



Meeting Notes: The Journey from *Logos* to *Rhema*
(February 5, 2014)

These notes capture our February 5, 2014 meeting, during which we welcomed three new members! 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).”

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

- **Preparing for our evening:**
 - **Facing the Giants video clip.** We watched a brief clip from *Facing the Giants* (2006, Alex Kendrick, Chapter 14). In this clip, the backup kicker (new to the team) is having problems kicking the football down the middle (between the uprights). The assistant coach helping him uses Matthew 7:12-13 to inspire the young man saying, “...the ball has gotta go through the middle,” representing the narrow path to life. This clip was used to introduce our exercise, “The Journey from *Logos* to *Rhema*,” by providing a visual representation of the narrow path Jesus described. **Takeaway.** As our exercise illustrated, our choices have to take us down the middle, or as Jesus described, through the narrow gate.
 - **The exercise.** We spent the evening completing an exercise capturing how God’s Word goes from being written words in the Bible we don’t understand to The Word in our heart that brings healing, wholeness, and the ability to withstand against the devil and his wiles. The pictures we used to create cutouts for the exercise along with specific details and a visual image of what we have completed thus far are attached. By cutting out each of the attached pictures beforehand, you can follow the directions using the example as a guide to complete the exercise in your journal (the preferred method for those who meet with us) or on a piece of paper.
 - **Summarizing the discussion.** Using **Matthew 7:12-13** as our foundational Scripture, we looked at the path we choose to follow (life or

death), the results of our choice, making the choice to walk the narrow path, and walking the narrow path. We identified the role of God's Word in our daily living and during spiritual warfare. We then began our journey from *logos* to *rhema*, getting as far as the breastplate. As we examined the flow of *logos*, as related to each piece of armor, we included the relationship between the parable of the sower and the seed and that armor piece. For, as we cultivate the soil of our heart to be good ground for the seeds of God's Word, we also cultivate our ability to wear each piece of the armor! Because each piece of armor represents an aspect of how *logos* becomes *rhema* in our lives! **Overall Takeaway.** The Bible represents the *logos* Word of God. When we are exposed to God's Word, *logos* flows from the Bible to our belt. The belt represents the *logos* we believe, and the loincloth represents what we will produce based on our beliefs. *Logos* we believe then flows from the belt to the breastplate. The breastplate then protects the *logos* we understand!

- **Other discussion:**

- **Grace and righteousness.** When discussing righteousness, someone pointed out righteousness is a passive piece of armor, but we have to be willing to accept God's righteousness. This led to someone asking about grace and how it relates to righteousness. Someone shared, just like with righteousness, we also have to accept God's grace. **Takeaway.** God provides, but we have to accept!
- **Relationship.** Imagine a triangle with God at the top, our spouse is at one corner and we are at the other. The closer we both get to God, the closer we get to each other. Even in other relationships, the closer we get to God, the more we are able to see others through His eyes and not our wounds. **Takeaway.** The closer we are to God, the closer we can be to others.

- **Review of the armor:** Since we had three new members, I again handed out the review of the armor (attached).

Homework Assignment: For those who meet with us locally, please capture the portion of the exercise we have completed thus far in your journal in preparation for our next meeting.

Next Meeting: The intent is to continue "The Journey Between *Logos* and *Rhema*."

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: EXERCISE - THE JOURNEY FROM LOGOS TO RHEMA

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 ¹⁵and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace, ¹⁶above 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).

Intro: Imagine the cut out pieces are equivalent to the finished work of Jesus on the cross. Some say when Jesus said, “it is finished,” (John 19:30), that meant God has already provided all we need, but according to Ephesians 6:11, we **still** have to put on the whole armor of God! In other words, just because God makes the armor available, that doesn’t mean we’re wearing it!

