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# MEETING NEWSLETTER

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## Review & Group Vision

Welcome to WoW<sup>2</sup>, Women of Worship, Women of Witness. This newsletter captures topics discussed during our meeting. 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.** “Grace Like a Flood.” The rest of our vision is still being developed.

**SCRIPTURE REFERENCE. Hebrews 4:16:** Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

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

**Catching up.** We took time to update our returning sister on the changes we made to small group vision last year. In our review, we discussed the below changes; the updated document will be included in the next Newsletter:

- Update the word “change” to “transformation,” so our Mission will now read, “To bring women of God together in an atmosphere that effects transformation in us, so we may impact others.” **Rationale:** the word “transformation,” has a deeper meaning than change. For example, I can change the location of the lamp on my desk, but there is no transformation to the lamp. However, if I change the lamp shade, spray paint the lamp or put a different type of bulb in there, the lamp has been transformed; it no longer looks the same!
- Update the meeting time to 7:00.
- We will continue to monitor whether or not we need to resume meeting on Tuesday, because Wednesday tends to conflict with other ministries.
- Change “Resolving Conflict” to “Addressing Conflict.” **Rationale:** One person alone cannot resolve conflict; both people have to be willing. Instead, she can address conflict to the best of her ability.
- Add comments to ensure we ask before inviting someone to join us in conflict.  
**Rationale:** To respect individual needs.
- Update changes proposed last year to show how they were implemented, which could lead to additional changes.

**Using gifts in small group.** I shared a few ways for others to use their gifts in small group; however, this list is not all inclusive, meaning each person can come up with something suited to her. Hopefully, having the opportunity to use her gifts will help each person feel more fulfilled during our meetings.

**Calendar update.** I went over a few additional changes to the calendar, and once everyone has seen them, the calendar will be posted on the website.

**Declaration of faith.** Using Holy Spirit's original vision and the Scriptures related to, "Grace Like a Flood," we created a working copy of our Declaration of Faith:

**Declaration of Faith: We will** cultivate a safe place to grow in a peaceful environment by embracing our diversity, so each of us can learn according to their need, so we can operate in our gifts. **We will** operate according to the established guidelines of our group, all of which will help us to go boldly before the throne of grace to obtain mercy and grace to help for our transformation that comes as God sanctifies us through and through. **The outcome** of our sanctification will be a deeper level of trust with God, so we are not leaning on our own understanding, but acknowledging Him in all our ways, so He can direct our paths.

**Finalizing our vision.** We still need to finish using IDA (Identify. Define. Apply) to solidify our vision, so we can capture the finalized version on the Vision Worksheet.

**Connecting the Dots (CTD).** This year, we will be connecting the dots to apply what we learned with the parable of the sower and the seed, so each of us can determine how we breakdown Scripture in order to understand it. By using the parable of the sower and the seed, we'll all be operating from common ground.

**Making our way through the wilderness.** We discussed, nuggets from our T.H.R.I.V.E retreat.<sup>1</sup> For instance, once we leave Egypt, we can be in one of four places on our way to the Promised Land: just leaving Egypt, at the base of Mt Sinai getting instruction from the Lord, wandering around in the wilderness because of disobedience, or at the edge of the Promised Land preparing to possess the promises of God. Knowing where we are helps us to know the purpose of our being there. For example, when we're just coming out bondage, we praise God, then we go before Him looking for instruction about how to move forward, so we can

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<sup>1</sup> This document can be found on the website, [www.wow2women.com](http://www.wow2women.com), under *Newsletters, Events*, and then select "THRIVE," dated 09/28/2019.

better thrive in the wilderness. That way, when we get to our Promised Land, we can conquer our giants instead of complaining like the Israelites. **Takeaway.** Wandering and dying in the wilderness is a result of not trusting God! Moreover, if we don't thrive in the wilderness, we can die spiritually!

**Overall Takeaways.** We like that we are putting things in order. We also like we are returning to using "Connect the Dots," rather than continuing to seek new information instead of building on what we have. By not connecting the dots between what God has already taught us, we are more likely to end up wandering in the wilderness longer than we're supposed to be there. However, we can still come through like Caleb and Joshua OR, if we don't trust God, we can end up dying in the wilderness. Finally, we captured a different perspective on partial obedience, meaning, partial obedience can happen if we don't effectively deal with our giants in the way God told us, thereby allowing the giants to continually harass us!

**Homework Assignment(s):** We will continue to work on how well we, as a group, fulfilled our vision, and how well each of us, individually, did with supporting group vision. This will help determine what we need to take before the throne of grace as a group and individually. We are using the Meeting Notes from our November 5, 2019 meeting as a guide for our assessment.<sup>2</sup>

**Next Meeting:** Our next meeting will be on October 21st<sup>th</sup>. We will continue assessing our progress as a group and as individuals, finalize the "I" in IDA, and begin working on Define and Apply.

**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.*

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<sup>2</sup> This document can be found on the website, [www.wow2women.com](http://www.wow2women.com), under *Meeting Notes, Thriving*, and then select "Finalizing Group Vision" dated 11/05/2019.