
MEETING NEWSLETTER

Finalizing Group Vision

Welcome to WoW², 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.

CLOSING THE LOOP ON LAST WEEK. Last week, we captured the verses we believe are the four anchors for our vision: **Psalm 95:6-8** (identify), **Mark 4:39** (define), **Jeremiah 4:3** (apply), and **Titus 3:4-7** (Holy Spirit). After group, I sent out a photo that captures those verses in the anchor we used for our T.H.R.I.V.E. conference.¹ Everyone's feedback was positive; therefore, I said I would include the photo in this week's Notes (see attachment 1). The rationale behind the placement of the verses is this:

Psalm 95:6-8 is up top, because if we are to do any of the other, it begins with worshiping God. **Jeremiah 4:3** is the stem, because breaking up the fallow ground of our heart is the connection between our ability to worship Him and our ability to "drop anchor" in **Mark 4:39**, "Peace, be still." Last, but not least, Titus 3:4-6 is the rope that ties it all together, for without Holy Spirit, NONE of it happens.

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

Finalizing Group Vision. In accordance with the homework assignment from last week, I consolidated key concepts from the verses we studied relating to the number 14 into actionable bullet points.² We reviewed those statements and made a few collective tweaks to finalize our 2020 group vision (see attachment 2)! The vision has been posted to the website under the "Documents" menu on the "Group Documents" page.

Finalizing the 2020 Calendar. We finalized the group calendar, to include projected dates for our upcoming study that will end before we break in May. We will revisit any changes to the calendar as we go.

¹ Touching Heaven Reigning In Victory Eternally (T.H.R.I.V.E.) Newsletter capturing this event can be located via the "Newsletters" drop down menu on the "Events" page.

² The full study of these verses can be located in the "10/15/2019 - Casting Group Vision" Meeting Newsletter via the "Meeting Notes" drop down menu on the "Thriving" page.

Final nuggets. Something that really stood out to me was the discussion on the importance of preparing our heart to receive. To complement that one of our members shared this wisdom: “As long as we’re open to hear, we will hear no matter what we’re going through.”

Homework Assignment(s):

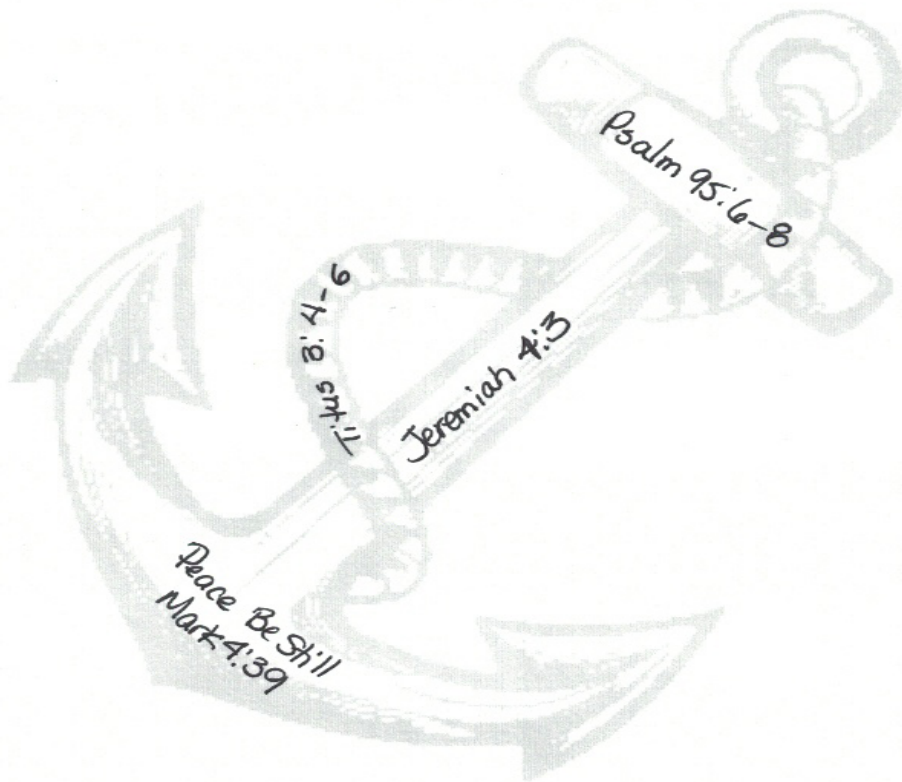
- Create and include list of study dates on the back of the current calendar; distribute completed document.
- Prepare for personal visions next week

Next Meeting: We will begin creating our personal visions.

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 or complete a Contact Form on our site www.wow2women.com.

FINALIZING VISION ATTACHMENT 1: OUR FOUR ANCHOR VERSES



FINALIZING VISION ATTACHMENT 2: MY VISION WORKSHEET

NAME: WoW2 Small Group (2020)

DATE: 11/6/2019

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

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

To promote a safe and peaceful environment, we will operate according to the guidelines we’ve established for timeliness, attendance, RSVPs, resolving conflict, communicating outside of group, recognition, and embracing our roles and responsibilities (See attached)

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

Jeremiah 4:3 – we will prepare our heart to hear what God is saying. Towards that goal, we will take the following steps:

- **Preparation:** We will acknowledge this is a season of preparing the soil of our heart to receive God’s Word (Exodus 12:6).
- **Guidance.** We will ask for, receive, and respond to guidance from the Lord for any “thorny” areas in our midst (Numbers 9:5).
- **Change.** We will embrace change, because it’s going to happen, so even when things don’t go how we want them to, our reactions are still held to God’s standards (Genesis 31:41)
- **Nourishment.** We will not let fear rule us, but instead, we will embrace the work of the Holy Spirit in our midst as we surrender to the Lord and stay in community, so we can gain nourishment for our growth as an individual and as a group (Acts 27:27-35).

UPDATED GROUP VISION

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. To achieve this goal and to promote a safe and peaceful environment, we will operate according to the following guidelines:

- **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’s 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.