Foundational Scriptures for the Journey:

- **Our choices.** Life OR Death (Deuteronomy 30:19)
- **The path we choose to follow.** Jesus describes our two choices this way—
“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”
(**Matthew 7:12-13 NKJV**) (underline added). **Representation:** *Glue your goal post near the bottom of the page, which symbolizes picking up your cross and following Jesus. Just below the goal post write, “**Matthew 10:38**. Inside the bottom vertical post write, “*Matthew 7:12-13; narrow gate → life*), meaning everything contained within the uprights will represent the narrow way that leads to life. Beneath the uprights and to the left of the foundation of the goal post write, “*broad way that leads to destruction*,” meaning any choice we make that is not reflective of what is contained within the uprights represents the broad way that leads to destruction.*
- **The result of our choices.** “But we are not like those who turn away from God to their own destruction. We are the faithful ones, whose souls will be saved (**Hebrews 10:39 NLT**). Short version, we can turn away from God or we can be faithful to God. **Representation:** *On the opposite side of the goal post where you wrote “broad way...,” write, “my choice: Turn from God OR be faithful to God.*
- **Making the choice for the narrow path.** **Romans 10:9-10** tells us, “⁹that if we confess with our mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in our heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰For with the heart one believes

unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation” (NKJV). **Representation:** *Inside the horizontal portion of the goal post write, “Romans 10:9-10.”* This represents how the Lordship of Jesus defines the boundaries of our lives. It’s important to note how Romans links together what we believe in our heart with what we confess with our mouth!

Walking the Narrow Path:

- **The role of God’s written Word (logos).** God’s Word is intended to be used in our daily living and when engaged in spiritual warfare! Our choices regarding His Word reflect whether we are choosing to be faithful to God or to turn from Him.
 - **In daily living:** “¹⁶All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for **doctrine**, for **reproof**, for **correction**, for **instruction in righteousness**, ¹⁷that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work” (**2 Timothy 3:16-17 NKJV**) (bold added). **Representation:** *Glue your bible above, but between the uprights, in the upper right portion of the page.* Make sure to leave enough room for the rest of your armor pieces. *Above the bible write, “2 Timothy 4:16-17,” and below the Bible, write, “Logos – Seed* on one line and then (*written word of God*) just below. Next *using bullet points write down* what the Word is profitable for from the version you read, i.e. my version says, “*doctrine*,” “*reproof*,” “*correction*,” and “*instruction in righteousness*,” so that’s what I wrote down. *Enclose those bullets in a bracket and write, “daily living.”* This indicates how, when the seeds are properly cared for in our daily living, God’s Word will equip us for “every good work.”
 - **In warfare:** As we learned in our last meeting,¹ God’s Word **prepares** and **equips** us for battle. **Internally**, the Word pulls down strongholds, casts down imaginations and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ (**2 Corinthians 10:3-5**), so we might renew our minds. **Externally**, the Word allows us to stand against the wiles of the devil and to withstand in the evil day, with each piece of the armor serving a specific purpose. **Representation:** *Draw a line under the first set of bullets and, in bullet format, write, “prepares, equips.” Enclose those bullets in a bracket and write, “warfare.”* This indicates, when the daily aspect of caring for the seed is accomplished, we are prepared and equipped for warfare. In other words, when our daily living is in line with God’s Word, our armor will be effective.
 - **Takeaway:** Whether in my daily living or when I am engaged in spiritual warfare (which is a part of our daily lives), God sends His word to heal us and to deliver us from our destruction” (**Psalms 107:20 NKJV**). Consequently, choosing God’s Word is the **ONLY** way we can be healed

¹ See the Meeting Notes entitled, “Sword of the Spirit” (January 22, 2014). They can be found on the Meeting Notes page of the website: <http://wow2women.com/meeting-notes.html>.

in our spirit, soul, and body and defeat the attempts of the devil to kill, steal, and destroy in our lives.

