



Meeting Notes – Connecting the Dots (July 23, 2014)

These notes capture our July 23, 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 OVERALL VISION for the Group: 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 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 – Connecting the Dots: We began the evening with one simple phrase: “Connect the Dots.” We may not have known what to expect, but the Holy Spirit truly guided us in our discussion as we followed where He led!

- **Connecting the Dots.** We acknowledged if we don’t know where we’re going, we don’t know how to get there. Therefore, we started by summing up God’s **overall vision** for the group with the word **application**. We then summed up God’s **2014 vision** with **maturity**, noting that maturing comes through our (ears of) **faith** and **doing**. After we connected the dots between God’s overall vision and His 2014 vision for us, we spent the remainder of the evening examining how application, maturity, faith, and doing relate to our personal vision. **Takeaway.** **Application** leads to **maturity**, but maturity results from having ears of **faith** and **doing** what is in our personal vision.
- **Personal Visions.** We took time to examine each person’s vision by asking specific questions to help her connect the dots. This examination proved very beneficial, especially for those who still didn’t quite know how to bring everything together. While we won’t share everyone’s vision, we will look at perfect love, since that is a concept we all need to understand.
 - **What does perfect love look like?** Someone noted perfect love looks like God, because God is love (**1 John 4:8**). However, for us to apply and mature in perfect love, we turned to Scripture for a more concrete definition.
 - **1 Corinthians 13:4-7.** In these verses God defines what love does and does not look like to Him; therefore, we reasoned it makes sense these verses also capture how God loves us. **Takeaway.**

God's love is **merciful**.

- **Hebrews 12:5-6.** In these verses God teaches that He corrects us in love the same way those of us who are parents correct our children. We looked at both the New English Translation (NET) and Message (MSG) version. We also discussed, when we stray from the narrow path, God will scold us through our circumstances, a rebuke from Him, or even a rebuke by someone on His behalf to get us back track. **Takeaway.** God's love **corrects**.
- **Proverbs 22:6.** In discussing God's correction, we noted when God corrects us He is fulfilling His own Word to train up a child in the way they should go. Ultimately, His correction is just and helps mature us in our spiritual walk. **Takeaway.** God's corrective love is **just** and **matures** us.
- **Takeaway.** **Merciful** and **just** describe two sides of God's love. Since God is love, we concluded perfect love is both sides of God's love: His merciful love and His just love that brings correction.
- **How do His love and His correction cast out all fear?** We concluded His love for us should remove any fear when He corrects us. However, we noted it's man we tend to fear, so we looked at **Psalm 56:11**, **Psalm 118:6**, and **Matthew 10:28**. In examining why we fear man, we noted once we open the door to fear, it will take ground in every area of our lives! **Takeaway.** Once we understand perfect love, we realize we have nothing to fear for God corrects those whom He loves, and with God on our side, we have nothing to fear from man.

Homework Assignment: Everyone had a specific assignment based on what needs to be done to mature in her personal vision.

Upcoming Meetings: Reminder, we will be praying for all school-age girls during our July 30, 2014 meeting.

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.