



Meeting Notes: Passing the Test (January 7, 2015)

After taking our holiday break, we have resumed meeting! These notes capture our January 7, 2015 meeting. We opened our meeting in prayer and then began our evening. Topic notes 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. Documents used or created during this meeting are attached.

TOPICS DISCUSSED:

Housekeeping: We reviewed our calendar and discussed changes for how we will conduct our Socials going forward. This discussion was included in the email when the Meeting Notes were distributed to those currently attending group.

Closing the Loop on 2014:

- **October 2, 2013 Meeting Notes:**¹ We reviewed three key topics in the Notes: Key Points, Overcoming the Pain of Obedience, and Accountability Partners.
 - **Accountability Partners.** This discussion was included in the email when the Meeting Notes were distributed to those currently attending group.
 - **Setting the stage:** Prior to group, I sought the Lord on what He wanted discussed during our first meeting. I woke up that morning with a Scripture and a message from a dream.
 - **The Scripture.** Although three Scriptures from Isaiah were given in the dream, Isaiah 6:6 was the only one I could remember. Usually, waking up with a Scripture signals a new season in my life. Since, I just overcame something I have been toiling over for YEARS, I received this verse as confirmation of a new season. **Takeaway.** Whenever I wake up with a verse, it usually signifies a change in seasons for me.
 - **The Message.** The overall message from the dream was two-fold. From the first scene, a wife could clearly see her husband's shortcomings, but not her own. In the second scene, there were "biting things" that would attach to the people there. However, if you could get them to roll up in a ball, they could not bite.

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

However, the people in the dream were so busy running from the “biting things,” they wouldn’t fight back. **Takeaway. One**, we can be so busy looking at the condition of someone else’s heart we miss what’s going on in our own. **Two**, we can be more focused on running from the pain than on overcoming what’s in our heart that’s causing the pain.

- **Connecting Key Points and Overcoming the Pain of Obedience to the Dream.**

- **Key points:** In the October 2, 2013 Meeting Notes, we documented, between giving the parable of the sower and the seed and explaining the parable, Jesus discusses how we see and hear the Word. This was of particular interest for two reasons. **One**, while reading Isaiah 6:6 in context, I noticed the similarity between Isaiah 6:9-10 and what Jesus spoke in Mark 4:12. **Two**, since both the Scripture in the dream and the Scripture we looked at in October 2013 were so similar, I once again shared my modified journal entry of Mark 4:24, where Jesus discussed how we hear. For convenience, here’s what was originally captured: “If I hear the seed (Word) with faith, with whatever measure of faith I have when I hear [(going back to the T on faith)],² that’s the same measure of faith that will be measured to me, and [when I hear with great faith] even more [faith] will be given on top of what I have. But, if I don’t hear with [great] faith, eventually what Word I do have will be taken away because I didn’t hear with [great] faith!” To better understand this concept, using the T, “The Just Live By Faith,”³ we illustrated how we hear with different measures of faith on the whiteboard. **Takeaway. One**, We process the Word based on where we are from a faith perspective! **Two**, we process the Word in a progressive fashion. Each time we hear the Word, it stays with us a little longer until, eventually, we have great faith because our heart is good ground.
- **Pain of obedience.** We discussed Proverbs 4:23, “Keep your heart with all diligence, For out of it springs the issues of life.” Since some versions use the word “guard” instead of “keep,” this verse is normally translated in terms of us putting up “boundaries” to guard our heart so others can’t hurt us. However, tonight, we looked at this differently. Just like in the dream, the people were so busy running from the pain they didn’t take time to overcome the

² Ts are a part of what we call T-Time. T-Time is where we break down a concept or a principle in the Word, so we can clearly see our choices. More information on this T can be found in the study on Faith located on the Meeting Notes page of the website: www.wow2women.com. The Notes dated August 7, 2013 begin the discussion and more information is in the Notes dated August 14, 2013.

