



# Design: Interprets the Scriptures soundly

Indicator #	L5Q23
Category	Competency
Indicator	Interprets the Scriptures soundly

	Spiritual	Experiential	Relational	Instructional
1	Meditate on Nehemiah 8:8; 1 Timothy 1:3-8; 2 Timothy 2:15, 24-26; 3:15-17. Memorize one or two of these verses.	Practice studying the Word, preparing your own interpretations and then looking at various commentaries to compare their work.	Talk with spiritually mature believers who are gifted in teaching the Bible. Ask them how they learned to teach the Bible and invite them to share their experiences.	Study these Scriptures: Nehemiah 8:8; 1 Timothy 1:3-8; 2 Timothy 2:15, 24-26; 3:15-17
2	Meditate on 1 Timothy 4:13-16. Reflect on your past teaching. Are there areas that you have not watched your life and doctrine closely or have taught wrong doctrines? As you find them, confess, receive God's grace, and repent.	Organize debates on a regular basis among co-workers and friends, with the purpose of helping each other to understand truth in a deeper and more comprehensive way.	Start a Bible study group. Practice studying Scriptures together, applying important principles of "observation, interpretation, and application."	Study Jesus' methods of interpreting the Bible. What can you apply to your own study?
3	Use Ephesians 1:17 to pray for yourself. Ask God to give you a spirit of revelation and wisdom so that you can understand His Word and know Him.	Compare your current and past sermons to see the difference. Write down how you've improved and how you want to improve moving forward. Develop a plan to improve your teaching further.	Invite experienced preachers to share their journey of teaching the Scriptures and how they were transformed by the Word of God in the process.	Study the following verses: Genesis 1:1-2; Romans 3:25; 1 John 2:2. How would you explain these to a child less than 12 years old (2 Timothy 1:5; 3:15)?
4	Read Psalm 119 and meditate on the Psalmist's attitude towards God's Word.	Find three ways to participate in teaching the Word at your church in the next month.	Ask one or two intercessors to pray for you, so that your understanding, reverence, and persistence in God's Word would develop even further.	Listen to sermons, teachings, and podcasts on interpreting Scripture well.
5	Reflect on your own attitude to the Word of God, and pray that you would love and desire the Word of God.	Find one way that you can regularly teach the Word throughout the year.	Find a mentor to coach you on a regular basis in improving your interpretation skills.	Find and read trustworthy books and articles on interpreting Scripture (ask a spiritual leader for suggestions).
6	Pray that God would increase your sensitivity to His Word, that you would hear, see, and touch the truth when you read His Word.	Read the Bible repeatedly and consistently, using different versions. Read the original text if you can.	Ask different co-workers and believers to give their feedback every time you share a message.	Study several methods of interpreting the Bible (such as inductive Bible study), then teach your small group or church about the best ones.
7	Pray that you would increase in reverence and passion toward the Word of God.	Work to create a habit of meditating on Scripture whenever possible. Decide on three ways to keep Scripture close to you throughout your day, then do them.	Ask several spiritual parents you know to share about their passion and reverence for the Word of God; ask them to pray for you that you would have the same desire for God's Word.	Determine what reference books will be the most helpful for you when you study the Bible and use them in the future.
8	Regularly fast and pray with the focus that you would understand God's Word and teach His Word accurately.	Take a trip focused on investigating the geographical locations written in the Bible.	Find someone who handles the Word properly. Spend an afternoon studying with that person. Ask them to help you.	Study the historical background of Bible passages to put yourself in the time and place of biblical characters and to understand their words and actions from their viewpoint.
9				Go to a conference on interpreting Scripture soundly.
10				Study What Does the Bible Say? by Malcolm Webber.