



Meeting Notes: Night of Prayer (September 4, 2013)

We met on August 28, 2013; however, this was a Social Week; therefore, no notes were taken. These notes capture our September 4, 2013 meeting, which was a Night of Prayer (NOP). NOP is where we sit at the feet of Jesus to hear what He wants to speak to us! At the end of our prayer time, those who feel led, share what they heard. 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.

TOPICS DISCUSSED:

Social Time:

- We opened our evening by celebrating September birthdays.

Prayer Time: An overall theme emerged as God spoke, “Abide in Me,” to several of us. Here are some of the revelations shared associated with that theme

- **Abiding.** I began my prayer time with this journal note: “*Father, I know in order to bear fruit, we must abide in You. Father, teach us how to keep our emotions in perspective.*” After finishing the rest of my journal entry, I felt led to read several passages: John 15 and 16, Psalm 100:4; Revelation 1-3, and Mark 4:12, 22-24. Each of these passages imparted a specific message that was confirmed by what others received.
- **Confirmation of our overall theme.** One sister had to leave early, but shared all she had received was “Abide in Me.” Another of us shared what God had given her, which ended with abiding, and another sister shared her devotion, which contained references to abiding! Thus, by the end of the night, God had spoken some form of abiding to three of us!
- **Sin affects our ability to abide.** During prayer, one sister was led to Leviticus 13:33-57. In the version she reads (New Century Version), these passages discuss rules for cleaning mildew from a house (other versions use the term *leprosy*). This version was of particular interest, since I had recently seen a home containing mildew! Anyway, as she asked the Lord why He wanted her to read about mildew, He revealed the mildew represents sin and how it spreads in our lives! When we have sin in our heart, it makes our heart unclean and separates us from God! In addition, she shared how the Holy Spirit checks us for sin, cleans it out, and replaces it with God’s Word. Moreover, just like the Israelites were told to clean the mildew from their homes, we must clean sin from the home of our hearts, lest it spread, because in the spreading, our sin affects

others! The good news is, just like they could see the mildew, we can see our sin, and the closer we are to God, the more we know the sin is in our hearts! Since our circumstances are a mirror to reveal the condition of our heart, our hurts shine the light on the sin in our hearts. Additionally, continued hurt can lead us into self-pity. However, if we remember His ways are different than our ways, we can choose a different path, but until we have a heart of repentance, we cannot overcome sin. This part of the evening can best be summed up with an entry from our sister's journal: *"Let go of your sin! It's not a safety net. It is a cancer, and it will spread like the mildew in Leviticus. As long as it holds any place, it will spread by itself. It doesn't need help, ask for permission, or consider anything but itself. Stop feeding your fears through holding onto this sin! Trust God! Because as soon as you uproot it His presence can finally flood in and fill that gap. Then you can abide in Him and He can abide in you!"*

- **Abiding through covenant.** One sister was led to Hebrews 8:10-11 as God spoke to her about learning how to walk as if we have a covenant relationship with Him. In these verses, God teaches He will put His laws in our minds and write them in our hearts. Expounding on His Word, God led another sister to Psalm 119. The primary significance she took from this Psalm was to ask God to teach her His Word and to help her keep His Word. These revelations are in complete harmony with John 15 – when we abide in Christ and His Word abides in us, the resulting fruit glorifies the Father. Therefore, it is only fitting that we also discussed the importance of ensuring God gets the credit in our lives!
- **Other verses shared.** The following verses were also shared; however, the context was not captured: Proverbs 12:23, 13:15, 24:10; Jeremiah 7:2-5; Galatians 6:9, and Job 4:5-6. We actually read Job 4:5-6 in the New International Version (NIV) and the Good News Translation (GNT).
- **Takeaway:** We identified these major themes: abiding, staying strong, walking in covenant, staying in the Word, walking in faith, and thanksgiving!

Final Thoughts: These notes only represent a portion of what we discussed! For example, one sister shared how she was able to overcome during a recent trial. In the midst of her storm, she took her thoughts captive and began to speak words of faith. As she spoke, it felt like she was "pushing a boulder off" of her! This was a wonderful testimony of how abiding in His Word can change our heart and our circumstance!

Upcoming Events:

- Our remaining September meetings will be dedicated to Raising Godly Women (RGW), which is our opportunity to pour into the younger women!

Continuing Assignments:

- **Memory verses.** Please continue to work on all the memory verses: **Psalm 33:4, Psalm 51:6, Hebrews 11:1, 6, and 2 Corinthians 10:4-6.** 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.

- **Diligently seek God.** I highly encourage anyone reading these notes to look up the verses referenced herein to see what the Holy Spirit will speak to you. For those who meet with us locally, while RGW is in session, I also encourage you to spend some time going over what we have learned thus far about the armor. Remember, God is a rewarder of those that diligently seek Him!

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.

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