

September 20, 2020

Scott's Thoughts



“And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart.”
(Deut 6:6, ESV)

We depend on the little device in our pocket or purse more than we like to think. How many times a day does someone ask a question and out comes the phone so we can get on the net to look up an answer? I said “an answer” because just because it is on the net doesn’t mean it’s right. How many phone numbers do we have committed to memory? Do we remember the day when we could recall from memory a dozen phone numbers at speeds that would put that phone to shame? Yet, here we are, “What’s your sister’s phone number?” Out comes the phone to look up the number.

It may not apply to you, but several years ago, I told people that my whole life was on the computer. Now it’s not only on the computer but on the phone as well and the phone is easier to get to than the computer. How many of us are at a standstill when the phone says, “No Service?”

My grandchildren, at seven and four, can do almost as much with a phone as I can. Thankfully, their parents have not given in to the temptation and given them a phone of their own. As powerful, handy, and convenient as cell phones are, they rob children of one of the greatest experiences of life, the ability to memorize. As children, we had to memorize

the alphabet, numbers, multiplication tables, the spelling of words, our street addresses, and yes, phone numbers. It is possible to memorize things today but what are we memorizing?

I have met people who can recall, with great detail, almost any aspect of the “Civil War” on a moment’s notice but they have very little knowledge of scripture. If we take the time to read the verses included in this article, we can see that God puts great emphasis on us to make great effort to memorize scripture. The purpose was not to just fill time but to use the Biblical information we have memorized to direct our lives.

What I am saying is, put the phone down, pick up the Bible and read even if it is for just a few minutes a day. Read with a plan rather than in a haphazard fashion. Ask what am I reading and what does it mean? How can that passage help me to live a life more attuned to God?

“You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.”
(Deuteronomy 6:7–9, ESV)

Thanks for listening and keep on shining.

—Scott