

Olympians Scripture Memory Review Games

1. Use the Olympian Motto [*Philippians 3:14*]. Say the motto three times then give each child a word from the verse. [*If you have more than 17 Olympians, divide them into teams and have multiple sets of verses.*] On go have the children run to the designated area and stand in the correct order to complete their verse in the right sequence. Have them say the verse three more times.
2. Have children sit in a circle. Using the memory verse, roll a car toward a child. The child who gets the car says the next word in the verse and rolls the car to another child. That child says the next word. Do this until the entire verse is completed. Repeat the process to review the verse.
3. Create word pieces taped on a chalkboard or tape magnets on the back of the words for a metal board. Scramble the words and allow teams to put them in order.
4. On a piece of poster board, make a puzzle with a memory verse on it. Give individuals or teams a certain amount of time to put it together. The first to finish says the verse out loud.
5. Say the first half of the memory verse and allow one or more of the children to finish the verse. Make sure to ask for the Scripture reference to be tagged on the end.
6. Make a copy of a world map. Cut it into the number of pieces that matches the number of words plus the reference of the verse. Tape the pieces of the puzzle under their chairs. Have each child look under their chair when you give the signal. If they have a puzzle piece they are to bring it up front and help you put the puzzle together. Then review the verse together.
7. You will need:
 - A plastic children's swimming pool
 - Children's fishing poles
 - Construction paper fish [*with words from memory verse*].
 - Candy prizes
8. Create the typical "fair" game using the plastic swimming pool and child size fishing poles. Each Olympian throws their line over a small barrier and into the pool. A coach [*or two*] hooks a construction paper fish or piece of candy on each line. [*Place a paper clip at the end of each fishing line to secure the prize.*] Each fish has one word of the verse the Olympians are memorizing on it. Make the fish quite large so that the audience can see the word. Have children who have a fish come to the front at the appropriate time for the review. Place Olympians in the proper order to present the verse to the audience by holding their fish in front of them. Then choose one or two children to remove their fish but still repeat the verse. Give those who had the fish a small prize at the end as others receive candy.
9. Pass the Heart: As you review the verse, pass a heart pillow/beanbag. When the heart gets to you, say the next word in the verse. Players may be eliminated if they can't say a word or you may just give clues so that the verse continues.
10. Place the words of the verse on the leaves of a tree. When you give the signal, the children holding the leaves will come up and put the words in the right order to complete the verse correctly. Once they complete it, have everyone repeat the verse. Then hand the leaves to other children. Play as many times as time permits.

11. Using 3x5 cards, write one word of the memory verse on each card. Hide the cards around the room. Have the children find them and then put the verse in order. If you have a big group, buy several different color cards and make multiple copies of the verse.
12. Divide the children into teams. Place the words of each verse you want to review on color leaves. Use a different color leaf for each verse. Sprinkle the leaves on the floor. Assign each team a different color leaf to collect. When a child finds a leaf, they must bring it to the group and then try to put the words of the memory verse in order. The team to finish first and say their verse wins. Repeat as time allows, varying the color each team collects.
13. Stand children in a circle. Using an apple or an orange, have them pass the piece of fruit around the circle while music is playing. When the music stops, whoever has the apple or the orange gets an opportunity to say the verse. If they can say it, they get a prize. If they can't say it alone, say the verse together.
14. Using two different colors of construction paper, cut the paper into strips. Write the words of one review verse on one color and the words to another review verse on the other color. Cut the words apart, mix them up, and clip them to a piece of yarn or rope that is hung like a clothesline. Divide the children into two teams and seat them on the floor. Choose two members from each team to go first. On your signal, the two members from each team come to the clothesline and put their verse in the right order. They are allowed to get help from other members of their team. Only the two chosen team members may be on their feet. Once the verses are in the right order have all the children repeat each verse two times, once in a loud voice and once in a whisper.
15. In a small bag or box place slips of paper with a different motion on each one [*Example: Stand on one foot, pat your head, jump, etc.*]. Have a child come up and pull a slip out of the container. They need to lead in the action as everyone says the verse. Continue having children draw the action until the verse is repeated four times. [*You may want to divide the children into teams and have a judge determine which team does the action the best and award a small prize to that team.*]
16. Place the first letter of each word of the verse on the board with a space after it. Then have the children tell you the word that corresponds with each letter. After all the spaces are filled have the children say the verse two times. Then begin erasing the words from the board two at a time, repeating the verse.
17. To practice their memory verse, have the children stand in a circle and toss a light ball [*a nerf or beach ball*] to each other. The person who catches the ball must say the next word in the verse before tossing it to another child. If they do not know the word, they must hand the ball to the person next to them. The goal is to get through the verse without having to hand off the ball.
18. When the child can recite the verse, give them a band-aid with the reference of Psalm 46:1 written on it as a reminder. Tell them to say the verse again before removing the band-aid at home.
19. Tape one word from a verse on the back of each chair. Play musical chairs. When the music stops, the person who is sitting in the chair that has the first word of the verse removes the card from the chair. Remove that chair and begin the music again. When the music stops, the person sitting in the chair with the second word removes that card and puts it after the first word. Remove that chair and continue playing until all the words from the verse are removed from the chairs. Say the verse several times.
20. Write the words from the verse on pieces of paper. Fill a bucket or large plastic bin with the pieces of paper and Styrofoam peanuts. Have the children take turns using a spoon to dig out the pieces of paper and reassemble the verse in the correct order. Say the verse together when assembled.