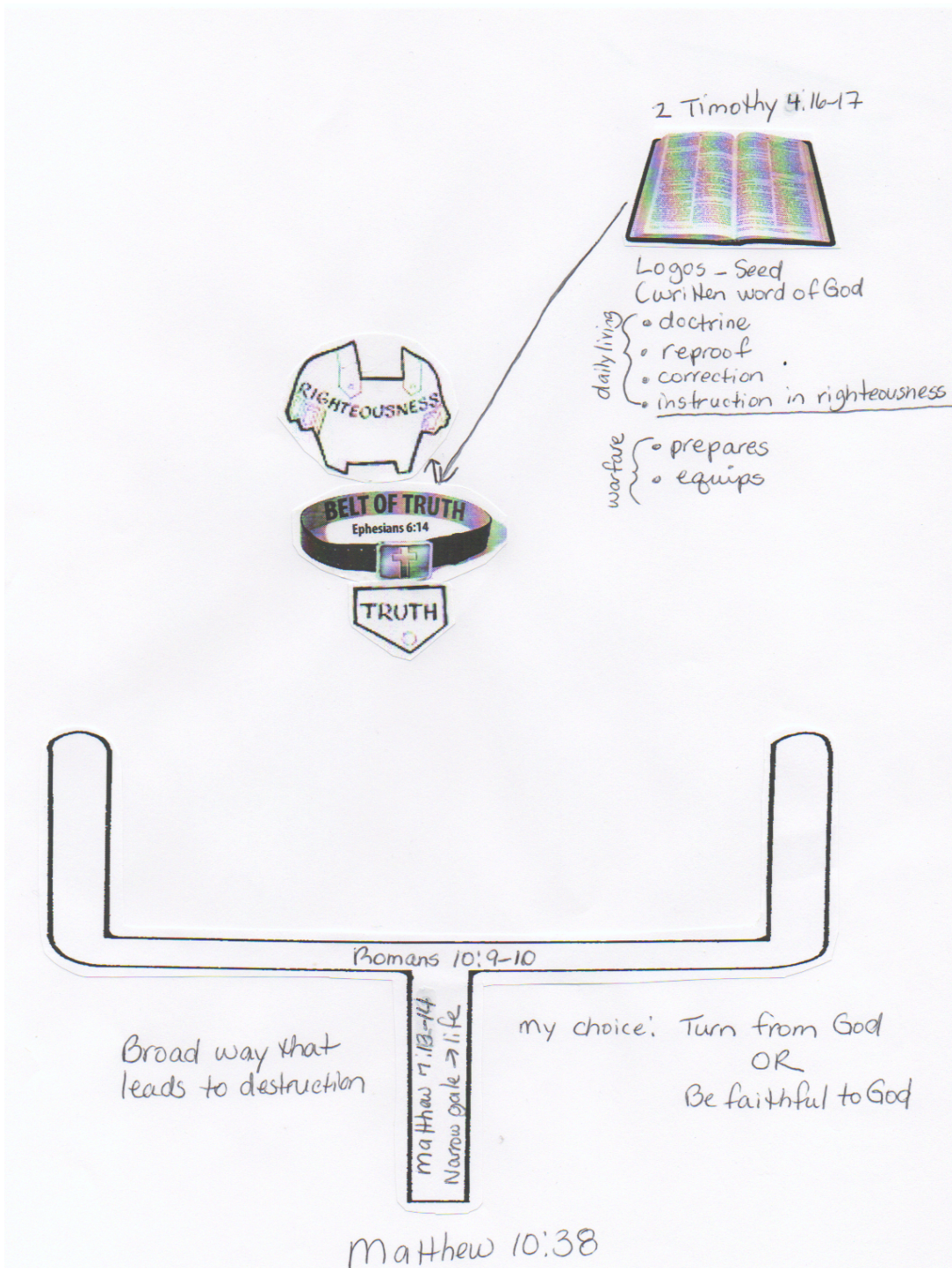
- **How the *logos* Word becomes *rhema*.**

