

Welcome to WoW2, Women of Worship, Women of Witness. We met on June 21, 2022; however, so there are no Meeting Notes, because those of us present took the opportunity to begin planning for retreat. This newsletter captures topics discussed during our June 14, 2022, meeting. It 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 our evening with the song, "Abba" by Leon Timbo, then began our discussion on Ephesians 5. We were also introduced to the song, "Build a Boat," by Colton Dixon!

DISCUSSION

In Ecclesiastes 5:17, the whole section is a reminder of Proverbs 10:19, "In the multitude of words sin is not lacking, But he who restrains his lips is wise."

In v1, we noted the importance of knowing how to approach God. We also noted when we "**offer the sacrifices of fools**," it's generally because we don't know any better. We're not trying to do wrong; we just lack the proper knowledge of the correct way to approach Him. For instance, we questioned the wisdom of approaching a holy God as our "homeboy."

In v1, the Amplified version of the Bible elaborates on not offering "**careless and irreverent**" sacrifices.

In v2, not be hasty to speak and not giving excuses is important. This verse also clearly "puts us in our place," when it says, "God is in

Upcoming Events

July 26

Social

August 2

Raising Godly Women Prayer

September 6

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

heaven and you are on earth." This, however, was written before Jesus ascended to heaven. Now, according to Ephesians 2:6, **we get to sit in heavenly places in Christ Jesus.**



When we **don't know God's mind or heart**, it's easy for us to take Him for granted.

It benefits us when we approach God in obedience. God's not changing, so we're the one who has to change. Benefits we receive include better health when we treat our body as His temple and increased financial stewardship when we follow His principles.

In v4, we're not to make promises we can't keep, because we're accountable to God for them. Thus, it's wise to be very slow in speaking and making vows.

It helps when we're **deliberate in providing an answer** to others. If we're being hesitant about answering someone, consider answering with "No" or "Let me get back to you." That way, we're not committing to something we don't want to do. And once we do commit, have a plan for fulfilling it.

When we **people please**, we'll say what will keep the drama down. Unfortunately, people who know we're not confrontational will take advantage of that, so we should consider pushing through the drama. We can either answer "No" to things we don't want to do, or if we answer "Yes," we can establish parameters, or "rules of engagement." It also helps to let people know when we're not at our best, and, likewise, to ask others if they're okay rather than making assumptions.

Sometimes, **"God willing"** is a great answer, because at the end of the day, His will prevails. After all, we never know what can happen to keep us from doing something. We do recognize that some people consider saying "God willing" is not operating in faith, but since our time and lives are in His hands, we see it as paying honor to He who controls things outside of our control.

The discussion on **making vows** reminded us of letting our "yes be yes" and our "no be no" (Matthew 5:37 and James 5:12). We also noted when we don't fulfill vows we made to God, we accomplished nothing. So, don't make a promise to God we can't keep!

We don't always know **the motive of our vows** nor is every vow we're trying to fulfill something God told us to do!

Homework

Finish Ecclesiastes 5

Next Meeting

Tuesday, July 5, 2022 @ 7:00pm.

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns about information contained in this document, please email us at wow2@wow2women.com or complete a Contact Form on our website.

In v6, we see **God can destroy the work of our hands** because of our words; thus, our words have power and they matter! We also noted, He might well destroy our work to get our attention!

When we don't love ourselves, we don't have love to give to others.

Some highlights from our takeaways

Using "**God willing**," puts us in the right mindset no matter what we're trying to do. This mindset can give us the discernment we need. For instance, we can ask, "Is that something God would be willing for us to do?"

Our **words** can cause our works to be destroyed stood out!

Don't agree to things that aren't in line with God's Word, and make sure what we're doing is something He really called us to! Otherwise, we can jump into things too quickly simply because it sounds good. However, that doesn't mean it's something God told us to do, so unless He's going to provide His grace for us to complete the task at hand, we can end up putting a yoke on ourselves. An example is when we become so rigid that we turn Sabbath or anything else into a yoke! Bottomline, sometimes we don't realize we're yoking ourselves with the vows we make!

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:

"Abba," by Leon Timbo, (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n3p6HRuMq6A>).

"Speak Lord, I Am Listening: 3 Hour Prayer & Meditation Music," by DappyTKeys Piano Worship, (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7eUdhXPZbXQ&list=PLPrL7uz5HpPHQU2D-Gsw9MXymYSkXZkc6&index=3&t=162s>).

"Colton Dixon - Build a Boat [Official Lyric Video]," (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jjakKAsQc34>)

CLOSING

We collected our **praise reports** and **prayer requests** for the evening and then closed in prayer while listening "Speak Lord" by DappyTKeys."