³ This T can be found on the documents page of the website: <http://www.wow2women.com/documents.html>.

pain, we do the same thing when we put up boundaries to keep people from hurting us rather than dealing with the issue in our heart that's causing the pain. Our expectations, perceptions, and judgments of others, just to name a few, are all things that can "bite" at us to cause us pain. However, the only way to fight back is to guard our heart by allowing the Holy Spirit to take out what doesn't belong and to put in what does belong—God's Word! If we take this approach, allowing the Holy Spirit to create a clean heart within us—we can stop backing down from the devil, fight back with our faith in God's Word, and make the devil flee. For, as James 4:7 tells us, we submit to God (first), resist the devil (second), and then he will flee. **Takeaway.** Change our perspective on boundaries to allow the Word rather than the world to create our boundaries.

Current Vision: "2015 - Passing the Test From the Inside Out"

Memory verse: Psalm 51:10, "Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a steadfast spirit within me " (NKJV).

Discussion Topic: Breaking Down the Vision Using the IDA Principle

- **Group Vision:** It took us longer to close the loop on 2014 than anticipated, so we were only able to briefly go over the outline (attached) for breaking down our vision using IDA (Identify, Define, Apply). However, in keeping with Habakkuk 2:2, we will write down the group vision and then break it down so everyone can know what it is, what it looks like, and what we will do in group to fulfill it.
- **Personal Visions:** Also in keeping with Habakkuk 2:2, we will use the "My Vision Worksheet" (attached) to capture our personal visions, so we can do a better job this year of staying on track! A copy of the worksheet was given to those present and an electronic copy was included in the email when the Meeting Notes were distributed to those currently attending group.
- **Other discussion:** During our takeaway time, we noted, "it's not about not feeling the pain; it's about letting the pain identify the problem." This approach helps us recognize the pain is an indicator of something going on in our heart that needs to be addressed. One of the best ways I have learned to address my pain is by using "Name that Arrow" (NTA). Name that Arrow is an exercise we learned while studying the armor. In this exercise, we ask ourselves what we feel and why until we get to the root of what's going on in our heart. Although we've said it many times before, it bears repeating again that the source of our problem is never external to us, but it is always internal. Even if the external source changes, until our heart changes, we will continue to react the same way whenever we encounter a similar situation.

Homework:

- **Open Book Test:** Since we cannot wear the armor of God unless we know what the armor is and what it consists of, the below open book test was distributed via email to those currently attending group. However, everyone was encouraged to complete what she can from memory BEFORE using other resources. This will help each person know where she needs further study to fill in the gaps.

What do you know about the armor?