21. Break the verse into six distinct parts. Divide the children into two to six teams [*depending on size of your group*]. Have each team stand together. Place the teams in different areas of the room. Give each team a part of the verse. When you point to their team, they say their part of the verse. Point to the teams in order, so the verse is said correctly. Each time the verse is repeated, give each group a different part of the verse. Add motions if desired.
22. Divide the children into two teams. Give each team a basketball. Choose a child from each team to dribble the ball. As they dribble, have the rest of their team repeat the verse. If the child dribbling the ball stops dribbling it or the ball gets away, the children need to stop saying the verse. Another child is chosen to dribble the ball, they begin the verse where they left off. Have each team say the verse five times. The first team to complete the verse five times is the winner.
23. For this game you will need 3x5 cards with one word from the verse written on each card. [*Make several sets to be played in groups of four or five children.*] Place the cards in random order face down. Children may flip over one card at a time. When they see the next word in order of the verse, they may put it in order. If it is not the correct word, it must be flipped back over face down.
24. Scripture Memory Review GamYou will need a large ball of yarn. Stand Olympians in circle. Have a coach recite a verse in the middle of the circle three times. Then, the coach takes a ball of yarn holds on to the end and throws the ball to another person. That person tries to say the verse and then they hold on to the yarn and toss the ball to another person. Keep tossing the yarn while repeating the verse. Explain to the children and parents that memorizing Scripture together ties our hearts together with one another.
25. Ping Pong Balls - Put one word of the verse on each ball. Put all of the balls in a hat or you can and dump them on the floor. Have the children catch the balls and put them in the right order.
26. Divide the children into two teams. Space the teams a distance apart as room permits. Give each team a balloon. Children will bat the balloon in the air as they say the verse. If they balloon touches the ground, they need to start the verse over from the beginning.
27. Divide the children into teams. The number of teams will vary depending on the size of your group. Get some tongue depressors or larger Popsicle sticks. Write one word on the end of each tongue depressor. Each team will need to have one person for each word in the verse. For smaller groups you may want to write phrases on the sticks. Have the children close their eyes. Put the Popsicle stick against their forehead, with the word visible. Each child will hold the stick in place throughout the activity. Make sure to mix up the word order. Then have them open their eyes and put themselves in the right order. They will need to help each other, as they cannot see the word on their own stick. The first team to have the verse in the correct order wins. Each time a team is declared a winner, repeat the verse. Exchange sticks within the team and repeat the activity as desired.
28. Play Puzzle Pad Mania. Take the words from your scripture passage and make a puzzle out of them. Make large puzzle pieces [*The easiest way is to get a large piece of foam board and pre-draw the puzzle pieces.*] Then print each word of the verse. Tape/Safety pin, or somehow attach the piece to the back of the children and don't tell them what their word is. They must figure out their word and then get in the right order. After they are in the right order, have them take the puzzle pieces off their backs and put the puzzle together. For older children you could do the same game but make it so they cannot talk. They would have to find another way to communicate what the word is on their back. [*They could pantomime, draw it on the ground with their finger, use a white board, or any other creative way.*] Then follow the same rules as before to get the words in the correct order. Again, once children are standing in word order have them remove the puzzle pieces and put the puzzle together.

