



# EMBARC RULES

## Early Memorization Brings A Regular Commitment

### 1. Registration

- a. Participants must register for EMBARC using the registration form.
- b. Participant and his/her parent(s) select the version of the Bible (NAS, NIV, KJV, or ESV) that will be used to memorize. The version cannot be changed after the first week of EMBARC.

### 2. Level / Listener / Room Assignment

- a. Participant is assigned to begin on a level of EMBARC on the first year of participation according to grade level:
  - i. Grade 2 & 3 – Level 1
  - ii. Grade 4 & 5 – Level 2
  - iii. Grade 6 & 7 – Level 3
  - iv. Grade 8 & above – Level 4
- b. Participant advances to the next level of memorization each year in the program.
- c. Participant will be assigned a listener and location by the EMBARC coordinator. Report promptly to assigned area as many areas are also used as classrooms. (Sunday evening service participants need to be aware of other church activities which may conflict such as YF, children's choir, and Fellowship Sunday.)

### 3. Memorization

- a. Participant is to memorize the present week's verse(s) assigned for all levels up to and including the highest level he/she is given.
- b. When memorizing verses, the participant is to memorize the topic (ex. Salvation), the Bible reference (book, chapter, verse number(s)), and verse text exactly as printed on the EMBARC sheets.
  - i. Note: Because different editions of a given translation use different wording (i.e. the 1973 NAS is different from the 1995 edition), participants should memorize verses using the provided EMBARC sheets, rather than using their own printed Bibles or electronic editions.
- c. For certain week, a participant may also be required to memorize categories of Bible books or one of the 10 Commandments. This is indicated on the EMBARC sheets.

### 4. Recitation for the current week's assignment

- a. Every week the participant will begin by reciting the current week's assignment to the designated listener, beginning with Level 1 and working up to the current level.
- b. The participant recites the topic, book of the Bible, chapter, verse number(s), and then verse(s), exactly as written. If any books of the Bible or Commandments are listed with the verse, they should be recited along with the verse and are considered part of the same

assignment. (For example, a participant using the ESV would say: “Salvation. Romans 3:23. ‘for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.’ The Gospels - Matthew, Mark, Luke, John”)

- c. The participant should recite all of the above without any prompts.
- d. Every aspect of the recitation should be correct for the participant to move on to the next verse.
- e. Note: If a participant recites a verse and continues into the next verse, this will not be considered incorrect if the verse that was asked for was said correctly.
- f. No hints may be given from the listener in the middle of the participant’s first attempt.
- g. If the participant makes any mistakes on his/her first attempt, the listener may be given assistance in the following manner:
  - i. The listener will repeat back what the participant has said, inserting the word “blank” for any references, words or phrases that were incorrect. (The participant may ask the listener to repeat what the participant incorrectly said.)
  - ii. The listener may not give any other type of hint. (For example: no pointing, no rhyming, no beginning letters, no mouthing, no shaking of the head, etc.)
  - iii. The participant is given only one more chance to recite the assignment correctly.
    1. The participant should make it clear when he/she is reciting for the second time (i.e., he/she may ‘talk aloud’ to him/herself, but should make it clear to the listener that he/she is doing so. The participant should not try to fish for hints, ask if he/she is ‘on the right track’, etc.).
    2. The participant should recite the entire verse, books of the Bible, or commandment again in full (and not just the parts that were incorrect from the first attempt).
  - iv. If the participant recites the assignment correctly on the second attempt, he/she will receive the same score as if he/she had recited it correctly on the first attempt.
  - v. If the participant does not recite the assignment correctly on the second attempt, no other attempts shall be given, and the participant moves on to the next verse(s).
- h. The Participant is to have ample enough time to say the assigned verses. No time limit will be in effect. If there is a problem with completion, speak to the EMBARC coordinator and arrangements will be made so that the participant will be able to have the time needed to say the verses.

