



Design: Communicates effectively

Indicator #	L5Q19
Category	Competencies
Indicator	Communicates effectively

	Spiritual	Experiential	Relational	Instructional
1	Meditate on Isaiah 58:1; Colossians 4:4-6; 1 Peter 3:15. Memorize one or two of these verses.	When you communicate, be sure to do so with clarity, passion and credibility.	Identify several really good communicators and watch them speak.	Study Isaiah 58:1; Colossians 4:4-6; 1 Peter 3:15.
2	Meditate on the fact that God communicates with man; we are made in His image and thus have the power and privilege of communicating with Him and those around us. Worship Him for this precious privilege.	Before you communicate, ask yourself, "What is the one point I'm trying to get across?"	Learn from spiritually mature believers, teachers, or co-workers who have teaching gifts. Observe how they communicate and ask them for feedback on your own communication.	Find and compare five biblical examples of good communication and five examples of bad communication. What are the elements that you can apply to your life? What are some elements that you should avoid?
3	Pray that you would constantly look to God for His help in communication.	Practice expressing yourself. Take opportunities to speak or teach. Invite others to give you evaluation and advice on your methods of communication.	Invite several people to share one experience in their life where they communicated well, and one experience where they communicated poorly. What were the results?	Study the teaching ministry of Peter and Stephen in Acts 2:14, 36 and Acts 7. What were the characteristics of their communication?
4	Our attitude should always be that of humility and love for others when communicating. What is your typical attitude when you communicate? Repent of any sinful motivations; pray that God would purify your motives and give you a humble and gentle heart.	Practice listening actively to others, using your own words to describe back to them what you think they mean. Ask open-ended questions. Seek to empathize with each person and make eye contact.	Watch mature leaders and co-workers who are good communicators and imitate them.	Study how Jesus communicated. What things can you learn from His effective communication?
5	Think of a time you had difficulty communicating with someone. Why? Ask God to help you identify the problems with your communication, and repent of any sin on your part.	Train yourself to express your ideas in different ways based on different types of people; make adjustments based on their responses.	Interview people who can communicate effectively on how they do this.	Read through the Proverbs and notice the impact of communication on one's life direction and relationships.
6	Use James 1:19 and 1 Samuel 25:9-35 for meditation. Pray that the Holy Spirit would help you to utter more gracious words.	When communicating with people, seek to have a humble, open and honest attitude. After communication, evaluate yourself and make adjustments.	Ask those who know you best to give you feedback on how you communicate. Do you talk down? Appear angry? Give pat answers?	Watch videos of several great communicators and interviewers and study their methods. Write down your observations and thoughts.
7	Every time you communicate, pray that God would reveal to you the true condition of the person you are communicating with, that you can know and love them better and communicate more effectively.	Work to deepen communication between you and your spouse and children. Spend time encouraging and affirming them.	Focus on deep and open communication with your spouse. Express your gratefulness to your spouse and commit to communicating better with each other.	Teach a class or lead a group study on effective communication.
8	Pray for God to heal your broken relationships and any hurts caused by poor communication.	Before you communicate with others, write down the things that you want to say; then read them back to yourself. Consider if what you've written is the best way to say what you need to say. Edit and clarify before communicating.	Ask a co-worker to hold you accountable in your communication and to pray for you.	Read about body language and nonverbal communication to broaden your understanding of communication.
9	Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal to you any fear or shame in your heart from past communication issues.	Practice describing a certain subject from multiple perspectives. Make a recording of your descriptions and evaluate your effectiveness in communication.	Invite some intercessors to pray for you. Regularly share with them the communication issues you encounter; ask them to pray for you to overcome those hindrances.	Study communication theory and practical tools and seek to apply them in your own communication.
10		Record your growth in communication in a journal. Use your journal entries to evaluate your weaknesses and strengths, then develop growth plans for specific areas of communication.	If you are mentoring someone in your church, apply what you're learning about communication in that context.	Find and read books and articles on communication (ask a spiritual leader for suggestions).
11		In a meeting, try to limit yourself to sharing your thoughts only three times. Put three coins on the table, and put one in your pocket each time you share.		Watch or listen to sermons, teachings, or podcasts about effective communication and listening.
12				Create a skit to present the difference between effective and ineffective communication.
13				Read Chapter 3 in Leading: SpiritBuilt Leadership #3 by Malcolm Webber.