Procedure for Memorizing Verses   *Andrew Hancock*

Here is a basic procedure that I have used when memorizing Scripture. I would encourage you to experiment with these ideas and find what is best for you.

1. I usually start looking at the verse in the morning during my time alone with God. Many times I spend my whole time with God working on the verse for the day/ week.

2. I usually use an acrostic called **SORT** to understand the verse and make it personal in order that God might reveal to me how I need to apply the principles in the verse.
   First I usually write out the verse on the top with the topic and the reference. Then I do SORT.

   > **S**- Scripture around the verse. This helps to understand the context of the verse.   What is happening around the verse? How does the context affect the meaning of the verse?
   > **O**- Own words. I write out the verse in my own words, paraphrase. It helps me make the verse more personal.
   > **R**- Cross **R**eferences- what do other verses in the Bible say about the topic of the verse? I use a concordance and look up other places where the topic might come up.
   > **T**- Think it through. This is a time where I ask God to show me how I can apply this verse. I just write down my thoughts and how they relate to God's leading in the verse. It is important to not just learn the verse, but put it into your heart by applying what it says. Make it a part of you.

3. Then comes the actual time of memorizing.
   -Read verse through with topic, reference, verse, reference 5-10 times.
   -Learn it with topic and reference
   > -Cut verse down in sections if it is long and learn sections, then put the sections together. Also I have gone word by word: Say topic, reference then go word by word. Once the new word in the sequence is said, go back to topic and repeat until you get to the next word in the verse. Keep going back to the start until you have built the whole verse.
   > REPITITION IS KEY- it may seem mundane and monotonous, but that repetition is the best way to get the verse memorized.

   -Once I feel like I have learned it. I try to say the verse memorized 5-10 times without making a mistake. If I do make a mistake or I don't remember what comes next, I correct it and start the process over again.

4. Then I like to stick the verse in the front of my verse pack and review it during the day and see if I can get it word perfect. Many times I find that I can't get it perfect the day of learning it, I many times can correct my mistakes that first day. By making a mistake it helps me learn all the more.

5. Then I like to review that verse every day thereafter. It takes 36 repetitions, once a day for 6 weeks to get a verse properly stored in the long term memory. After that it is important to review the verse, just not necessary to do it every day.

These suggestions are not the LAW in how to memorize. In time, you each will find out how you best memorize these verses. These are just suggestions to help you get started.