1. Understanding the Scriptures
   a) 2 Timothy 3:16-17 What important insights can you gain from Paul’s inspired counsel to Timothy?
   b) Deuteronomy 32:46-47 What promise is given to those who receive and obey the Word of God? (see also Revelation 1:3)
   c) How can we learn to appreciate and apply the Word of God to our lives more than we have in the past?

2. Key Words and Their Meanings
   a) Mercy (chesed)—lovingkindness, covenant loyalty Psalm 57:3, Psalm 66:20, Psalm 143:8
   b) Peace (shalom)—wholeness, well-being Numbers 6:24-26, Job 3:26, Psalm 29:11, Isaiah 9:6, 26:3-4
   c) Grace (unmerited favor, unfailing love) Ephesians 2:8, 1:2, John 1:14-16, 2 Thessalonians 3:18
   d) Agape love (self-sacrificing love) John 3:16, 1 John 3:1, 4:8, 18-19
   e) What key words in Scripture have become especially meaningful to you?

3. Repetition, Word Patterns, and Meaning
   a) Genesis 1:26-27 What words are emphasized here through repetition?
   b) Isaiah 6:3 Why do the angels repeat the word “holy” three times?
   c) John 13:34-35 What key word does Jesus repeat here? Why is this message from Jesus to His first disciples so relevant for our lives today?

4. Texts and Contexts
   a) Read Acts 20:9 and Luke 10:37b. What is the danger of reading these passages out of context?
   b) Genesis 1:27, 2:7, 15-23 How is “adam” used differently in these passages of Scripture?
   c) What is the larger context for the creation of Adam and Eve? (see Genesis 1-2)
   d) Why is the context of John 13:3-17 important when seeking to understand the meaning of John 13:10?

5. Books and Their Meaning
   a) The Bible contains different types of literature: historical accounts, prophecy, poetry, etc.
   b) The authors of some books are identified, either by the author or by others. Give examples? Ephesians 1:1, Joshua 8:31-32, etc.
   c) Genesis is the book of beginnings. What other important theme is found in this book? Genesis 15:1-5, 22:13-18
   d) Why is it important to grasp the overarching theme of each book? (For example, see John 20:30-31, 5:39-40, 11:27, 14:6)
   e) Which book of the Bible is your favorite? Why?