29. Write each word of the verse and the reference on separate index cards with a red X on the back of each card. Position the cards around the room with red X side showing. Choose the same number of children as cards. Send the children out to hunt for the cards. [*Start with those who have a birthday this month, next month, last month, etc.*] As soon as they have found a card, they should return to the front of the room. As you review the verse, have each child bring up his card and tape it to a board in the correct location. Read the verse(s) all together when all the cards are on the board. Repeat as many times as necessary so that each child has at least one turn.
30. Use a shorter verse for this game. Write the verse on a large poster board. Take the children to a large, empty floor area [*a gymnasium or classroom cleared of table and chairs*]. Using their body, the Olympians form each letter to spell out each word of the verse. As they complete each word, check it off on the poster board and go on to the next word. Encourage the coaches and older children to help the younger ones make their bodies look like the letters.
31. For this game you will need:
 - Paper plates
 - Memory verse written on poster board

Challengers Only: Write the words to the memory verse on paper plates. Write one or two words on each plate. Write the verse on a poster board. Above each word on the poster board, make a different color line. Make a line of the same color on the coinciding paper plate so they won't have to be able to read to play the game. Scatter the paper plates on the other side of the room. As a noncompetitive game, have the Challengers take turns running to retrieve the paper plates and place them in the correct order on the floor. Have coaches nearby to help. When all the plates are in order, read the verse aloud together.

Conquerors and Champions Only: Write the words to the memory verse on paper plates. Write one or two words per plate. Each team must have a set of plates with the words from the verse written on them. Scatter the plates on separate sides of a nearby room. Clearly label the sides for Team 1 and Team 2. Divide the group into teams and line them up in relay lines. Give each team a copy of the verse they are looking for. On your signal, the first person from each team must run into the other room, find the next word in their verse, bring it back, and place it in the correct order. When he finishes, he will tag the next person in line who will repeat the process for the next word. When the verse is complete, the entire group will review it together.

32. Divide the children into small groups. [*Four to six Olympians in each group*] Place a coach with each group to help prompt ideas. Assign a verse to each group. They must come up with motions for the verse. Later, they will teach it to the class. After each group's presentation, review the motions to the verse with the larger group several times.
33. Place different soda or pop cans on table. Have one can for each word in the verse. Tape one word of the verse to the back of each soda can. Choosing one Olympian for each soda can, have them randomly choose a can. Then have the Olympians with the cans put the verse in order. Have them hold the cans with the words facing the group. Have all the children repeat the verse. Have one Olympian sit down; eliminating a word [*they may keep the can of soda*]. Have the group repeat the verse again. Continue eliminating one word at a time, having the children practice saying the verse and reference together.
34. You will need enough paper for each Olympian to make a paper airplane. Place a word of the verse on some of the pages.

