

Meeting Notes: Review (October 9, 2013)

These notes capture our October 9, 2013 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.

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.

TOPICS DISCUSSED:

Closing the Loop: We went over last week's housekeeping items that had been distributed via email, and we captured everyone's accountability partners.

Memory Verse Review: We went over how much we remember from each of the current memory verses: Psalm 33:4, Psalm 51:6, Hebrews 11:1, 6, 2 Corinthians 10:4-6, and Mark 4:24. For the most part, we were able to either quote the verse or capture the essence of what it says.

Discussion Topic: Vision – Reviewing the Armor (Purpose, Applying, Keeping It On)

- Reviewing each piece of the armor: For simplicity sake, a chart with each piece of the armor and the key points is attached.
- Other discussion: Here are a few other nuggets captured during our discussion
 - Getting faith. Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God (Romans 10:17). In other words, if we want to have faith, we have to be in the Word of God!
 - Ears of faith. We know we have ears of faith when we respond in faith to what the Word says. The level of faith that our ears hear is contingent upon our heart. If we are walking in the wayside, rocky, or thorny ground, we will allow fear, unbelief, and doubt to determine how we respond to the Word. But, if we hear with ears of faith (great faith), we will believe, obey, and trust God no matter what we feel or see to produce mature fruit on His Word.
 - Conviction vs condemnation: There is a difference in our lives bringing conviction to someone and us being condemning towards someone.

When God's love and His light shine through our lives, His Holy Spirit can bring conviction. But, when we react to people in a harsh and judging way, we bring condemnation upon them. Condemnation pushes people away from Christ, but conviction draws them to Him.

o Pearls of Wisdom:

- "When we don't spend adequate time in the Word, we are still vulnerable [to the wiles of the devil] even with the rest of our armor on."
- "Satan will take you farther than you intended to go and keep you longer than you intended to stay."
- Summing up our review: If we look at the armor in terms of spiritual warfare, the Word of God is the foundation upon which we must base all our beliefs. When we confess Jesus as Lord, His blood makes us righteous before the Father. We maintain that righteousness as we remove the sin from our lives, for we cannot be in willful sin and in right relationship with God. By walking in righteousness, we have peace with God, and we can then extend this peace to others. Peace with God and others keeps us out of strife, which allows us to keep our eyes focused on Jesus and not on people or our circumstances. With our eyes on Jesus, we are able to let our faith in God's Word protect us from the wiles of the devil and guide our actions.

Homework Assignment:

Memory verses. Please continue to work on all the memory verses: Psalm 33:4, Psalm 51:6, Hebrews 11:1, 6, 2 Corinthians 10:4-6, and Mark 4:24. The more we sow the Word in our hearts, the more it will help reveal and push out the lies the enemy uses to torment us.

Next Meeting: We will resume our study on the armor with the helmet of salvation.

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 www2www2women.com or complete a Contact Form on our site www2women.com.



ATTACHMENT: REVIEW ON WEARING THE ARMOR

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