

## **MEETING NEWSLETTER**

## **Night of Prayer**

Welcome to WoW<sup>2</sup>, Women of Worship, Women of Witness. Due to inclement weather, we didn't meet on August 26th. This newsletter captures topics discussed during our meeting on September 2nd. The newsletter may 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:** This was a Night of Prayer for us. We opened with our song of the week, "Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus," by Lauren Daigle and then entered into a time of individual prayer before the Lord.

**Themes**. The following themes emerged during the night: "trust," "good," "rest," and "focus."

- Each of us present received something about the word "good."
  - I was led to the following Scriptures: James 1:17, Romans 12:2, and Hebrews 13:20-21. "Good" and "perfect gifts stood out in James. "Good," "pleasing," and "perfect" stood out in Romans. "Complete," "good," "pleasing", and "through Jesus Christ" stood out in Hebrews to create a theme for me.
  - While listening to worship music, the phrase "I wanna be tried by fire," caught my ear, and I wrote down, "That's a bold declaration!"
  - We also looked at Psalm 37:1-24 (NIV). Verse 3 really stood out, "Trust in the LORD, and do good." Some actually received a lot of confirmation from that

- one Psalm. We recognized the need to focus on Him and not what's going on around us, so we can rest in the storm. We also recognized we're to focus on Him and do good!
- We noticed some similarity in Psalm 37:23-24 and Hebrews 13:20-21. We noticed both speak about how God interacts with us according to His will.
- Even though Psalm 37:10 says, "a little while," when we're in the midst of the storm, it feels like the storm is dragging on. However, once we are able to look back on the situation, we realize, in the scheme of our lifetime, our storm really is "a little while." We also discussed, while in the storm, why wait for the other shoe to drop? That's the time to get to the place of "peace be still."
- We discussed how the blueprint for how to get to peace is to "be still."
- We discussed how "do not fret" is found three times in this one Psalm! One for the Father. One for the Son. One for the Holy Spirit! This reminded us of a photo we've seen on social media where a woman is curled up and resting in an open Bible!

## Takeaways.

- We need to be careful of what we say out of our mouth.
- Trust the Lord and do good; be still before the Lord and wait patiently for Him.
- Remembering God has things under control reminded us of how Scripture tells us vengeance is His; that's why we can trust the Lord and do good.
- Everything in our relationship with God starts with trust!
- We discussed how capturing landmarks in our lives can be helpful. We likened those landmarks to rocks on a wall. As we grab hold of one landmark on our way to the next one, we can celebrate the progress we have made!
- O How we perceive pain can impact how we feel it. We had a real-life example of how a warning changed whether or not something felt painful. When she wasn't warned she would feel pressure, the pressure felt like pain. However, when she was warned she would feel pressure, pressure was what she felt. We

realized maybe Jesus warned us about having tribulations so we wouldn't be surprised. That way, we will be able to feel the pressure without it turning into pain. This helped us see how fearing the unknown, in both the natural and the spiritual, can impact us!

Having a healthy helping of compassion helps during our times of trial.

**Song(s) for the week**: "Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus, by Lauren Daigle (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L57ox0iQU7A).

**Homework Assignment(s)**: Vision Check. While we're on break, evaluate your vision and where you are.

**Next Meeting**: Since our Matters of the Heart study was intensive and we pressed pretty hard through it, we've decided to take September off. Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, October 7th, via Zoom.

**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.