

Welcome to WoW2, Women of Worship, Women of Witness. This newsletter captures topics discussed during our March 29, 2022, meeting. This newsletter seeks to capture some, but not all, key points from our evening together, with like topics being conveniently grouped together. We hope you are blessed as you join us on our journey.

Declaration of Faith: We will gain emotional wellness and strength for the Promised Land by believing, receiving, and obeying the truth of God's Word when it comes to deliverance from bondage, deliverance through sanctification, and deliverance from bitterness and doubt.

OPENING

We opened with the song, "Joy of the Lord." We then began our meeting in prayer followed by our discussion on Ecclesiastes 4.

DISCUSSION

Overall, this chapter was very depressing.

In v1-3, Solomon repeated those who are oppressed have no one to comfort them. We wondered if that was something personal he was experiencing in the moment, especially since we know that's a very real thing we have all experienced! However, it's different when Christ tells us we'll go through difficulties, because He always adds a "but ..." and gives us hope that we will overcome.

In v4, "one person's jealousy of another" can be **coveting**. Moreover, since we're generally the one lacking when we compare ourselves to others, social media lends itself to comparison and jealousy. We also noted when a person tries to fight against someone's jealousy, it really is futile. That's why we need each other! When we pray for each other in our own prayer time, we extend spiritual strength to others, and we never know the impact. Plus, the energy of someone else's prayers is so uplifting; it gives us hope so we don't feel like we're drowning.

Upcoming Events

April 26

Social Week

May 1

Summer Break – Entire Month

June 7

Night of Prayer

Current Vision

Revive! Restore. Refresh.
Renew – Emotional wellness in the wilderness and strength for the Promised Land.

Scripture(s)

Isaiah 57:15; Isaiah 43:19

Additional Verses: Romans 8:15, Romans 6:4, 2 Timothy 2:15, Ephesians 4:23, Romans 12:1-2, Hebrews 12:14-15, James 1:5-6, and John 6:29

Inspirational Song(s)

"On Our Way" by MercyMe
feat. Sam Wesley

"Revive" by WorshipMob

Current Study:

Ecclesiastes

In v7-9, Solomon is discussing amassing wealth even though you don't have anyone to leave it to. There are some who are not bothered by that. And there are some who amassing wealth becomes their identity. Overall, we noted how Solomon is probably making observations about the people he knows and describing what he sees.

In v9-11, we noticed the shift from how he started out with the number two and then, suddenly, he goes to the number three. This led to a discussion on marriage and the three-fold cord we often hear discussed during the ceremony. We know this may not be what Solomon is talking about, but we found it intriguing. We also noted that when talking about two being better than one, we need to count those in our circle as part of our "two," especially when the enemy comes at us. And, since a believer is never alone, we can count those who come alongside us more than once, because God is coming with them! And, if we understand Scripture correctly, at least one angel is coming too!

In v9-12, we discussed we are better together, which is the key to overcoming feeling like we don't have someone to comfort us when we're oppressed.

In v13, we see the value of wisdom, especially when you're young and wise. After all, older does not automatically mean wiser! For not all older people are walking in wisdom. If the seeds of wisdom didn't fall in the right soil, there can be no fruit!

In v13, "better is a poor but wise youth" reminded us of what we call "bought lessons." Those are the lessons learned through experience! We found it possible that as the king, there's not as many possibilities for "bought lessons," especially if they grew up with wise men and/or are surrounded by wise men giving them advice; advice that may or may not be good advice!

Some highlights from our takeaways

In Matthew 18:19, Jesus tells us that when two or more are praying, it will be done. Granted, Jesus also tells us we need to ask in His name (John 14:13).

We noted in Acts 2:1, some versions say there were "all with one accord" (KJV). We noticed that "accord" contains the word, "cord." So, we looked up "accord," and found that it has the word "heart" as part of its origin. This was interesting, because one of our



Homework

Ecclesiastes chapter 5

Next Meeting

Tuesday, April 12, 2022 @ 7:00pm.

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foundational studies is the parable of the sower and the seed, which deals with the condition of our heart.

Jesus took three in the Garden with Him: Peter, James, and John (Matthew 26:36-46). In essence, He took His "cord" with Him, but they fell asleep! That was a reminder to us, we can't fall asleep on each other. We have to continue to pray and tarry with each other until breakthrough, be it change of circumstance or change of perspective.

We looked at images of wire rope used in construction. The more strands, the stronger the cord!

We looked at a very interesting article on the "threefold cord" from a Hebrew perspective. Here's an excerpt:

A threefold cord is not easily broken. Threefold cord in Hebrew is *hachut hameshulash*. In ancient times a threefold cord was a measuring tape. Equal lengths of a cord were tied together, sort of like a measuring tape uses the foot as a measuring mark. It would be like a three-foot measuring tape only using a different measuring system. The word broken is *nathaq* which means to tear apart, or pull apart. Yes, it means a third person makes you stand stronger, but a threefold cord was also an idiomatic expression for measuring the arguments in a dispute and winning an argument an arrogant intimidator. The idea if those three debators were tied together in an agreement it was usually enough to put the intimidator to rest.¹

RESOURCES

Links to our inspirational Song(s) supporting our vision:

"MercyMe feat. Sam Wesley - On Our Way (Official Lyric Video)," (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9R8x5YlbQ0Q>).

"Revive," (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rYEOCM9rbMg>).

Links to the Song(s) from this meeting:

"Joy of the Lord (feat. Katie Torwalt, Naomi Raine, Dante Bowe & Mav City Gospel Choir)," (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QASf9ttAYzQ>).

"Loved By The FATHER: 3 Hour Relaxing & Meditation Piano Music," (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iPNGk8MOAw&t=466s>).

CLOSING

We collected our **prayer requests** for the evening and then closed in prayer while listening "Loved by the FATHER."

¹Chaim Bentorah, "Quick Word Study – Threefold Cord." October 4, 2018. Devotionals. Retrieved from <https://www.chaimbentorah.com/2018/10/quick-word-study-threefold-cord/>.