

## Scripture Engagement and the Local Church

The ministry of the local church is not limited to pulpit preaching. There are multiple opportunities to promote a healthy engagement with Scripture through the local church's ministries. This session will consider how to unleash the joy of inductive Bible study into the life of the local church.

**Lindsay Olesberg** is a Bible teacher and Scripture Engagement leader with almost 35 years of ministry experience. She has provided Scripture Engagement leadership for numerous Urbana Missions Conferences, Cape Town 2010 (Lausanne's Third Global Congress), and Lausanne's Younger Leaders Generation. Lindsay is the author of *The Bible Study Handbook: A Comprehensive Guide to an Essential Practice* (IVP) and *Ephesians: Studying with the Global Church* (Hendrickson). She serves as chair of Wycliffe USA's board of directors and as a member of the board for Revive and Servant Partners. Lindsay holds degrees from Pomona College (B.A. Asian Studies) and Fuller Theological Seminary (M.A. Theology). She and her husband Jon, a physicist working in the biotech industry, live in New Mexico. They have two adult children.

### I. Defining Scripture Engagement:

*Scripture Engagement* is the process of knowing God through interacting with his Word, so that individuals, churches, and communities are profoundly transformed and spiritually vibrant.

### II. Imagining fruit

Three years from now, what might your church and community look like if members became passionate about studying and applying Scripture?

III. Identifying barriers

IV. Inductive Bible Study

- a. Keeping Scripture center stage
  
- b. Joy of discovering together
  
- c. Understanding requires application

V. Ezra's model – Nehemiah 8:1-18

- a. Punctuate a change
  
- b. Build a platform
  
- c. Leaders invest
  
- d. Immediate impact

VI. Problem solving

VII. Next steps

*Resources:*

- Bob Grahmann, *Transforming Bible Study: Understanding God's Word Like You've Never Read It Before* (IVP)
- [howto.bible](http://howto.bible)
- Lindsay Olesberg, *The Bible Study Handbook: A Comprehensive Guide to an Essential Practice* (IVP)