- **Belt of Truth:** Our belt is established when we spend time in or are otherwise exposed to God's Word, "having girded [our] waist with truth" (**Ephesians 6:14**). However, we do not put on truth simply by being exposed to the Word. **We put on truth by believing!** Moreover, **Psalms 33:4** tells us, "For the word of the Lord is right and all His work is done in truth." Therefore, if we want God working in our lives, we must believe His truth, because God operates in truth. Without truth, we end up walking in deception and the lies of the devil. **Representation.** *Glue the belt of truth and the truth "loincloth" down and to the left of your Bible, then draw a line from the Bible to the belt, indicating how the written Word (logos) initially becomes a part of us. The belt represents what we believe and the "loincloth" represents the fruit we will produce on what we believe.*
 - **Applicable soil(s). Wayside** ... we hear the Word THEN the devil immediately comes and takes away the Word out of our hearts, BECAUSE we didn't understand the word (**Matthew 13:18**) OR we chose to reject the Word. **The way forward. Believe** God's Word (or as **James 1:21** says, receive with meekness the implanted word which is able to save our souls (NKJV)).
 - **Takeaway.** Reading the Word is not enough. We have to believe God's Word is THE TRUTH that will guide our actions and our lives! For as surely as the sun rises each morning and sets each evening, when God's Word goes forth, the devil WILL come to steal it! Thus, the belt represents *logos* we choose to believe as truth, and the loincloth represents the fruit we will reproduce from that truth!
- **Breastplate of Righteousness:** The seeds of God's Word we believe, are the seeds we plant in our heart. As a result, the breastplate of righteousness protects the seeds of God's Word (*logos*) planted in our heart. Remember, as **Romans 10:10** points out, it is within our heart that we believe unto righteousness! However, in order to believe, we must also understand and actually accept what the Word says. For example, I can believe God's Word says, "For He made Him [Jesus] who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him" (**2 Corinthians 5:21 NKJV**). However, that doesn't mean I fully understand or accept the reality that BECAUSE of what Jesus did for me, I AM RIGHTEOUS, and I can spend my entire life trying to BE good enough for others to love! On the other hand, if I KNOW I am loved, forgiven, and righteous because of the price Jesus paid for me, I can spend my life loving God and loving others out of the overflow of God's love for me! Or as **Ephesians 4:22-24** puts it, I can choose to put off my old self and "put

on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness” (NKJV). Moreover, knowing we are in right standing with God is the difference in being able to self-examine to receive correction from God and/or others, and self-examining that brings guilt, shame, and condemnation. **Representation.** *Glue the breastplate of righteousness above, but touching, the belt of truth. Then, draw an arrow from the belt to the breastplate,* indicating how *logos* travels from our belt (what we believe as truth) to our heart (what we understand and accept as truth) to produce righteousness (right standing with God) in our lives.

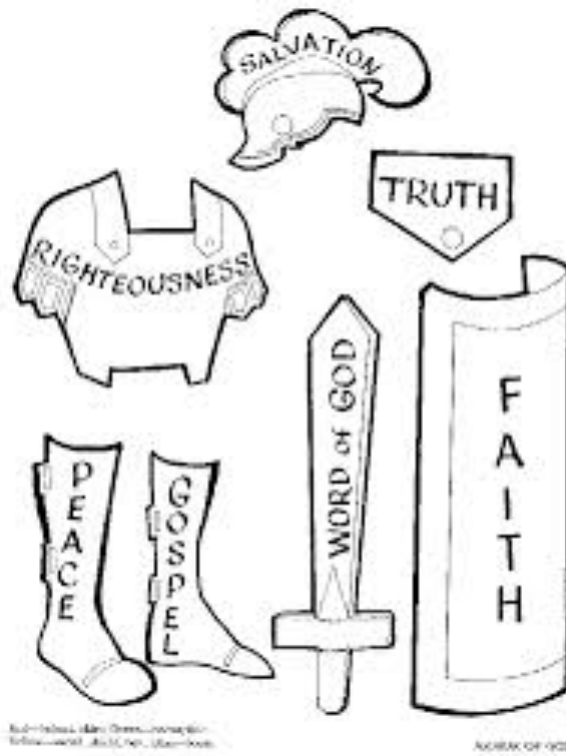
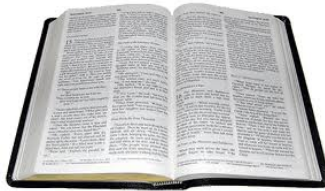
- **Applicable Soil(s). Wayside** ... The devil can use past wounds to create offense; offense creates hurt; hurt creates the fear of being hurt again. Fear causes us to have no faith! Without faith in God, we cannot truly believe, understand, or accept what He says. **The way forward.** Allow God’s Word to **heal our wounds** so we can wear our breastplate, standing boldly in who we are in Christ, thereby changing our perception of self and others!
- **Takeaway.** Righteousness affects how we see ourselves and how we see others, which affects our ability to understand how to apply God’s Word to our daily lives. Thus, the breastplate protects the *logos* that allows us to see others and ourselves through God’s eyes.

