

How to Answer

Question 15: What Additional Clarification do You Find in Other Translations of the Passage?

Finally, we look at other translations, which can give us more insight into the passage.

1. Look up the verses that appear most often in your answers to Questions 13 and 14 in at least **one word-for-word, thought-for-thought, and paraphrase** translation.
2. Note anything that catches your attention.

Hints & Hacks

- **Word-for-word** translations are considered the **most precise**. They closely follow the original flow of the text as written, which means they can sometimes be difficult to understand. Examples are *Amplified Bible*, *English Standard Version*, *King James Version*, *New American Standard Bible*, and *New King James Version*.
- **Thought-for-thought** translations are **easier to read**, but because they don't necessarily follow the original sentence construction closely, they are often thought to be more prone to error. Examples are *Christian Standard Bible*, *New Revised Standard Version*, and *New International Version*.
- **Paraphrase** translations also try to make Scripture even easier to read by incorporating idioms and colloquial expressions that may not reflect the authors' original word choices. Examples are *Good News Translation*, *The Message*, and *New Living Translation*.
- At this writing, my favorite tool for this research is the parallel Bible feature at www.Biblehub.com. From the home page, click **Parallel** in the second menu below the search bar, then type the reference for the first verse you want to locate in the search bar and press **Enter**. That verse appears in each of the translations available on the website. I usually copy and paste the text of the NASB (word-for-word), NIV (thought-for-thought), and NLT (paraphrase) versions into a document so I can compare the translations with each other and with what I have already learned about the text.
- As mentioned with previous questions, your answers here may not agree with what you thought the passage meant. Ask the Holy Spirit to help you keep focused on uncovering the truth, even if it's not comfortable.