## 5. Recalls

- a. Beginning week 2 of the program, participants are responsible to know all the verses from the previous weeks as recalls.
- b. After the participant has recited all of the assignments for the current week, the listener will ask him/her to recite 6 recalls.
  - i. A recall is a verse, a group of books of the Bible, or one of the 10 Commandments. (Note: A passage such as Eph 2:8,9 should be considered one recall, even though it is made up of 2 verses, because it is considered one assignment).

- ii. If the participant does not have enough verses to have 6 recalls, then the listener will give as many recalls as possible. (This means participants in lower levels will be saying the same verses each week until the listener can choose 6 recalls randomly.)
- c. When asking a participant for a recall, the listener may give the following information:
  - i. (For a verse) - the level it is found on, the topic, the reference, the week it was assigned.
  - ii. (For a group of books of the Bible) - the level it is found on, the topic (history, gospels, etc.), the week it was assigned.
  - iii. (For a commandment) - the level it is found on, the number of the commandment, the week it was assigned.
- d. A participant will only be given two chances to recite a recall correctly. The listener may only give assistance one time during this process.
  - i. If a participant attempts the recall the first time, but makes mistakes:
    - 1. The listener will repeat back what the participant has said, inserting the word "blank" for any references, words or phrases that were incorrect. (The participant may ask the listener to repeat what the participant incorrectly said.)
    - 2. The listener may not give any other type of hint. (For example: no pointing, no rhyming, no beginning letters, no mouthing, no shaking of the head, etc.)
    - 3. The participant is given only one more chance to recite the assignment correctly.
      - a. The participant should make it clear when he/she is reciting for the second time (i.e., he/she may 'talk aloud' to him/herself, but should make it clear to the listener that he/she are doing so. The participant should not try to fish for hints, ask if he/she is 'on the right track', etc.).
      - b. The participant should recite the entire verse, books of the Bible, or commandment again in full (and not just the parts that were incorrect from the first attempt).
  - ii. If a participant is unable to recite the recall the first time and needs assistance to get started:
    - 1. The participant may ask for help. The listener will then do one of the following:
      - a. (For a verse) – give the first two words of the verse.
      - b. (For a group of books) – give the name of the first book in the series.
      - c. (For the Beatitudes (Level 4) – give the key words that are underlined.
    - 2. After giving these hints, the listener may no longer assist the participant.

3. If the participant recites the recall incorrectly after receiving hints, the listener may not tell the participant where the mistakes are. He/she may only tell the participant that it is wrong. The participant is given one more chance to recite the recall, without assistance.
  - a. The participant should make it clear when he/she is reciting for the second time (i.e., he/she may 'talk aloud' to him/herself but should make it clear to the listener that he/she is doing so. The participant should not try to fish for hints, ask if he/she is 'on the right track', etc.).
  - b. The participant should recite the entire verse, books of the Bible, or commandment again in full (and not just the parts that were incorrect from the first attempt).
- e. Note: If a participant recalls a verse and continues into the next verse, this will not be considered incorrect if the verse that was asked for was said correctly.
- f. A listener may ask for a group of verses or the books of the Old or New Testament when a participant has completed enough weeks to do so. The listener will count the number of weeks the material was assigned and that will be the number of recalls. For example, in Level 1 the New Testament books were learned during a 6 week period. If a listener would ask for the books of the New Testament, that would count as 6 recalls.

