

# KIDMUNITY | God's Word, My Life

## Lesson 08: Hiding God's Word in My Heart

### Small Group Guide

#### Bottom Line:

*Memorizing Scripture helps me follow God every day.*

#### Memory Verse:

*I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you. Psalm 119:11*

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## Activity One: Grab the Gold

### Introduction for Leaders

This fast-paced game gives kids a physical picture of how we chase after the things we value most. Just like the players in the game grab for gold coins, we can learn to chase after God's Word because it's the most valuable treasure we could ever have.

### Supplies Needed

- Gold coins (one less than the number of kids, or two to three less to speed up the rounds)
- Music source (phone or speaker)

### Activity Instructions

1. Scatter the gold coins on the floor in the middle of the circle.
2. Have kids sit or kneel in a circle around the coins.
3. As the music plays, kids clap or snap along to the rhythm but **may not touch the coins**.
4. When the music stops, everyone quickly tries to grab one coin.
5. Anyone who doesn't get a coin is "out" for that round.
6. Remove one or more coins and start the music again. Continue until only one player remains.
7. Cheer for the final "Treasure Keeper," then invite everyone back for the discussion.

## Teaching Connection

“Wow, you all moved fast to grab those gold coins! Why? Because you wanted to hold something valuable. That’s what it’s like to treasure God’s Word. When something really matters to you, you protect it, remember it, and keep it close.

Psalm 119:11 says, *‘I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you.’* God wants His Word to be our treasure — something we don’t just hear once but keep safe inside our hearts. When we treasure Scripture, we’ll always have it ready when we need it.”

## Activity Two: Hide It in Your Heart

### Introduction for Leaders

This activity helps kids remember *why* memorizing God’s Word matters and gives them a meaningful way to choose and “store” verses in their hearts. By revisiting what they’ve learned all semester, kids will see that every verse they’ve memorized is a piece of treasure they can keep for life.

### Supplies Needed

- “Kidmunity Memory Verse Sheet” (one per 2 kids)
- Envelopes (one per child)
- Index cards (for older kids)
- Scissors (for younger kids)
- Markers, crayons, or pens

### Teaching Review

Start with a brief review of the **three reasons we memorize Scripture** (from large group). As you talk through each one, give a simple example.

1. **To Hear God’s Voice** — God speaks to us through His Word.

Example: When you feel unsure about what to do, verses like Psalm 119:105 remind us, *“Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.”*

2. **To Renew Your Mind** — God’s Word replaces lies with truth.

Example: When you think, *“I’m not good enough,”* you can remember Ephesians 2:10, *“You are God’s masterpiece.”*

3. **To Fight Temptation** – God’s Word gives us strength when we face wrong choices.

Example: When you’re tempted to lie or be unkind, remember what Jesus did – He said, *“It is written…”* and used Scripture to make the right choice.

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## Activity Instructions

1. Pass out the **Memory Verse Sheet** to pairs or trios of kids.
2. Give each child an **envelope** and explain that this will represent their *heart*.
3. Have kids write today’s verse – *Psalm 119:11* – *“I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you.”* – on the front of the envelope.
4. Encourage them to decorate the envelope with hearts, crosses, or designs that represent what their heart looks like when it loves God’s Word.
5. Then say:
  - “Now look through the verses we’ve learned this semester. We’ll have **10 memory verses** total by the end of Kidmunity. Some of them you might not remember forever, but a few may be extra special – verses you want to tuck away and keep in your heart for the long haul.”
  - Older kids can **write** 2–3 verses on index cards.
  - Younger kids can **cut out** 2–3 favorite verses from the sheet.
6. When they’re finished, have them tuck those verses inside their envelope – their “heart.”

## Teaching Connection

“When you put those verses inside your envelope, it’s like putting treasure inside your heart. You’re choosing to remember God’s truth and carry it with you. These verses can help you when you’re sad, scared, tempted, or unsure what to do – because God’s Word is always with you.”

## Optional Wrap-Up Question (as they finish decorating)

- “Which verse did you pick, and why?”
- “When do you think that verse could help you most?”
- “How can you keep remembering these verses this week?”

# Discussion Questions

## Kinder / 1st Grade

- What does it mean to hide God's Word in your heart?
- Why do you think God's Word is like a treasure?
- What can you do this week to remember your memory verse?
- When could remembering a Bible verse help you?

## 2nd / 3rd Grade

- Why is God's Word more valuable than money or treasure?
- Which verse from this semester means the most to you, and why?
- How can memorizing Scripture help you when you feel sad, scared, or tempted?
- What's one way you can "hide" God's Word in your heart this week?

## 4th / 5th Grade

- How does memorizing Scripture help you think and act more like Jesus?
- Why do you think some verses stick with us longer than others?
- Which verse do you want to remember for the long haul, and why?
- What difference does it make to have God's Word hidden in your heart when you face tough choices?