



Meeting Notes: The Journey from *Logos* to *Rhema* - Continued
(February 19, 2014)

These notes capture our February 19, 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 that was discussed.

GOD’S GOAL for the Group: For us to learn how to apply the 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 4:12 – “For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart (NKJV).”

Closing the Loop on Last Meeting:

- **Application defined.** Since our objective for this exercise is learn how to apply God’s Word, it seemed prudent to define application. Within the scope of group, it means, “being able to take the Word and know what we want it to do in our heart, rather than what we want it to do in our circumstances.
- **Building process.** We noted how studying the armor is a building block process: understanding each armor piece → ways to know whether or not we have our armor on → ways to know what to do to put our armor back on if it’s off.
- **From the Bible to the breastplate.** I asked if we had drawn the lines between the armor pieces last week, and discovered we had not. Therefore, we began our discussion with a review of what we covered last week, inserting the lines where needed to indicate the flow of *logos*.

Discussion Topic: Vision – The Journey from *Logos* to *Rhema* – Continued:

- **Participating in the exercise.** The specific details for what we completed in this meeting and the images we used to create the cutouts are attached. If you cut out each of the armor pieces beforehand, you can use the example as a guide while following the attached directions to complete the exercise in your journal (the preferred method for those who meet with us) or on a piece of paper.

- **Review - From the Bible to the breastplate.** Instructions for this portion of the exercise can be found in our February 5, 2014 Meeting Notes.¹
 - **Summary.** The **belt** represents *logos* we **accept**. The **breastplate protects** the *logos* we accept. We actually drew a heart in our breastplate to represent the heart is where we believe and understand!
 - **Armor pieces.** Below are additional notes from our discussion:
 - **Belt of truth:** We're accepting God's Word is truth, but not yet applying it!
 - **Breastplate of righteousness:**
 - Once we have the Word in our heart, we can get peace.
 - We have to maintain our heart daily to keep peace daily!
 - Self-righteousness and God's righteousness are the difference between religion and relationship.
 - **Shoes of the preparation of the gospel of peace:**
 - The shoes are where we apply *logos*!
 - What do we do when we fail to obey God in our walk: pick ourselves up, dust ourselves off, and commit to do better next time.
 - **Shield of faith:**
 - Because we're now applying *logos*, we have to be able to maintain it. The shield helps us do just that!
 - The darts the devil sends our way are tests!
 - **Helmet of salvation:** Once we have the truth in our heart, it's easier to recognize the lies the devil sends at our mind!
 - **Sword of the Spirit:** Our sword has power when there is agreement AND understanding between the Word we confess that's in our head and the Word that's in our heart.
- **Other discussion:**
 - **Birth it.** The question was asked, "How do you use God's Word that's

¹ These Notes can be found on the Meeting Notes page of the website: <http://wow2women.com/meeting-notes.html>.

inside of you?” The answer was, “Birth it!” Just like we nurture babies in the womb and then have to birth them into the world, we have to nurture God’s Word in our heart and then COMMIT to birthing it into our lives. Our will is the difference in being aware of the truth and being committed to producing fruit on that truth! **Takeaway.** God’s Word will not produce fruit in our lives unless we commit to the process of transformation!

- **Conviction and understanding.** Once conviction comes, THEN we can dig for understanding. **Takeaway.** It’s hard to find the root of our behavior when the behavior is still a distraction!
- **Disrespect.** Once we become a child of God, we lose our right to DEMAND respect. Yes, we correct disrespectful behavior, but in a way that honors God rather than based on our own wounds. **Takeaway.** God is our avenger, so we don’t have to demand respect from others. We can, however, model and teach respect, understanding God is our protector.
- **Hypocrisy.** We discussed we can have our breastplate on in one area, but not in another. Unfortunately, when that happens in the same environment, it can be viewed as hypocrisy. Our judgment of others is one possible cause of that hypocrisy. We also talked about how we can’t bless God and curse people at the same time. **Takeaway.** Judging others can create hypocrisy within us.
- **Transformation.** We first have to become **aware** change is needed. That awareness feeds a **desire** in us to change. That desire feeds a **commitment** in us to change. And, through faith and patience, that commitment will ultimately produce **change**. **Takeaway.** Awareness → Desire → Commitment → Change.
- **Summing up the entire journey:**
 - The belt represents the *logos* we accept as truth.
 - The breastplate protects the *logos* we accept, believe, and understand.
 - The shoes represent the *logos* we walk in.
 - The shield represents the *logos* that guides and protects us.
 - The helmet represents how *logos* renews our mind.
 - The sword represents how *logos* becomes *rhema*!

