



Leader's Guide

Getting to Know the WELS Teaching Standards

Understanding the Purpose of the WELS Teaching Standards

Foundation: Christian Teachers are Faithful Servants of Jesus Christ

Resources available in this Module:

- Amazed at Christ's Love-He Calls Me His Child: Copy, distribute, and read **before the in-service** (Use Bible Study prior to Module individually or as a group)
- Videos: Shown during the in-service-need Internet connection
- Activity Guide: Copy and distribute for the in-service
- Moodle Forums: Completed by a faculty representative **after** the in-service

Handouts: (Copies given at the beginning of the In-service)

- WELS Teaching Standards and Continuum
- InTASC Standards
- Reflecting Jesus' Ministry in My Life
- Participant Study Guide

This in-service is designed to accomplish the following goals:

1. Explain the purpose of the WELS Teaching standards
2. Describe the foundational standard for our WELS schools that Christian teachers are faithful servants of Jesus Christ.
3. Understand each of the components of the foundational standard and identify identifying indicators of each standard along the continuum.
4. Build an understanding of the levels along the continuum and give the teacher and opportunity to consider how his or her practice will look while moving forward across the continuum.

Time Needed:

The suggested module use below describes the intended path through this module. Approximately 60 minutes will be required to implement this module as suggested. Times are provided to assist in planning. There are various ways to modify the module if less time is available.

- Select portions of the video and discussions to complete later.
- Shorten Discussion times.
- Use only selected portions of the module to fit within the timeframe.

Suggestions for the Leader Prior to the Module Use

1. Assign or corporately study **Amazed at Christ's Love**: Copy and distribute the Bible Study, "Amazed at Christ's Love, He Called Me His Child at a time or date prior to viewing the module.

Focus Question: What is our motivation as we seek to be Christian teachers who are faithful servants of Jesus Christ?

2. Watch the videos (Check them prior to the meeting to be sure your player can show them.)

NOTE: Collaboration is desired while working through this module. Consider the room arrangement and your group to consider who will be effective partners for maximum focus and sharing.

The Narrated PowerPoint will Guide you through these Parts of the Module

Part One: Introduction: Understanding the Purpose of the WELS Teaching Standards

Video 1: I'm a Teacher by Sam Peters (10 Minutes total including discussion)

1. View the Video
2. Discuss with your "elbow partner"
 - What philosophies of education do you share with Sam?
 - Discuss any philosophies you don't share and determine if anything is missing in Sam's song.
 - Share your responses with the entire group.

Part Two: History and Development of WELS Standards

Handouts 1 & 2: WELS Standards and InTASC Standards

1. Compare the WELS Standards and the InTASC Standards
2. Discuss with your "elbow partner"
 - a. Where do each of the WELS Standards fit in the Four Common Areas of Focus?

- b. Share your responses with the entire group.

Part Three: The Christian Foundation of the WELS Standards

Handouts 3 & 4 Foundational Standard and Reflecting Jesus' Ministry

1. Follow along as the Foundational Standard and the Reflecting traits are discussed.
2. Provide ample time to allow each participant to complete the *Reflecting Jesus' Ministry in My Life* survey. Encourage group discussion.

Part Four: Ministry Traits and the Continuum

1. Return to the Foundation Standard sheet. When prompted, provide a definition in your own words for the terms Beginning, Emerging, Applying, Integrating, and Modeling as they apply to the continuum.
2. Carefully determine where you are for each of the four traits on the continuum. Prayerfully consider actions that could be taken to move one column to the right in at least one of the traits. Find a trusted colleague, friend, or principal to serve as your accountability partner.

Conclusion and Application

Video 2: Legacy by Nicole Nordeman

1. View the video and listen carefully in light of the discussion today.
2. Participate individually or as a staff in the Moodle forums on this topic for the remainder of this month.

Moodle Forums (If Time Permits-5 minutes)

1. Respond to the following statements: Not all teachers will be "integrating" or "modeling" in each of the four ministry traits for the foundation standard. It is acceptable and perhaps even commendable to be content with a teacher seeking to move his or her practice to the "applying" column of the continuum over the course of this school year.
2. Share your faculty's responses to the closing video; Legacy by Nicole Nordeman. Specifically, what is the offering that could be left by each of us this school year?

Secondly, is it possible and even God pleasing to “leave a legacy” with the children entrusted to our care, and if so, what would that legacy look like or sound like?

Following the Module - Bible Study: *(Copy given at the conclusion of the in-service for individual study or date set for corporate study as a team)* **Bible Study:** *Seeking Time for My Neighbors*

Bible Study References

Adam Goede, Pastor Heckendorf Date: 5/20/2010 [https://connect.wels.net/AOM/ps/adultdiscipleship/ourcalling/Year 1 Love Takes Time/Option A - One Week Emphasis/Sermon Study - Amazed at Christ's Love.pdf](https://connect.wels.net/AOM/ps/adultdiscipleship/ourcalling/Year%201%20Love%20Takes%20Time/Option%20A%20-%20One%20Week%20Emphasis/Sermon%20Study%20-%20Amazed%20at%20Christ's%20Love.pdf)

Date: 4/21/2013 [https://connect.wels.net/aom/ps/adultdiscipleship/stewardship/Reflecting Jesus Ministry In My Life/Forms/AllItems.aspx](https://connect.wels.net/aom/ps/adultdiscipleship/stewardship/Reflecting%20Jesus%20Ministry%20In%20My%20Life/Forms/AllItems.aspx)

Additional Professional Reading

California Standards for the Teaching Profession

Foundations: A Parent’s Introduction to Christian Education by Kenneth J. Kremer