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## MEETING NEWSLETTER

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### Our Stories

Welcome to WoW<sup>2</sup>, Women of Worship, Women of Witness. We did not meet on January 28th; therefore, this newsletter captures our discussion on February 4th. The newsletter does not capture everything, and the topics may not be in the exact order discussed. The newsletter is intended to capture key points from our evening together, with like topics being grouped together for convenience. We hope you are blessed as you join us on our journey.

**CURRENT VISION: Thriving in the Wilderness. We will cultivate** a safe place to grow in a peaceful environment by preparing the soil of our heart to receive and respond to God's guidance, anchoring ourselves in the Holy Spirit. **We will operate** according to the established guidelines of our group, all of which will bring to light the changes we need to make in our lives, so we can gain the nourishment necessary to grow as individuals and as a group.

**Thriving**, while in the Wilderness, **will be the outcome of our growth.**

**TOPICS DISCUSSED.** During this meeting, we discussed the following:

**Closing the Loop on Lesson 1 - Introducing the Parable of the Sower and the Seed.** We heard some additional insight into each of the soils:

- **Wayside/Path.** This is when the soil of our heart is barren, disheveled, and lacks understanding.
- **Rocky.** The soil of our heart is hard. There are little to no roots. Other words used to describe this soil were: withered, exposed, vulnerable, and doesn't withstand hardship. We also looked back at the revelation, "Weeds destroy, but roots break up," from our January 21, 2020 Meeting Notes. I shared how this reminded me of how Scripture talks about breaking up fallow ground (Jeremiah 4:3).
- **Thorny.** Our heart is prickly. Other descriptions were painful and distracting. In addition, the worries, deceitfulness of riches, and the pleasures of life keep us from maturing.
- **Good.** This is when our heart is healthy! There's growth. We hear and accept. We remember, and our heart is noble and good.

**Nuggets from the Evening.** Here are the nuggets I jotted down during our discussion:

- No matter what happens, don't let yourself get in the thorns. **UPDATE:** Recent events have led me to wonder if this is something we actually need to avoid. From past experience, I've learned, even though it's the most painful season, it's also the one that produces the deepest healing!
- We discussed how not really trusting God will take care of "it," whatever "it" is, is what disturbs our ability to trust, which causes us to pick "it" back up, again and again.
- Being okay with other people's free will continues to be a challenge for some.

**Our Stories.** Because of a recent loss, we chose not to delve into Lesson 2, but to spend the rest of the evening sharing our story. Even though everyone is connected to me, but not to each other, it helped us get to know one another better. It was a very insightful time as we got to hear about key events that shaped each of us.

#### **Homework Assignment(s):**

- Complete Lesson 2.
- For those who don't yet have one, prayerfully consider a personal vision for the year.
- Listen to and meditate on "Stand in Your Love," by Josh Baldwin.

**Next Meeting:** Our next meeting will be on January 28<sup>th</sup>.

**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](mailto:wow2@wow2women.com) or complete a Contact Form on our site [www.wow2women.com](http://www.wow2women.com).*