Homework Assignment: The below will prepare us for our April Spirit Check.

- Study the flow of the Word between the armor pieces making sure you understand what is happening to the Word with each piece.

- Generate questions to ask yourself to know when you have each armor piece on and when you don't
- Ask yourself what to do to put an armor piece back on when it's off
- Ask the Holy Spirit to help you identify your specific triggers that affect your ability to wear each piece

Next Meetings: Here's a look at the weeks ahead:

- February 26th – Social Week
- March 5th – Night of Prayer
- March 12th, 19th, and 26th – Raising Godly Women (RGW)
- April 2nd – Spirit Check

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.



ATTACHMENT: THE JOURNEY FROM LOGOS TO RHEMA - Continued

Armor Scripture: Ephesians 6:13-17, “¹³Therefore, take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all to stand. ¹⁴Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace, ¹⁵above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. ¹⁷And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God; ¹⁸praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit...” (NKJV).

Review from Last Week:

- **Flow of the Word.**
 - The seed (logos) → loin belt (the seed we bind to ourselves is the seed we will produce fruit on).
 - The loin belt → breastplate (the type of fruit we produce will be determined by the type of righteousness we walk in: our self-righteousness OR God’s righteousness).
 - The breastplate → helmet (the type of righteousness we walk in will determine the type of thoughts we think: carnal or Godly).
- **Revelation since last meeting:** The connection between our heart and our head has to be the love of God. My husband also pointed out the Word has to transform our heart before our head can get it! **Takeaway.** Without a change of heart, there is no change of mind, and God’s love is what creates that change!

Walking the Narrow Path

- **How the *logos* Word becomes *rhema* - continued.**
 - **Shoes of the Preparation of the Gospel of Peace:** So far, it’s easy to see how each piece of the armor is connected. The *logos* from our belt is what’s we plant in our heart. However, how does that same *logos* get from our heart to our feet? Wisdom! But, how? As the old saying goes, the shoes are where the rubber meets the road, or in this case the spikes! In other words, it’s time to put action to what we believe. Are we or are not going to obey God’s Word? **James 3:13-18** tells us our actions can align with the world’s wisdom or with God’s wisdom.² Therefore, when *logos* becomes wisdom in our heart, it guides the action of our feet! Or, as

² See the attached T-Time for a breakdown in the difference in God’s Wisdom and the world’s wisdom.

we learn from **Psalm 51:6** the truth in our heart is what God uses to guide us in His wisdom. Therefore, walking in God's wisdom is how we learn how to walk in peace. If our breastplate is protecting the Word, internally, we know we are forgiven (peace with God), so we can extend that forgiveness externally (peace with others). When we have peace with God, we can stand in the midst of the storm, because we know He is at work in the situation (**Romans 8:28**). When we have peace with others, we can stand on His truth and His righteousness. With Him as our shield (**Psalm 18:2**), we feel no need to defend ourselves. Likewise, knowing He is the one Who executes vengeance (**Hebrews 10:30**), we feel no need to attack others! **Representation:** *Glue the shoes* of the preparation of the gospel of peace below the truth "loincloth" and within the boundaries of the uprights. This represents our walk with God and the choices we make along that walk. *Then draw an arrow from the breastplate to the shoes*, representing how having our breastplate securely on allows us to walk in peace with God and peace with others.

- **Applicable soil(s): Rocky.** We hear the word and immediately receive it with joy YET we have not allowed the Word to take root in our heart, so we only endure for a while, and when tribulation or persecution comes, we immediately stumble! (**Matthew 13:20**) In other words, we have enough faith to believe God's Word UNTIL that Word is tested in our lives. Because we focus on our circumstances more than on what God is doing in and through our lives, we allow unbelief to cloud our faith. Consequently, our faith without works becomes dead (**James 2:26**). **The way forward.** **Choose to obey** God's Word, especially when we don't agree with what it says!
- **Takeaway.** Peace with God leads to peace with others, and when we walk in God's wisdom we walk in both righteousness and peace! Thus, when our shoes are on, *logos* promotes peace between us and God and us and others, so we can overcome internal and external strife in our lives! Thus, the shoes of the preparation of the gospel of peace represent the *logos* we walk in.
- **Shield of Faith:** Since the purpose of the shield is to "quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one," (**Ephesians 6:16**), we have to conclude the devil will send darts our way! Those darts are intended to inflame our emotions, thereby preventing us from producing fruit on the seeds of God's Word we have planted in our heart! Two scenarios immediately come to mind. **First**, imagine, if you will, *logos* has not completed it's work in your heart, and the devil sends a fiery dart your way. Without the breastplate of righteousness, you will get pierced through the heart—the result: the pain of hurt feelings, offense, anger, bitterness, etc! The depth of the pain will depend upon the fiery dart launched! **Now**, imagine if you will, you are standing with all your armor pieces on, but you have yet to pick up your

