

WHY MEMORIZE PORTIONS OF THE BIBLE AND THE CATECHISM?

☞ **Because the Bible Says:**

- ◆ These commandments that I give you today are to be **upon your hearts**. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates – Deuteronomy 6:6-9.
- ◆ Then he (Jesus) went down to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them. But his mother **treasured** all these things **in her heart** – Luke 2:51.
- ◆ Let the word of Christ **dwell in you** richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude **in your hearts** to God – Colossians 3:16.

When the Bible says “in your heart” it often refers to having it memorized in such a way that one applies it to his life.

☞ **Because it helps you in temptation:**

- ◆ Joseph, when tempted to immorality by Potiphar’s wife, said, “How can I do such great sin and wickedness against God?” (Genesis 39:9)
- ◆ The psalmist says in Psalm 119:11. “I have hidden (i.e. memorized) your word in my heart that I might not sin against you.”

☞ **Because it helps you answer questions people ask you:**

- ◆ St. Peter says in 1 Peter 3:15, “Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have.”

☞ **Because you can defend yourself against error:**

- ◆ St. Paul wrote in 2 Timothy 3:16, “All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness.”