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Handbook Instructions

1. In order for a child to sign off a section in his/her handbook, he/she must have completed all material within the section. This means all questions must be answered and verses memorized (if applicable).
2. Children must recite verses with only 2-3 helps from a parent. If your child is struggling to memorize, check out the memorization aids at the end of this document. If your child still struggles, please email or text Carissa Norris (cnorris0506@gmail.com; tel: 972-358-8117). She would love to help in any way she can!
3. Do not worry about keeping up with the star card at the back of your child's handbook. We will update the star card when we meet again.
4. When your child has completed a section(s), email or text Carissa Norris the section(s) your child completed (cnorris0506@gmail.com; tel: 972-358-8117). She will record your child's progress so whenever we return to meeting at the church, your child's record will be caught up.
5. We also encourage you to take this time to discuss what your children are learning in their handbooks. Feel free to discuss the questions and verses with them, and share your own insight into the material.

Memorization Aids*

Tips:

- **Be enthusiastic!** Learning Bible Memory verses can be dull and boring or it can be filled with fun and laughter. If you show enthusiasm in learning the verses, the kids will too.
- **Know when to give clues.** Know your kids' abilities and be willing to help them, but don't give them too much help. Use clues such as, "It starts with" or "It rhymes with," and so on.
- **Make sure kids know what the words are.** To help early readers, point to the words as you say them until kids become familiar with the Bible verse. Make sure they know what the definitions are. Kids will remember the words better when they understand what they mean.
- **Inflection.** Use the sound of your voice to make words memorable. Draw out key words, or say a phrase in short and snappy or rhythmic ways.
- **Laughter and fun!** Remember that memorizing Scripture can be combined with lots of laughter and fun! Have a great time with your kids as they hide God's Word in their hearts.

Strategies:

- **Drama:** Say the verse and use your hands and/or body to act it out.
- **Erase it!** Write out the verse on a piece of paper. Erase words one or more at a time and recite until all the words have been erased.
- **First Letter Reads:** Write 1st letter of each word down and then try to say the verse. For example: John 3:16 would be "F G S L T W T H G H O B S, T W B I H S N P B H E L."
- **Hot Potato** to a verse. Pass an object back and forth, the parent saying one word, the child saying the next. (Also a great game to do when children are learning the books of the Bible.)
- **Mistakes:** After kids are familiar with the verses, tell them that you are going to say the verse, but you will need their help. On purpose, replace some of the key words with totally wrong words. For example instead of saying "your paths" you might say "a bicycle." This fun game will encourage kids to actively listen as you are saying the verse.
- **Sing The Verse:** Practice saying the verse out loud several times, then have the kids sing the verse to God in praise and thanksgiving. Make up a tune or use one you already know.

* Thank you to Kara Gabbert for the information in this handout.