## **6. Rescheduling**

- a. If a participant cannot be present at the time assigned to say EMBARC due to an emergency (sickness, car trouble, etc.) (See rule 6.c. below), it is the participant's responsibility to:
  - i. Notify the listener as soon as possible.
  - ii. Arrange with the assigned listener a time for make-up. Make-up sessions must be made within 1 week of the assigned time. It is encouraged to schedule a make-up session before the next regular session. If a make-up session is scheduled for the following week, then 2 weeks of verses will need to be said, including 12 recalls. A participant may not push the new week back.
  - iii. If necessary, make-up sessions may be with a substitute listener. The EMBARC Coordinator will be able to arrange that, as there is a list of individuals who will substitute. Make-up sessions may not be done over the phone. Parents are not to be substitute listeners for their children.
  - iv. Not being prepared is not a valid reason to arrange for a make-up session. A recitation may not be pushed to after the service due to a participant not being adequately prepared.
  - v. Not being prompt is not a valid reason to arrange for a make-up session, e.g., if a participant is late in arriving for recitation, the recitation may not be postponed until after the meeting or to another date, nor should the recitation extend into the time of the meeting. Participant will lose points as per rule 6.c. (below).
  - vi. If there are suspected exceptions to the rules needed, speak to the EMBARC Coordinator.

- b. If a participant will not be able to be present at the time assigned to say EMBARC due to another commitment (out of town, youth activity, etc.) the participant is encouraged to say EMBARC ahead of time. It is the participant's responsibility to:
  - i. Inform his/her listener of a schedule change before the regular, scheduled session.
  - ii. Arrange with the assigned listener a time for make-up. The participant is encouraged to say EMBARC ahead of the scheduled time. It may be possible to say 2 weeks of EMBARC the week before the conflict (there will be 12 recalls—6 recalls for the scheduled week and 6 recalls for the week that is being made up early). Another time may be arranged before the scheduled day of EMBARC that would be convenient to the listener.
  - iii. If an alternate time cannot be made, then the participant will contact the EMBARC Coordinator for a substitute listener.
  - iv. If it is impossible to recite it ahead of time, the participant must make it up within 1 week of the assigned time.
- c. If the participant fails to make-up the recitation when assigned time is missed, the participant will receive zeroes for that week's assignment. The participant will also lose 12 points (2 points for each of the 6 recalls) for not saying the recalls. The listener will randomly choose 6 recalls from which to deduct points.
- d. If a listener is unable to be present for the time he/she is assigned to listen, the listener should contact the EMBARC Coordinator as soon as possible. The coordinator will arrange for a substitute listener so that the participant is not inconvenienced.
- e. Listeners should be in the assigned room at the beginning of the scheduled time. Promptness is encouraged so that participants have their full allotted time to say their verses, plus many rooms are also used as classrooms.

## 7. Scoring

- a. Scoring for the current week's assignment
  - i. If a verse/collection of books/Beatitude/Commandment is said correctly on the first week, 3 points are earned.
  - ii. If a verse/collection of books/Beatitude/Commandment is said incorrectly on the first week, the participant receives a zero.
- b. Scoring for recalls
  - i. If a verse/collection of books/Beatitude/Commandment is recalled that was previously scored as a zero on the original recitation, and it is recalled correctly, the zero may be changed to a 1. (Note: This one point cannot be lost in future weeks, nor can it be increased any further. It will remain a '1' for the remainder of the program.)
  - ii. If a verse/collection of books/Beatitude/Commandment is recalled that was previously scored as a 3 on the original recitation, and it is recalled incorrectly, the original score of 3 is reduced to 1.
    - 1. The participant cannot have his/her score reduced below 1 point, even if the assignment is said incorrectly on future recalls.

2. However, if the participant recites the assignment correctly on a future recall, the score can be increased to 2. (Note: This score cannot be increased to 3, even if it is recited correctly on future recalls. It also cannot be reduced to 1 or zero, even if it is recited incorrectly on future recalls. It will remain a '2' for the remainder of the program).

**Example Scoring:**

New verse:

3 (correct)                      or              0 (incorrect)  
-2 (incorrect recall)                      +1 (correct recall)  
+1 (correct recall)

***It is wise to learn the verses early in the week and review them regularly, if you wish to remember them for recitation.***

David said in Psalm 119:11, “Thy Word have I hid in my heart that I might not sin against thee.” You will be very thankful for the scriptures you will be learning. They will become a part of you, and you will recall them many times during your life.

We are thankful you have chosen to give of your time and effort to learn God’s Word.

EMBARC Committee,  
Yvonne Herb, Coordinator