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## MEETING NEWSLETTER

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### Defining 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.

#### TOPICS DISCUSSED

##### Defining Group Vision

- In our last meeting, we **identified** our vision for the year as “Thriving in the Wilderness.” We **defined** Mark 4:39, “Peace, be still!” as what we want our completed vision to look like, so group will be a safe place to grow, thereby allowing us thrive in the wilderness. To promote that safe and peaceful environment, we returned to our Original Vision document (see attached) and further defined our “Etiquette Reminder,” “Let everything you do and say be tempered by mercy, compassion, and love” by addressing the following topics:
  - **Timeliness.**
    - **Meeting Time.** We start at 7:15 with whoever is present and end at 8:30. However, if the meeting is running over, feel free to text your family and let them know you are okay, or to leave early, if necessary.
    - **Late/Early.** Feel free to join us late or leave early without disrupting group. Also feel free to ask questions, even if you were late.
  - **Attendance.**
    - **Tracking Attendance.** Everyone present was okay with tracking attendance. It helps us know what, if anything, we missed.
    - **Checking on Absent Members.** We will add a question to the “Getting to Know You” form new members fill out to determine, if they miss

group, would they like someone to check on them and how often. Those present would like to be checked on.

- **Inviting Others.** It's okay to invite others to small group; however, if we are doing a book or other guided study, group will be closed until that study is over. Any other time, group is always open.
- **Leaving Group.** Should circumstances change and you need to leave group, we would like the opportunity to pray over you during your last meeting.
- **RSVPs.** Since life gets busy, everyone present chose to receive a weekly reminder text. She will respond with whether or not she is planning to attend.
- **Resolving Conflict.** As much as we hope conflict does not arise, we realize it is always a possibility, so we established the following guidelines in order to quell offense before it can get out of hand:
  - **Someone has sinned against (or offended) you.** Keeping it simple and using Matthew 18:15-17 as our guideline, if someone does something contrary to what we know from Scripture (sins against you) or offends you in some way, 1) talk to her alone. 2) If she doesn't listen, ask someone else to join the two of you to work it out. If that doesn't work, then let's talk about it as a group to see if, together, we can work it out.
  - **Someone is offended with you.** For this, we turn to Matthew 5:23-24 and Romans 12:18 to help guide us. While this is not a strict interpretation of the two verses, the principle is, if we know someone is holding something against us, do our best to make peace with them.
- **Communicating Outside of Small Group**
  - **Distribution lists.** Everyone present has opted to be included on the distribution lists used to communicate and encourage each other outside of small group. This will also be added to the "Getting to Know You" form so anyone joining group later can opt in or out at that moment. You can also opt in or out any time you choose.

- **Small group rosters.** Everyone present was okay with their contact information being distributed among those attending small group, so we can communicate with each other outside of our meetings.
- **Recognition of birthdays/group anniversaries.** I will once again start sending out birthday and anniversary greetings.
- **Roles and responsibilities in small group.**
  - **Participation.** Feel free to ask questions like, “What do you mean by that,” or any other question in order to ensure you understand the discussion material. However, let’s remain respectful towards one another. Also, feel free to remain silent and listen if that is how you learn.
  - **Using your gifts in small group.** Everyone is encouraged to look for ways to use her spiritual gifts in small group.
  - **Facilitating small group.** Overall, I view myself as the facilitator during group; however, there will be times when I will need to take the lead.

**Our Four Anchors.** Last week, the question was asked, “What do our four anchors look like?’ This week, we added our fourth anchor to the three Scriptures we previously introduced into our vision: Psalm 95:6-8, Mark 4:39, and Jeremiah 4:3.

- **Psalm 95:6-8.** These verses form the basis of **identifying** our vision as we seek to worship, bow down, and kneel before the Lord, not hardening our hearts, so we can thrive in the wilderness.
- **Mark 4:39.** This verse is the visual image that **defines** what we want our completed vision to look like—peace that quells any storms that arise.
- **Jeremiah 4:3.** This verse is what it will look like to **apply** our vision, for if we are to thrive in the wilderness, we must prepare our heart to hear what the Lord is saying.
- **Titus 3:4-7.** These are the overall verses that **anchor** our vision, because they invite Holy Spirit into our midst. For the first time, we also have a theme song: “Holy Spirit-Live” (Jesus Culture, Kim Walker-Smith)!

**Homework Assignment(s):** I will condense what we learned from last week’s verses (Exodus 12:6, Numbers 9:5, Genesis 31:41, and Acts 27:27-35) that relate to the number 14 into

actionable bullet points to complement Jeremiah 4:3.

**Next Meeting:** We will continue creating the group vision with a focus on “Apply”—the steps we will need to take to fulfill our vision—and begin laying out the group calendar for 2020.

**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 [www.wow2women.com](http://www.wow2women.com).*

## DEFINING GROUP VISION ATTACHMENT: ORIGINAL VISION DOCUMENT

**VISION:** A bible-based, practical application journey through the word of God

**PURPOSE:** To create an atmosphere that fosters transparency, discipleship, and the outpouring of God's love

**MISSION:** To bring women of God together in an atmosphere that affects change in us, so we may impact others

**GOAL:** To disciple women of God in the practical application of God's word

**MOTTO:** To be doers of the word and not hearers only

**CORE VALUES:** These are our core values. They are held together by love and commitment – for and to God and each other

- **ACCOUNTABILITY:** We allow others to speak the truth of God's word into our lives, making the necessary adjustments in our lives to live out our motto
- **TRANSPARENCY:** We are open with those we have made ourselves accountable to, so they can affectively minister to our needs
- **INTIMACY:** We will allow our transparency to create an environment of intimacy where we allow our sisters in Christ to "in-to-me-see"
- **CONFIDENTIALITY:** We will hold dear to our hearts the things our sisters share with us to foster an environment of trust to maintain our transparency and intimacy

**ETIQUETTE REMINDER:** Let everything you do and say be tempered by mercy, compassion, and love.



October 15, 2019

## DEFINING GROUP VISION ATTACHMENT: MY VISION WORKSHEET (UPDATED)

**NAME:** WoW<sup>2</sup> Small Group

**DATE:** 10/29/2019

**IDENTIFY** your vision and the Scripture(s) you are standing on

“Thriving in the Wilderness”

**Psalm 95:6-8 (NLT)**

Come, let us worship and bow down, Let us kneel before the Lord, our maker; for he is our God, We are the people he watches over, the flock under his care. If only you would listen to his voice today! The Lord says, “Don’t harden your hearts as Israel did...in the wilderness.

**DEFINE** what your completed vision should look like

**Mark 4:39:** “Peace, be still!” – small group will be a safe place to grow, so we can thrive in the wilderness.

**APPLY:** What steps will you need to apply to fulfill your vision?

**Jeremiah 4:3** – we will prepare our heart to hear what He is saying.