shield. As fiery dart upon fiery dart hits your breastplate, they can, and most likely will, eventually cause damage. The way we know our breastplate has been damaged is when our emotions run rampant. **It is EXTREMELY important to note hurt, offense, anger, bitterness, etc. are all indications something is amiss with our breastplate.** Therefore in order to protect ourselves from the devil's darts (better known as his lies), we have to put our shield of faith in front of us! This means, we decide that our choices will be based on our faith in God's Word and what He is doing in and through our lives rather than based on the condition of our circumstances, for faith truly is the substance of things hoped for and the evidence of things not seen (**Hebrews 11:1**). **Representation.** *Glue your shield of faith* on the right side (as if the person is facing you), but touching, the belt of truth. This represents how we walk by faith and not by sight (**2 Corinthians 5:7**); for faith provides the vision we need while also helping us plow through our circumstances. *Then draw a line from the shoes of peace to the shield of faith.* This represents how faith and peace are connected. When our shoes of peace are on, we can have faith in God, because we trust He has our best interest at heart, and we truly do stop fighting against flesh and blood, and start fighting against the spiritual forces at work in the situation (**Ephesians 4:12**).

- **Applicable soil(s): Thorny.** Just like in the wayside, the devil has ways to trip us up even when we choose to walk in truth, righteousness and peace. Unmet expectations are one way. For example, if I am placing my faith in God doing a specific thing in my circumstances, but things don't happen the way I think they should, the cares, riches, or pleasures of life WILL overwhelm me and choke out God's Word from my heart (**Luke 8:14**)! **The way forward.** **Psalm 51:10** and **Psalm 139:22-24** make excellent prayers for asking the Holy Spirit to reveal which specific cares, riches, or pleasures of life are choking out God's Word, so we can place our faith in God and not in our circumstances.
- **Takeaway.** Our faith needs to be in what God is doing in our heart (what we can control), not what He is doing in our circumstances (what we can't control). Thus, the shield is how *logos* guides us along the path we have chosen to walk and protects us from what the devil throws at us.
- **Helmet of Salvation:** The helmet of salvation bridges the gap between the internal and external journey of *logos* in our lives. **Internally**, it represents what we think. **Externally**, it guides our sword of the Spirit, which we'll discuss next. For now, just like the breastplate protects our heart (i.e. our feelings and emotions), the helmet protects our mind (our thoughts). Unfortunately, just like past experiences create certain emotions in us, past experiences also create thought patterns in us known as strongholds. As we progress through each piece of the armor, *logos*

reveals where those thought patterns do and do not line up with God's Word. Any thought pattern that doesn't line up with God's Word creates a chink in our helmet AND a chink in other parts of our armor. For example, if the devil launches a fiery dart that my thoughts allow to penetrate my breastplate, my feelings will be hurt. Those hurt feelings will create conflict. Conflict destroys peace and can cause me to doubt God and His love for me. Doubting God affects my faith and exposes my mind to the devil's lie. And. The cycle of hurt. Continues! However, *logos* helps us pull down those strongholds, cast out arguments and every high thing (idol) in our life that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, allowing us to bring every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ (**2 Corinthians 10:3-5**). **Representation.** *Glue your helmet of salvation* above the breastplate representing the final internal stage of *logos* in our lives! Notice the helmet sits above the breastplate, so draw a two-way arrow between the breastplate and the helmet. This represents the process of renewing our mind by examining our thoughts against the *logos* we have planted in our heart.³ The result of that examination is what we will walk out (the arrow between the breastplate and the shoes). Once our mind is renewed, *logos* has fulfilled its internal purpose—renewing our mind so we are prepared for every good work, which includes spiritual warfare!