35. Airplane Blitz: Have the Olympians fold the paper into airplanes. At your signal, have them launch their airplanes. Then they each pick up another plane from the floor, open the paper, and those who have planes with words on them will line themselves up according to the words in the verse. Be sure the words face the group. Everyone repeats the verse. Choose one or two children to launch their airplane. This will eliminate words but children will keep repeating the verse.
36. Divide the children into teams. Write each word from the memory verse on a separate piece of paper. You will need several sets to make sure each team has all the words from the verse. At your signal, each team must lay their words in the correct order. The team that finishes first wins. Say the verse together. Repeat several times. For a variation, remove a word from the verse each time.
37. Divide the Olympians into teams. Place each team in a straight line. Give the person at the head of each team a beanbag. Place a bucket several feet in front of each team. Select one person from each team to be their team's writer. Give them a piece of paper and a pencil. When the game begins, the first person in each line tries to toss their beanbag into the bucket. If they make it, then they tell their writer the first word of the memory verse they are reciting. If they miss the bucket, they go to the back of the line and the next person in line gets to try. The first team to complete the verse wins.
38. Make a match game from the questions and answers. Write the questions on the left side of a piece of paper. Make sure to mix the questions so they are not in order. Next, write the answers on the right side of the paper. Make sure to mix the answers so they are not in order. Make enough copies for each child. Hand a copy to each Olympian and ask them to draw a line from the question on the left to the correct answer on the right. Reward the Olympians accordingly.
39. Write the words Bowl of Fortune on a white board or chalkboard. Draw one blank for each letter in the words of the memory verse. It is similar to the game of Hangman. Count the number of different letters in the verse. For instance, if the entire verse has ten "E" letters count the letter "E" once. Record the different dollar values such as \$100, \$200, \$300, etc. on paper. There should be one for each different letter in the verse. Fold the papers and put them in a bowl. Divide the Olympians into teams and have each team line up in a single file. Choose one team to start. Before a team takes its turn, choose a piece of paper from the bowl and tell the team what the next letter is worth. Allow the team to choose one letter from the alphabet. If there are any of those letters in the verse, fill in the appropriate blanks. Multiply the number of times that letter is found in the verse by the dollar amount; this will be the amount earned for that turn. Allow the next team to choose a letter and so on. After each Olympian's turn, they move to the back of their line and the Olympian in front gets a turn for their team. Keep score for each team. The team with the most money at the end is the winner.
40. Scripture Memory Game: Divide Olympians into two teams. Choose one child from each team. Provide the child selected with a review verse written on a card. This child will make the letters of the first word in the verse with their hands or body. Gather their team around each child. Have the children on their team try to guess the word. The child who guesses the word gets to do the next word. The first team that gets the whole verse right wins. *[Note: If someone can quote the verse word perfect with reference that team wins.]*
41. Scripture Memory Review: Talk through the meaning of a verse and ask how they could use the verse this week. Divide the children into groups and have them role-play ways to demonstrate the verse. After each role-play everyone repeats the verse together
42. Scripture Memory Time: Have them stick out their tongues as they review their memory verse.

43. Scripture Memory Review: Place the words to the verses that you want to review on paper in the shapes of different vegetables [*Example: each word to one verse could be written on an ear of corn, each word to another verse could be printed on paper shaped like peppers, each word from another verse could be printed on paper shaped like pea pods, etc.*] Scatter the words around the room. Divide the children into teams. Each team will be assigned one of the vegetables. On your signal, the children will find their vegetables, bring them back to an assigned section of the room, and put the verse in order. The first team to complete their verse wins.
44. Have snack size M&M packets. Tape a word of the verse on the back of each packet. Then put all the packets in a basket and mix them up. Have the children reach in the basket and grab a word. See if they can say the verse correctly until they reach their word. If they can they get to keep the M & M's. If not, they need to put it back. You may want to have penny candy to give to those who do not get it correct.
45. Place the words to the verse in a fish bowl. Draw a line for each word in the verse on the board. Have a child pick a word out of the bowl and place it where he thinks it goes in the verse. Have the children try to say the verse up to that word. Continue until all the words are used, repeating the verse each time. You may want to give a Swedish fish for doing a great job.
46. Have strips of paper pertaining to Christ's Birth [*Angel: say verse with arms made like wings, Shepherds: say verse while standing on one foot, Wise men: say verse while patting your head*] in a bag. Have a child pull a slip of paper out of the bag and have the group say the verse doing the action that is on the paper.
47. Take plastic eggs and put one word from the verse into each egg. Mix the eggs in the basket and on go have the children come up and get an egg. [*If you have more children then the words in the verse you can use another verse and divide into teams.*] Have them open it and then try to put the verse in the right order. When they get it in the right order say the verse three times.
48. Have each word of the verse in a gift bag. As you review the verse, they will look in their bags to see if they have the next word. Then say the verse up to that word.
49. Use the puppets to help review the verse. Have Betty lead the girls and have Billy lead the boys. Have a contest to see who can say it the loudest, softest, and clearest
50. Have gift boxes with the words to a verse written on them. Choose five children to come up and arrange the boxes in the correct order. When the verse is in order, they need to say the verse together. Time each group of five children. Call another five children up to play. Continue to play as time allows. The group with the shortest time wins!
51. *Tone it Down:*We will start by repeating the verse loudly, then continue to say it getting softer each time until we are whispering.[*Lead the children in saying the verse together two times softening your voice each time.*] Now we will say the verse again. This time we will say it first while standing tall and then get shorter as we get softer. [*Repeat the verse with the children following the directions.*]
52. Let's look at the pictures and say the verse two times. How many of you find it easier to memorize if you are looking at pictures? [*Have them raise their hands. You may want to draw pictures or cut them out of a magazine that goes with your verses this year.*]

