name."

Psalm 86:11

Conversation Starters:

The word teach in this verse is actually a Hebrew word that means, "throw me as your arrow". So when God teaches you, you can help others by being an arrow that points to God.

What does it mean to fear God's name?

It doesn't mean that we are to be afraid of Him because He is scary, it means that we are to honor Him and obey Him, kind of like our parents.

How can you practice obeying God this week?

Why do you think we should ask God for an undivided heart?

Your friends are actually paying attention to your life. The things that you do matter. When people see you obey, it will encourage them to obey. That is God using you as an arrow. You can even encourage people older than you. When people see that you rely on God's faithfulness, it will encourage them to believe God.

[coloring sheet link](#)

Week 8:

"Do everything without complaining or arguing."

Philippians 2:14

Conversation Starters:

Yep, everything...even make your bed. Did you know that rolling your eyes counts? At our house, we have this thing we call the full body pout. Let's just say it isn't on the list of allowed behavior. None of these things help you get things done. In fact, they suck the joy right out of whatever you are doing, usually for you and your parents. God doesn't tell us to stop complaining just so He doesn't have to hear it. He knows that it doesn't make us happy.

God doesn't just ask you to obey, He wants to help you do it? He can even help you do everything without complaining. You just have to ask. Try asking for help with your day as soon as your feet hit the floor in the morning.

What is something that you are always tempted to complain about?

What is one way you can remind yourself to fight that urge to complain?

The best way to fight an attitude of complaining is to start counting things you are thankful for. See if you can get your mom or dad to do it with you.

[coloring sheet link](#)

Week 9:

"Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil."

Ephesians 6:10&11

Most days I forget that God says I can borrow His strength. When I grow frustrated or I just feel like I can't do it anymore, all I have to do is ask. I think that sometimes I imagine that God will be more proud of me if I can do it myself. But that isn't how God thinks at all. His strength is so different from ours that we don't wear Him out when we ask. He's actually most proud when we realize that we need Him. He tells us in the Bible that His strength does the best work in our weakness (2 Corinthians 12:8).

What can you ask God for help with this week?

It doesn't have to be something big; He loves to help with big and small things.

God even lends us His whole armor. Read Ephesians 6:10-18 to read about all the parts. There are even coloring pages linked at the bottom that include the different parts of God's armor. My family is going to work on memorizing this whole passage about the armor during the school year, one verse at a time. I hope you join us.

[coloring sheets](#)