- **Applicable soil(s). Thorny.** What we see with our eyes and hear with our ears exposes our mind and our heart to the cares, riches, and pleasures of life, which creates the doubt that chokes out the Word. As with the shield, our doubt diminishes our faith, leaving us with little faith! The good news is, thus far, *logos* has been transforming our behavior thereby removing it as a distraction. Once we get to the helmet of salvation, *logos* cuts to the very heart of the matter (**Hebrews 4:12**) to discern the very thoughts and intents of our heart. As we allow *logos* to complete its work in us, our renewed mind helps us grow the mustard seed faith God has placed in all of us! As we continue to diligently seek God (Hebrews 11:6), that mustard seed faith becomes great faith! **The way forward. Trust** God's Word will not return to Him void, but it will do what He sent it forth to do (**Isaiah 55:11**), in this case, to heal us and save us from our destruction (**Psalms 107:20**).
- **Takeaway.** The helmet of salvation completes the internal purpose of God's Word in our lives (renewing our mind to prepare us for every good work, including spiritual warfare). For *logos* to become *rhema* (revelation knowledge from the Holy Spirit), the internal purpose must be complete! Thus, the helmet of salvation is where

³ The Reflections Newsletter entitled *Bringing Thoughts to Christ* (December 19, 2013) outlines this process. It can be located on the Reflections page of the website: <http://wow2women.com/reflections.html>.

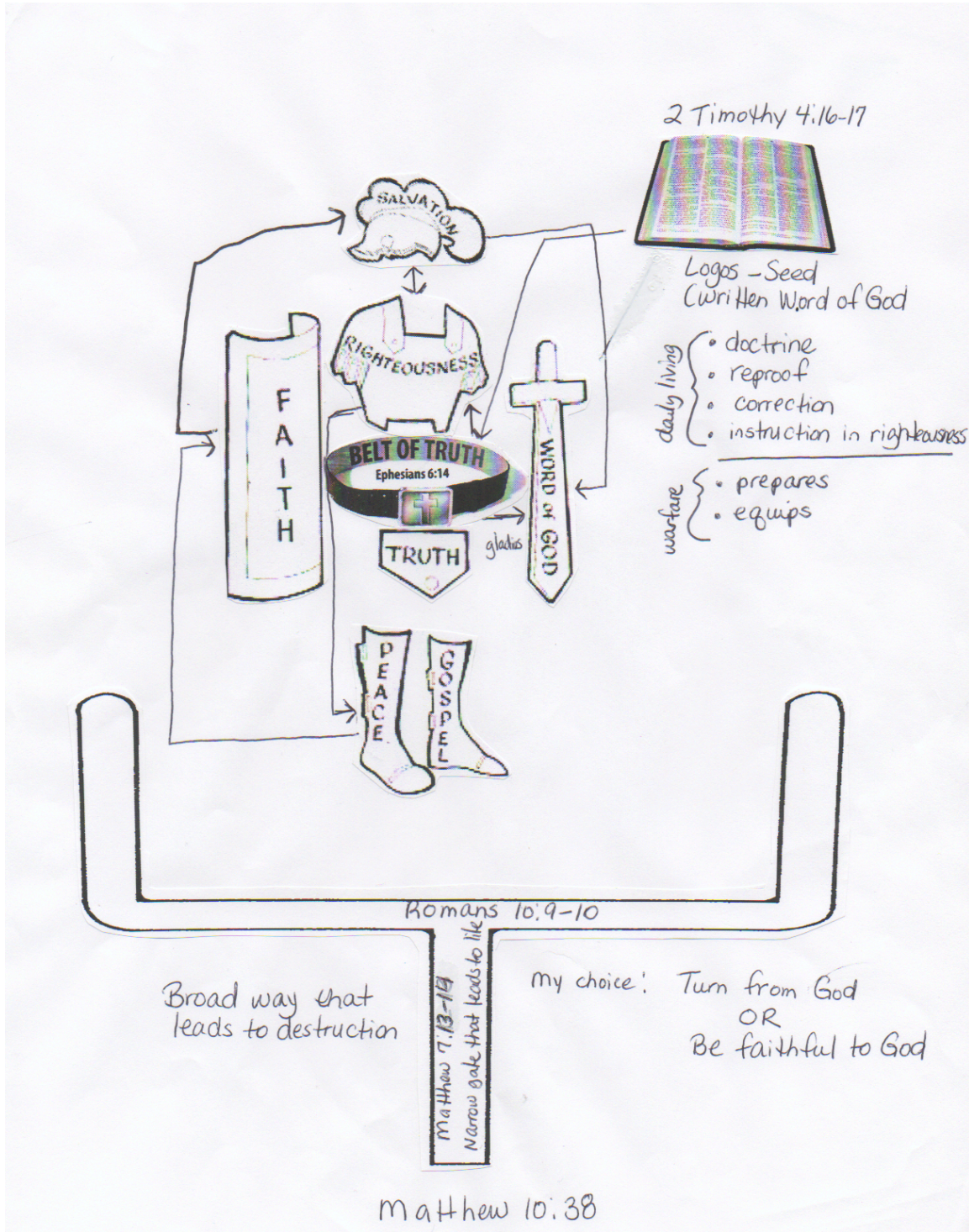
logos ends its internal journey and begins its external journey—
producing the fruit of the Spirit and forming the sword of the Spirit!

