Scriptural Charge and Exhortation

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples. As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full."

- Jesus

Why Memorize Scripture? By John Piper

CONFORMITY TO CHRIST - Bible memorization has the effect of making our gaze on Jesus steadier and clearer.

DAILY TRIUMPH OVER SIN - As sin lures the body into sinful action, we call to mind a Christ-revealing word of Scripture and slay the temptation with the superior worth and beauty of Christ over what sin offers.

DAILY TRIUMPH OVER SATAN - When Jesus was tempted by Satan in the wilderness he recited Scripture from memory and put Satan to flight.

COMFORT AND COUNSEL FOR PEOPLE YOU LOVE - When the heart full of God's love can draw on the mind full of God's word, timely blessings flow from the mouth.

COMMUNICATING THE GOSPEL TO UNBELIEVERS - Actual verses of the Bible have their own penetrating power. And when they come from our heart, as well as from the Book, the witness is given that they are precious enough to learn.

COMMUNION WITH GOD IN THE ENJOYMENT OF HIS PERSON AND WAYS - The way we commune with (that is, fellowship with) God is by meditating on his attributes and expressing to him our thanks and admiration and love, and seeking his help to live a life that reflects the value of these attributes.

Knowing, Loving, Serving Christ ... Together

Week 1 :: Isaiah 52:13-15 Week 2 :: Isaiah 53:1-3 Week 3 :: Isaiah 53:4-6 Week 4 :: Isaiah 53:7-9 Week 5 :: Isaiah 53:10-12

REVIEW Isaiah 52:13-53:12

Week 1 :: Isaiah 52:13-15

- Behold, my servant shall act wisely; he shall be high and lifted up, and shall be exalted.
- As many were astonished at you— his appearance was so marred, beyond human semblance, and his form beyond that of the children of mankind—
- so shall he sprinkle many nations; kings shall shut their mouths because of him; for that 15 which has not been told them they see, and that which they have not heard they understand.

Week 3 :: Isaiah 53:4-6

- Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our 4 sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted.
- But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed.
- All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

Week 2 :: Isaiah 53:1-3

- Who has believed what he has heard from us?

 1 And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?
- For he grew up before him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground; he had no form or majesty that we should look at him, and no beauty that we should desire him.
- He was despised and rejected by men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

Week 4:: Isaiah 53:7-9

- He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he opened not his mouth.
- By oppression and judgment he was taken away; and as for his generation, who considered that he was cut off out of the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people?
- And they made his grave with the wicked and with a rich man in his death, although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth.

Week 5 :: Isaiah 53:10-12

Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him; he has put him to grief; when his soul makes an offering for guilt, he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days; the will of the LORD shall prosper in his hand.

Out of the anguish of his soul he shall see and be satisfied; by his knowledge shall the

11 righteous one, my servant, make many to be accounted righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities.

Therefore I will divide him a portion with the many, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong, because he poured out his soul to death and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and makes intercession for the transgressors.