Theme Verse History

Since the summer of 1989, it has been a tradition for seniors to take a retreat to choose a passage from the Bible that would encourage and challenge their class and, in turn, the entire school. After spending time praying, discussing, and deliberating, the seniors choose a verse that will serve as the touchstone for the upcoming school year.

1989-1990 Be strong and courageous. Joshua 1:9 (NIV)

1990-1991 If God is for us, who can be against us? Romans 8:31 (NIV)

1991-1992 Come near to God and he will come near to you. James 4:8 (NIV)

1992-1993 Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Hebrews 12:2 (NIV)

1993-1994 Be still and know that I am God. Psalm 46:10 (NIV)

1994-1995 Look to the Lord and His strength; seek His face always. 1 Chronicles 16:11 (NIV)

1995-1996 Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me in Christ Jesus. Philippians 3:13-14 (NIV)

1996-1997 A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another. John 13:34-35 (NIV)

1997-1998 But I have raised you up for this very purpose, that I might show my power and that my name might be proclaimed in all the earth. Exodus 9:16 (NIV)

1998-1999 May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you a spirit of unity among yourselves as you follow Christ Jesus, so that with one heart and mouth you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Romans 15:5-6 (NIV)

1999-2000 Do not be afraid or discouraged because of this vast army. For the battle is not yours, but God's. 2 Chronicles 20:15 (NIV)

2000-2001 Choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve; as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord. Joshua 24:15 (NIV)

2001-2002 Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms. 1 Peter 4:10 (NIV)

2002-2003 Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. Hebrews 10:23 (NIV)

2003-2004 Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others. Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus. Philippians 2:4-5 (NIV)

2004-2005 For you have been called to live in freedom—not freedom to satisfy your sinful nature, but freedom to serve one another in love. Galatians 5:13 (NLT)

2005-2006 Do not copy the behavior and customs of the world but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will know what God wants you to do, and you will know how good and pleasing and perfect His will really is. Romans 12:2 (NLT)

2006-2007 He must become greater, and I must become less. John 3:30 (NLT)

2007-2008 Dear children, let us stop just saying that we love each other; let us really show it by our actions. 1 John 3:18 (NLT)

2008-2009 May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you a spirit of unity among yourselves as you follow Christ Jesus, so that with one heart and mouth you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Romans 15:5-6 (NIV)

2009-2010 If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. Luke 9:23 (NIV)

2010-2011 Dear friends, do not be surprised at the painful trial you are suffering, as though something strange were happening to you, but rejoice that you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed. 1 Peter 4:12-13 (NIV)

2011-2012 Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity. Colossians 3:12-14 (NIV)

2012-2013 Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves. Romans 12: 9-10 (NIV)

2013-2014 For you have been called to live in freedom, my brothers and sisters. But don't use your freedom to satisfy your sinful nature. Instead, use your freedom to serve one another in love. Galatians 5:13 (NLT)

2014-2015 For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago. Ephesians 2:10 (NLT)

2015-2016 For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age... Titus 2:11-12 (NLT)

2016-2017 Therefore I, a prisoner for serving the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of your calling, for you have been called by God. Always be humble and gentle. Be patient with each other, making allowance for each other's faults because of your love. Make every effort to keep yourselves united in the Spirit, binding yourselves together with peace. Ephesians 4:1-3 (NLT)

2017-2018 Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is - his good, pleasing and perfect will. Romans 12:2 (NIV)

2018-2019 Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins. 1 Peter 4:8 (NIV)

2019-2020 Finally, all of you, be like-minded, be sympathetic, love one another, be compassionate and humble. 1 Peter 3:8 (NIV)

2020-2021 Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need. So don't worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring its own worries. Today's trouble is enough for today. Matthew 6:33-34 (NLT)

2021-2022 Dear brothers and sisters, I close my letter with these last words: Be joyful. Grow to maturity. Encourage each other. Live in harmony and peace. Then the God of love and peace will be with you. 2 Corinthians 13:11 (NLT)

2022-2023 Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. Philippians 2:3-4 (ESV)

2023-2024 Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth. 1 John 3:18 (ESV)

2024-2025 Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths. Proverbs 3: 5-6 (ESV)

2025-2026 You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love. Galatians 5:13 (NIV)

2026-2027 So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness. Colossians 2:6-7 (NIV)