- **Sword of the Spirit.** This is an abridged teaching of what we learned when we studied the Sword.⁴
 - **Types of swords:**
 - **One-edged.** Once we put on our belt of truth and planted the seeds of God’s Word in our heart, *logos* began to operate in our lives. At that point, we have a sword of the Spirit with at least one edge. However, as we previously learned, this sword was heavy and hard to use, and if you didn’t use the sharp edge, you would only wound your enemy, not defeat him. Our goal, however, is to walk in the victory Jesus has already won rather than live as though we are defeated. **Representation.** *Glue your sword of the Spirit to the left side (as though the person were facing you), but touching the belt. Now draw a line from the belt of truth to the inner edge of the sword.* This represents the *gladius* sword used by Roman soldiers.
 - **Two-edged.** As we also learned when studying the sword of the Spirit, the second edge of the sword is formed when we receive revelation knowledge (*rhema*) from the Holy Spirit, or what’s commonly known as an “aha moment.” Additionally, we learned, the word translated “two-edged” is the word *machaira*, which literally means two mouths. Drawing our line from the belt to the inner edge of the sword represented *logos* being spoken from God’s mouth! However, we now need to confess that word from our mouth to form the second edge. BUT, our confession only holds power when we understand which *logos* applies to our situation. Thus, we need to ask the Holy Spirit to be our Teacher so He can give us the right Word (*rhema*) for the right moment—think about Jesus in the wilderness (**Luke 4**)! God’s confession provided the first edge, our confession provides the second edge, and the understanding we get from the Holy Spirit bridges the gap between the edges! **Representation.** *Draw a line from the helmet of salvation to the outer edge of the sword.* This represents how our renewed mind can receive *rhema* from the Holy Spirit to guide our sword of the Spirit!

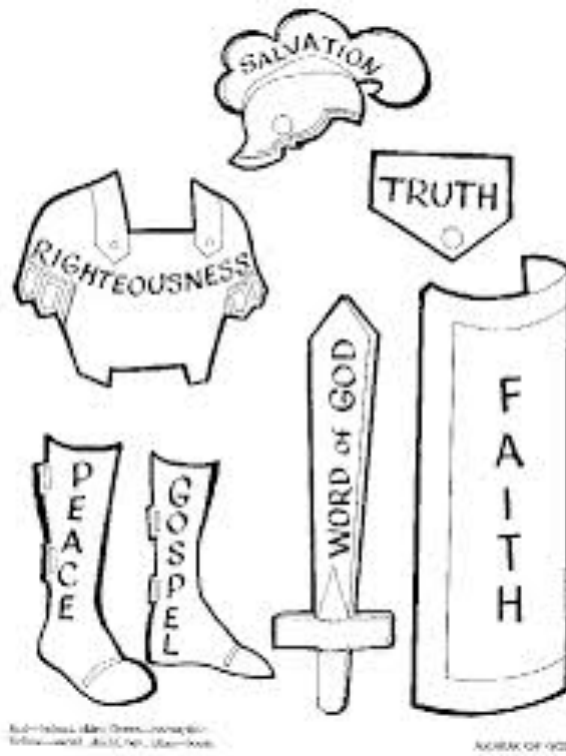
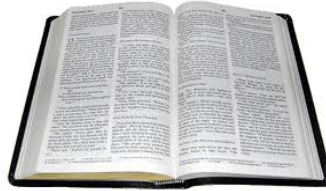
⁴ The notes from this meeting, *Sword of the Spirit* (January 22, 2014), can be obtained from the Meeting Notes page of the website: <http://wow2women.com/meeting-notes.html>.