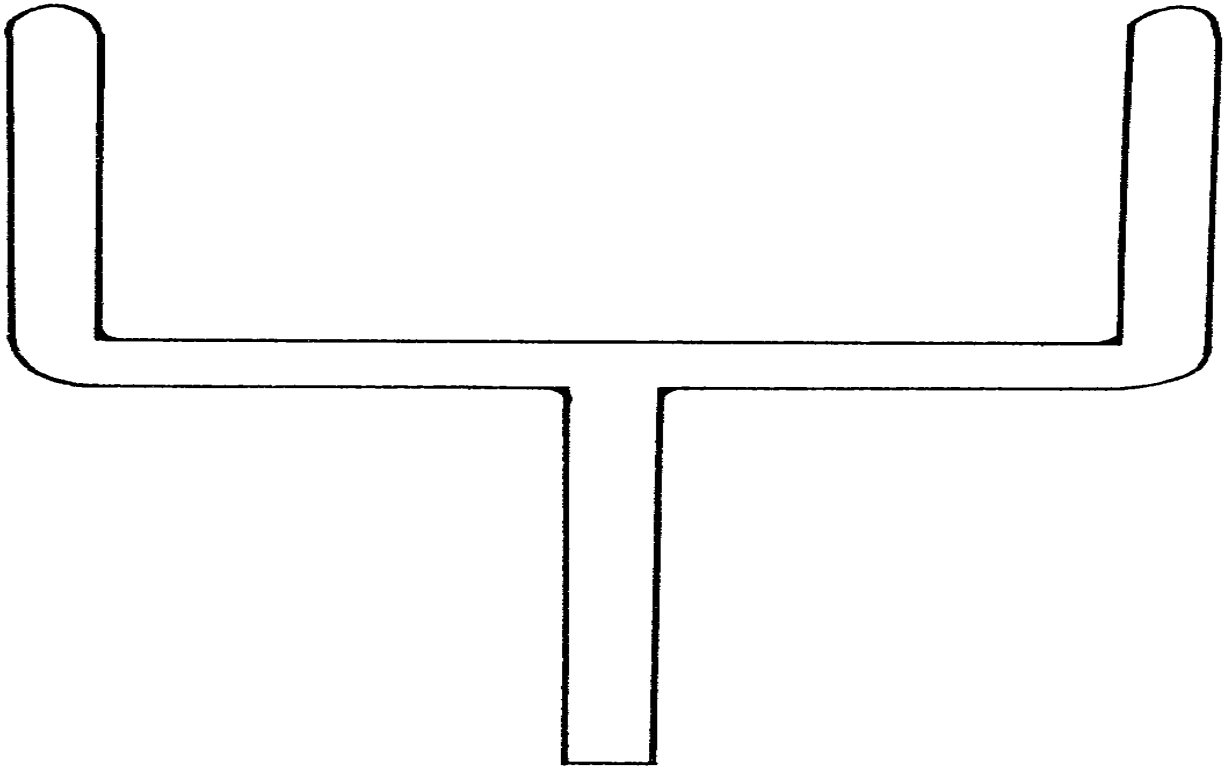
ATTACHMENT: JOURNEY FROM LOGOS TO RHEMA EXERCISE (Logos to Breastplate)





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.



ATTACHMENT: REVIEW ON WEARING THE ARMOR²

ARMOR PIECE	PURPOSE	APPLYING	KEEPING IT ON
Belt of truth	It represents the Word of God and holds all the other armor pieces in place	Read, study, and meditate on the Word seeking understanding	Spending time in and planting the seeds of God's Word in our heart
Breastplate of righteousness	Protects the truth planted in our heart	Accept Jesus as our Lord and walk in His righteousness	Renew our mind and rid ourselves of sin
Shoes of the preparation of the gospel of peace	Reconciles us and God and us and others	Receive forgiveness for our sins so we can be at peace with God and extend that peace to others	Walk in wisdom to pursue peace and avoid strife
Shield of faith	Protects us from the enemy's darts	Walk by faith and not by sight, trusting God and His Word	Prayer and time in the Word
Sword of the Spirit	Defeat the enemy	Plant <i>logos</i> in our heart that the Holy Spirit can turn into <i>rhema</i>	Ask the Holy Spirit to be our Teacher to bring understanding to the logos Word

² This review was originally captured in our Meeting Notes entitled "Review" (October 8, 2013). This document can be found on the Meeting Notes page of the website: <http://wow2women.com/meeting-notes.html>.