



Meeting Notes: February 27, 2024

Topic: 1 Corinthians 1:1-2v9

Current Vision: "Make Room"

Scripture: Hebrews 12:1

WELCOME to Women of Worship, Women of Witness (WoW2). These Meeting Notes capture the essence of our discussion. Therefore, some points might be grouped together for ease in reading.

DECLARATION OF FAITH: We will walk by more faith in the things we believe, think, speak, and do to cultivate more wisdom to better put on the whole armor of God!

CLOSING THE LOOP: We closed the loop on Chapter 1:

- V2. There was a line that really stood out in the Introduction to our opening song, "Different," when the singer shared that he had to re-level his foundation after Hurricane Harvey! So, as we study in 1 Corinthians, what areas of our lives is God calling us to come up higher in terms of sanctification and holiness?
- V2. One of us heard a song earlier today about when the Lord builds the house, no one can tear it down which speaks to the "church of God" mentioned in this verse.
- V9. God is faithful! So even when things don't look like we want them to, His faithfulness is why we can wait on Him! For one, we might not be ready for what He's going to do. Therefore, the things that happen to us might be putting us in position to receive from Him, so it's up to us to be patient with His timing. We never know what tools we might be missing from our toolbelt, so wait on the Lord, because His timing is PERFECT!
- V10. Small group is not experiencing division. Because all of us are human, faulty, and imperfect, and we don't know what God knows, we seek to keep God at the highest place and the "leader" in the proper perspective. It's okay to be thankful for a person, but God deserves all the glory and honor!
 - Keeping things in the proper perspective is a hard lesson to learn, but it's an important one to learn so we don't place people in

positions in our heart that they shouldn't be in. This can also apply to friendships, because some friendships are not meant to be what we thought. Since people show up in different ways, our true friends are the ones that show up for us because they care! Sometimes, though, regardless of what the past was, there might be a shift in the relationship; therefore, as Christians, seek God for what He desires regarding our relationships.

- Today, the word “cultivation,” was prevalent for one of us. It's a word we use a lot in group. Some of God's timing is related to the cultivation He's doing in us to be able to handle and do what we He has us here to do!
 - Using a gardening analogy, we're not supposed to overuse soil, because all the nutrients will be taken out of the soil. Same way with spiritual things. When we continue to do the same things that aren't producing God's fruit, we'll continue to reap the things of the world. That's the time to relevel our foundation to follow the Word that we know!
 - Sometimes, God has to “tear up some soil and find us some new ground.” Also, sometimes, we have to till the ground, before we can even sow the seed. That's why we always emphasize understanding the Parable of the Sower and the Seed, because we need to know where our seed is falling!
- Despite difficult circumstances, our faith has not been shaken. Any shaking that occurs, shakes the things God needs to shake so He can remove them from our lives. Moreover, there are times the shaking we experience lets us know when we're not standing on solid ground. A great example is when a storm shakes the rotten fruit off the tree, which allows the tree to live, because it's not holding on to all that dead stuff! Likewise, we need to be aware that not everything good is God, so it doesn't have to be evil for us to not need it right then, which speaks to our vision and Hebrews 12:1.
 - If we allow it to, all that shaking and shifting allows us to see where we are! There are some things we can have patience for, and others we don't. However, God is so longsuffering towards us, how dare we not have patience for others?
 - We looked up Hebrews 12:1 to clarify the word that's translated as *patience* in some versions and *endurance* in others. We decided

patience is just a component of what it means to run our race with endurance. Because runners have to pace themselves, marathoners need patience to cultivate the endurance required to finish the race. They don't start with patience! It's something that has to develop over time! There was a lot of mental and physical preparation that went into them getting to that place!

- There are times when we have "selective patience!!"
- V18-25. The world can't understand God without God's help, nor can we understand the world without His help!
- V26-31. We have nothing to boast about! It's all about God!

HIGHLIGHTS FROM OUR EVENING. Chapter 2

- V1-5. There's a humility that's needed in order to embrace our weaknesses so God, and not us, can be seen.
 - It's okay to be nervous when sharing the Word with others, because if we're not nervous, we can easily become overly confident in our own ability! Paul seems to be very aware of himself and who is at work in His life.
 - The more aware of self we become, the more we don't want to get in the way of others and their ability to see through us so they can see God and not miss what HE has for them!
- V4. How can we see a demonstration of the Spirit and still rest on our human wisdom? Sometimes, it's that we want to rest on what we were shown. Because we all have a level of natural wisdom, our tendency, in our flesh, is to gravitate to our wisdom instead of His! Sometimes, we don't know where the line is between His responsibility and ours. That's where praying comes in.
- V6. There are conversations had and behaviors seen among mature saints that won't be seen in Babes! And that's okay because it's a journey; it's a process! It takes what we go through to cultivate the soil of our heart and to mature us!
 - There are times, seasons, and areas of our lives where we can be mature in one area, but still be a babe in another. That's the essence of being in more than one soil at the same time in any

given moment! This, in itself, is also a learning process, or else we can come under guilt and confirmation!

- V8. If we really understood the magnitude of Christ crucified, would we do the things we do? However, if His crucifixion is all we know, we only know part of the story! The days after His crucifixion were HUGE! Yes, He died for our sins, BUT He also rose from the dead; He also ascended, AND the Spirit came down. And that's not all! He is now seated at the right hand of the Father as our High Priest taking care of His priestly duties on our behalf! Even now, He's petitioning for us!
- V9-10. We're in awe of these verses, because they reveal how finite our mind is. They take us back to Ephesians and all the blessings it says God has for us, and it's all because we love Him back! However, we only know about these things because of His Spirit drawing us to the Father and our accepting His invitation.
 - Sometimes, we can look back and wonder how those in Scripture could, and even now, how can we, not see something, especially those that didn't and still don't recognize Jesus as the Messiah. However, we have to shift our perspective to know we wouldn't see the things we see either without the Holy Spirit!
 - Sometimes, we don't see because we don't want to see. Sometimes, our experiences and the history we have lived through has hardened our heart, making us not ready to see. Seeing takes time! The sad thing is when someone never sees. Therefore, we're thankful for what He has done, is doing, and will do in and through our lives, because what He has started, He will finish!

TAKEAWAYS:

- We're grateful for how transparent we can be in group without judgment. We wouldn't be able to grow without the struggle!
- Patience is like running a marathon!
- God's mysteries will be revealed to those that love Him! We have to be really committed and devoted to Him! But we don't have to be perfect! Progress over perfection! Because He loves us in our imperfections, we can love Him despite them.
- It's good to be reminded there will always be something we're not seeing, so don't sit in judgment of what others might not see that we THINK we do,

because in reality, what we see may only be glimpse of the full picture that God is unfolding! After all, we see in part and we prophesy in part (1 Corinthians 13). There's a level of humility that God is cultivating that's actually very freeing and more peaceful!

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- We will begin an **optional** 21-day fast on March 11th. We can fast however the Holy Spirit leads, and if He doesn't lead us to fast, that's okay too!

SONGS FROM THE EVENING:

- Opening: Micah Tyler - Different (Official Music Video), (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xUT4trsrBCw&list=PLPrL7uz5HpPEjrkhykVx7H7ITFXdfQb74&index=9>)
- Closing: Here I Am To Worship | Instrumental Sax Music | Uriel Vega Worship, (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ssE6LKcFTco>)

NEXT MEETING: March 5, 2024 @ 7:00pm. We will pick up at v9.