53. *Bounce a Ball.* As you bounce the ball say each word in the verse. If you miss and the ball gets away you need to start the verse over again. [*Demonstrate the game. then allow volunteer to try.*] You can play this game at home as you are learning this verse.
54. Say verse all together three times. Play the game *Add a Word*. The first child says the first word in the verse and the next child says that word and adds the next word. Keep going until the verse is completed. Make sure to include the reference.
55. the words to the verse on the board and have the children suggest pictures that would go with the words. Let them draw the pictures on a separate piece of paper and put them over the words. Have them repeat the verse using the pictures five times. Then remove one picture at a time while they continue to say the verse and reference.
56. *Take a Piece.* Say the verse and remove a picture each time after you repeat the verse.
57. *Verse Match-up Puzzle.* Print the verse along with a picture visualizing certain words on paper. Cut them apart and mix them up. Then have children put the pieces in the right order to complete the verse.
58. [*This is also a good method to teach ADHD, dyslexic or other learning disable children*] Place the verse on a board or piece of paper. Let children make suggestions of motions to put with the verse to help them remember it. You could also say the verse by having them while standing on one foot, patting their head, clapping their hands, doing jumping jacks, and so forth.
59. *How Fast.* Bat a balloon up in the air and say as much of the verse as they can before the balloon hits the ground.
60. *Volleyball Balloon.* Divide into two groups. Put a line on the floor between the two groups and use a balloon instead of a volleyball. If you have a gym, use a regular volleyball net. The first team puts the balloon in the air and must say the verse complete with the reference before passing it to the other team. Only three hits are allowed per team.
61. *Relay Races.* Divide the children into two teams. Print the verse on paper writing one word on each piece of paper. You will need one copy of the verse for each team. Cut the words of the verse apart. Mix up the papers and place them on the floor. On "Go" have the first person from each team, run to the words and try to find the first word in the verse. Once he finds it, have him position it, run back, and tag the next team member. Continue until the completed verse is in the right order. Then say it together.
62. *Add a Word.* It may be played as a group. The first child says one word and the next person repeats that word and adds a word. Continue until the verse is completed. A child may play the game alone by saying one word and then looking at the verse and saying the first two words. He will continue adding words one at a time. and the child should try not to look at the words he has already said.
63. *Hot Potato.* Pass the potato around the circle as the children repeat the verse. Whoever is holding the potato at the end of the verse may say the whole verse. If successful, he may choose to continue playing or sit out.
64. *Pass the Box.* This game is played like *Hot Potato* except a small box with candy is used. Whoever says the whole verse may choose a piece of candy as a prize.

65. *Stop and Go*. Have a stop sign and a go sign. Divide children into two groups. Hold up the go sign for one team. They begin saying the verse. When the stop sign is held up, they need to stop even if they are in the middle of a word. Hold up the go sign for the other team and they need to continue from where the first team left off. Repeat several times.
66. Crazy Stand-ups – Choose items of clothing or activities that the children have done and make qualifying children stand-up and say the verse. Some suggestions are:
- Those who are wearing red
 - Those who like ice cream
 - Those who went to school today
 - Everyone who played on a swing today
 - Those who have blue eyes