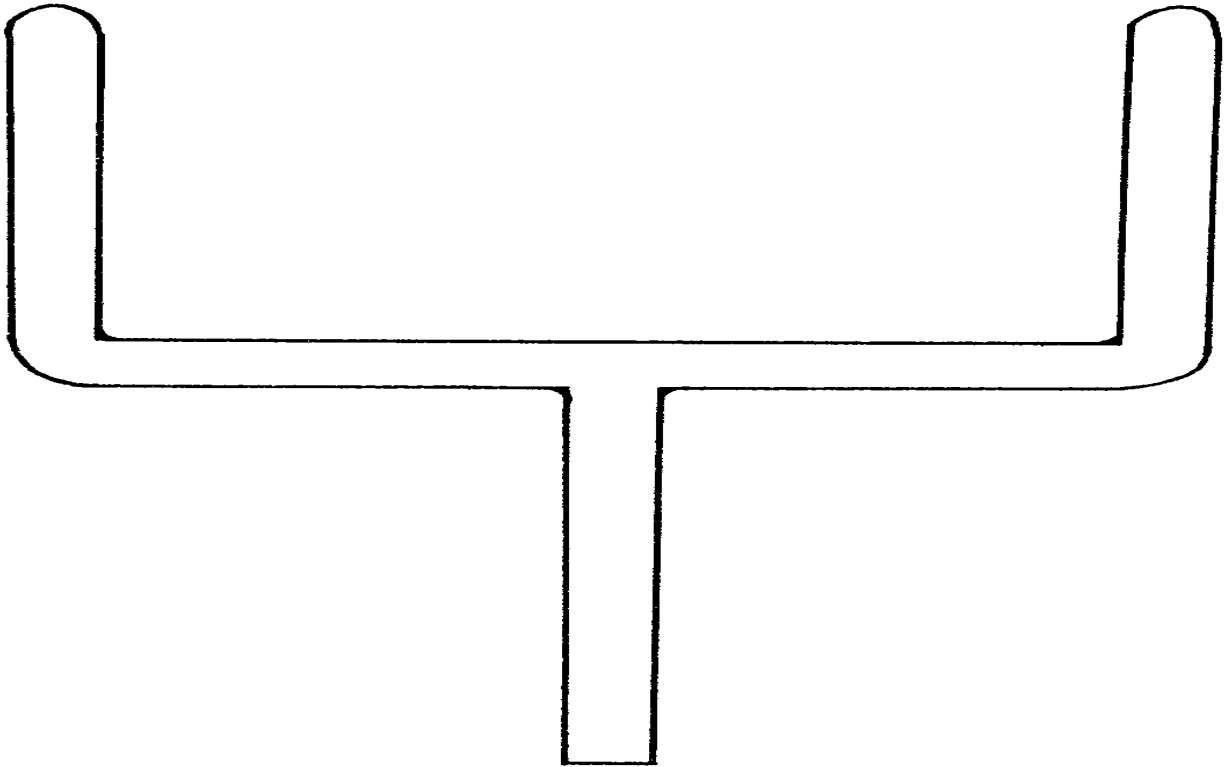
- **Applicable soil(s).**
 - **One-edged. Thorny.** If *logos* hasn't completed its work in our heart, we will easily tire in the process and our circumstances will continue to overwhelm us! **The way forward. Keep our eyes focused on the battle within,** allowing the Holy Spirit to fight the battle without!
 - **Two-edged. Good ground.** Once *logos* completes its work, our heart is good ground for the seeds of God's Word, and through faith and patience, we are able to produce fruit on those seeds (**Luke 8:15**). As we ask the Holy Spirit to give us understanding, He can use the *logos* in our heart to produce *rhema* that forms the second edge of our deadly sword! Since our battle is no longer against flesh and blood, He can trust us with a two-edged sword! No more "Christian-on-Christian" or, even worse, "Christian-on-Non-Christian" crime! **The result.** We have great faith and a two-edged sword that wrecks havoc in the kingdom of darkness and brings glory to God the Father!
- **Takeaway.** The sword of the spirit is the only armor piece split between soils: thorny and good! With the *gladius* sword, we are still in the thorny, trying to do things our way, but with the *machaira* sword, we are now in good ground, being led by the Holy Spirit. Thus, *logos* becomes *rhema* when we invite the Holy Spirit into our lives to become our Teacher and guide us into all truth (John 14:26; John 16:13).

ATTACHMENT: JOURNEY FROM LOGOS TO RHEMA COMPLETED EXERCISE



ATTACHMENT: LOGOS TO RHEMA EXERCISE – CUTOUTS





The goal post – Represents **Matthew 10:38** – “And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me.”

The uprights – Represent **Matthew 7:13-14**: ¹³“Enter by the narrow gate; for wide *is* the gate and broad *is* the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. ¹⁴Because narrow *is* the gate and difficult *is* the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it.