

Plant God's Word In Your Child's Heart

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**The law of his God is in his heart;  
His steps do not slip. Psalm 37:31**

Q. Why does God want us to learn and memorize His Word?  
(discuss with your student and write your notes below)

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A. God's Word is solid and true. It never changes because God never changes. We can depend on His promises in His Word, and that gives us a dependable, solid foundation upon which to live.

Q. If a person does not have God's Word in his heart, what happens?  
(discuss with your student and write your notes below)

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A. His steps will slide, and he will go off of God's path. That means that he will not be able to make good choices because he is not following God's path or plan for his life.

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**Planting God's Word**

Planting God's Word in a child's heart is the goal of every believing parent. Sometimes we think that small children cannot understand God's Word, but they can. During my many years of teaching, I learned that a young child can be taught God's Word by getting on the child's level and using practical lessons.

The Plant Lesson was written to help parents in teaching their children how to learn and apply God's Word.

The lesson follows five basic steps which are to:

- pray and prepare to learn
- listen to God's Word
- analyze - study the scripture
- nurture -s memorize the verse
- trust Jesus and tell others

## Plant Lesson

The plant lesson is based on the five letters in the word PLANT. The five steps of the lesson can also be associated with the child's five fingers. At the end of the lesson, the memorization flower chart can be colored to show each scripture verse memorized by your child.

### **P.** Pray and prepare: (Get Ready To Learn God's Word)

Find a quiet, comfortable place for you and your child. Tell your child that you want to pray before learning God's Word. You start the prayer, then let your child pray with you and after you. Pray for God to open your eyes of understanding in learning His Word.

### **L** LISTEN: (Hearing God's Word)

The parent or another adult should read the scripture out loud to the child, or let the child read the verse out loud if he or she can. As the verse is read, listen to the whole scripture, then go back and read it again clarifying words and phrases.

### **A.** Analyze (study):

Break apart the verse as you read it by marking certain words with colors or symbols to help your child associate the word with its meaning. Discuss that word and what it means in the scripture. Use the same method with the phrases. Link the meanings of the words and phrases together as you study (analyze key words) put them back into the scripture.

Note: Print the scripture on a piece of white paper so that your child can mark and color the words and phrases. As your child gets older, he or she will learn to appropriately underline and mark verses, plus use record margin notes in a study Bible.

### **N.** NURTURE: (Memorize the scripture to feed or nurture your spirit all through the day)

Plant God's Word in your heart: After reading the scripture, pick two or three words to memorize. Try to associate those words with pictures to be used as memory clues. Say the scripture while covering those few words with your hand. As you learn those words, add one or two more words until you've memorized the whole scripture. After you've finished, be sure to color the flower chart with the name of the scripture you've planted in your heart.

### **T.** TRUST AND TELL (Life Application):

After learning the scripture, trust Jesus by following His word that you learned. Tell your friends. Ask your parents if you can invite them to your church.

Close: Close your lesson with prayer thanking the Lord for the new scripture that you learned and for the friends that you are going to tell about Jesus.

## Plant Flower Chart

On the next page is a printable flower chart to record the scriptures that you have memorized. Each time you memorize a scripture, you may color the matching flower petal on the memorization flower chart. You may change the scriptures on the flower and print more copies.

## Flower Chart

On the flower chart, there are seven scripture references from the book of John. You may memorize those scriptures, or you may select other scriptures. If you select different scriptures, write your scripture references on the lines below. You might want to print each scripture on the lines below.

Scripture; \_\_\_\_\_

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Scripture; \_\_\_\_\_

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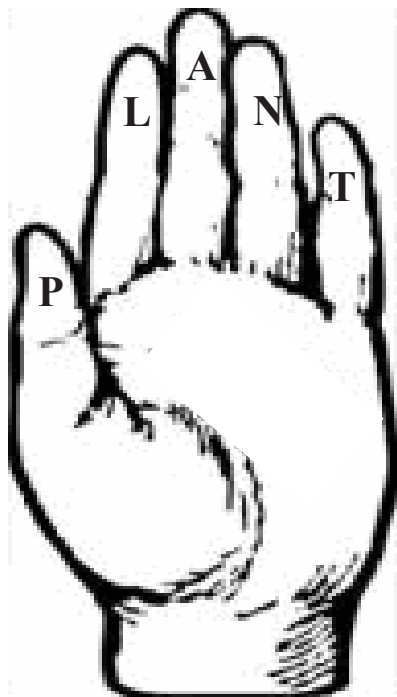
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Scripture; \_\_\_\_\_

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## How To Plant God's Word In Your Heart

Use the fingers on your hand to remember the five points of planting God's word in your heart.

**Pray** and prepare to hear God's word.  
Find a comfortable place to sit as you pray for God's guidance.

**Listen** as you read the scripture out loud, or let someone else read it to you. Try to remember different words that you hear.

**Analyze** and study the meanings of the words. Write the meanings of some of the key words from the verse. Now, study the meanings of those words.

**Nurture** your spirit by memorizing God's Word. Hide it in your heart. Learn a few words at a time, and then put those words together to make the whole verse.

**Trust** Jesus and follow His word.

**Tell** your friends about Jesus.

**Ask** your friends to visit church with you.

**Color the matching flower petal after you memorize the verse.**

