



Meeting Notes: Misconceptions (August 13, 2014)

These notes capture our August 13, 2014 meeting. We opened our meeting in prayer and then began our evening. Topic notes from the evening may not be in the order discussed during group, and they are not intended to cover everything discussed. They are intended as highlights to capture the essence of our evening. General notes follow each topic discussed.

GOD'S OVERALL VISION for the Group: Learn how to apply God's Word to our lives.

CURRENT VISION: "The Year of Maturity: Learning how to hear with ears of faith that we may be doers of the word and not hearers only." Scripture Reference: **Mark 4:24**.

Memory Verse: Hebrews 6:1 – "Therefore, leaving the discussion of the elementary principles of Christ, let us go on to perfection, not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God" (NKJV).

Discussion Topic – Misconceptions

- **Misconceptions.** We began the evening with the statement, "Misconceptions = Wrong Perceptions of Events." This is especially true when it comes to our trials. By looking at **James 1:2-4**, we noted three things: our perception during a trial should be joy, the purpose of our trials is to test our faith, and patience is supposed to be a fruit of or trials. In addition we noted the following. **One**, the test of our faith is related to our vision (what we are believing God to do in our heart). **Two**, it is through faith and patience that our heart becomes good ground for the seeds of God's Word. **Three**, when our heart is good ground for the Word, we are able to produce mature fruit. **Fourth**, without faith, we are not able to bring fruit to maturity. And, **lastly**, patience is the missing ingredient that causes us to keep looping through the same trial. **Takeaway.** If we view our trials through the right perception, we can better benefit from the experience.
- **The Armor.** God never intended for us to go through our trails ill equipped. He has given us His armor to protect us. Moreover, while studying the armor, we learned how to view prayer as an additional armor piece.¹ While each piece of the armor provides protection, we likened prayer to being our life vest that keeps us from drowning and a lighthouse that lets the Holy Spirit know where we are, so He can come and get us! **Takeaway.** We are not defenseless in our trials. We have the armor of God to protect us. We just have to learn how to wear it and keep it on!

¹ The lance of prayer is identified as an armor piece in the book *Dressed to Kill*, by Rick Renner. For more on the armor, see "Logos to Rhema" (Mar 2014) on the documents page of the website: <http://www.wow2women.com/documents.html>.

- **Hindrances to having the right perception.** We discussed how strongholds keep us from going through our trials with joy. Any time we say, “Yeah, but,” we have to be careful we are not entertaining a stronghold!² **Takeaway.** Strongholds cause misconceptions during our trials.
- **The soil of our heart.** When we are going through a trial, it helps to be able to know where we are in the soils. Do we need to believe and accept the truth of God’s Word to move from the wayside? Do we need to obey God’s truth to move from the rocky? Do we need to trust God’s truth no matter what we see to move from the thorny? If we can identify the misconception (the lie the enemy has planted within us), we can find the truth God is trying to produce fruit on through that trial! **Takeaway.** Allow our trials to produce fruit on God’s Word!
- **Other points of interest.** We noted we should praise God during the midst of our trials! We also noted, God will tell us the what, the how, the when, but not necessarily the why. Therefore, we should not look to always understand the trial. Just know what God is seeking to do through the trial. Additionally, we noted how we can look back and see God in past trials and know the Holy Spirit is with us in the present trial. **Takeaway.** Praising God in the midst thereof, while not learning to our understanding, reflecting on what God has already done, and knowing the Holy Spirit is with us will help us have the right perception during our trial!

Attachment: For a visual representation of our discussion, an image of the Whiteboard from the evening is attached.

Closing: We closed our meeting in prayer with a time of need-specific prayer for the challenges that were lifted up, for the group overall, and as the Holy Spirit led.

If you have questions, comments, or concerns about information contained in this document, or would like to be added to or removed from the email distribution for the meeting notes, please email us at wow2@wow2women.com or complete a Contact Form on our site [wow2women.com](http://www.wow2women.com).

² For more information on how to bring down a stronghold, see “Bringing Thoughts to Christ” (Dec 19, 2013) on the Documents page of the website: <http://www.wow2women.com/documents.html>.

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ATTACHMENT: Whiteboard Discussion (August 13, 2014)