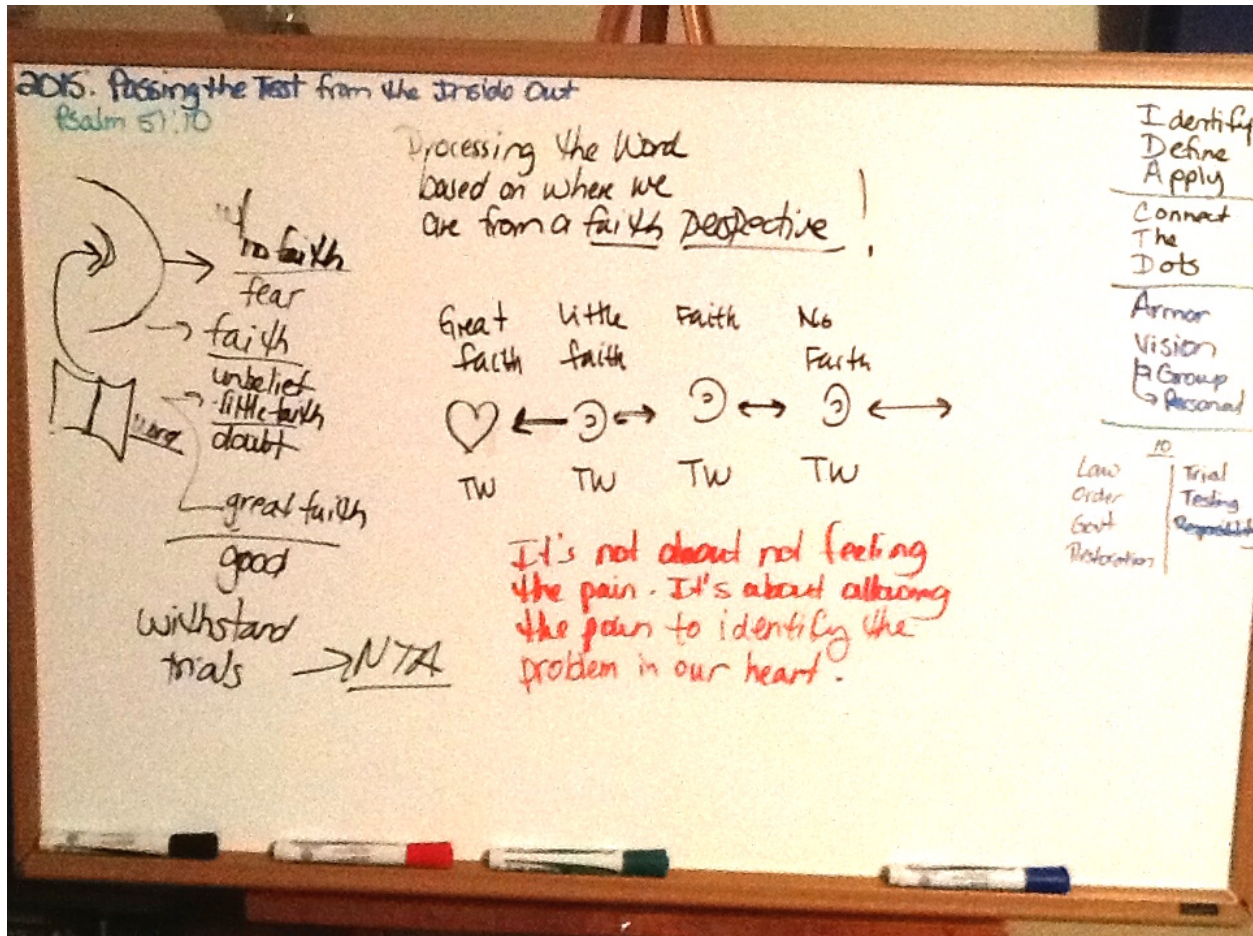
1. Identify the pieces of the armor.
 2. Identify the primary purpose of each piece.
 3. Write down key points you remember from the armor study that have impacted your walk.
- **Personal Vision:** Be prepared to capture your vision on the attached “My Vision Worksheet.”

Next Meeting: We will break down the group vision using the IDA principle, and if time permits, begin capturing our individual visions.

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, www.wow2women.com.

ATTACHMENT 1: Whiteboard (January 7, 2015)



NOTES:

1. **Top left:** Current vision and Scripture reference
2. **Right side:** Key concepts we will focus on this year
 - a. **IDA:** Identify, Define, Apply
 - b. **CTD:** Connect the Dots
 - c. **Armor and Vision** (Both Group and Personal)
 - d. The biblical meaning of the number 10.



ATTACHMENT 2: Initial Outline for Breaking Down the Group Vision

- **Scripture reference:** Habakkuk 2:2, “Then the Lord answered me and said: ‘Write the vision And make it plain on tablets, That he may run who reads it.’”
- **Identify**
 - What is the vision? Passing the Test: From the Inside Out
 - What is the test? The test of our faith (James 1:2-8)
 - What does from the inside out mean?
 - We evaluate the condition of our heart so we do what we do out of love for God and love for people (Matthew 22:37-40)
 - We allow the Word in our heart to guide us instead of reacting to our circumstances
- **Define**
 - What will the completed vision look like?
 - Clean heart and steadfast spirit
 - Define "clean"
 - Define "steadfast."
- **Apply**
 - What steps will we take during group towards completing the vision?
 - Capture our individual visions using the IDA principle
 - Study Proverbs to allow God's Word and our vision to become the boundary of our lives so we can walk in His wisdom.
 - **Memory Verse:** Psalm 90:12, “So teach us to number our days, That we may gain a heart of wisdom.”
 - Study other references to wisdom in the Bible



ATTACHMENT 3: My Vision Worksheet

MY VISION

NAME _____

DATE: _____

IDENTIFY your vision and the Scripture(s) you are standing on

DEFINE what your completed vision should look like

APPLY: What steps will you need to apply to fulfill your vision?
