
MEETING NEWSLETTER

Personal Vision and General Discussion

Welcome to WoW², Women of Worship, Women of Witness. This newsletter captures topics discussed during our November 17, 2020 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.*” We will learn how to approach God’s throne of grace with confidence, so we will be able to obtain mercy and grace to help in our time of need.

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE. **Hebrews 4:16:** “Let us then approach God’s throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need (NIV).”

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 her 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 the transformation that comes as God sanctifies us through and through. **The outcome** of our sanctification will be a deeper level of trust in God, so we are not leaning on our own understanding, but acknowledging Him in all our ways, so He can direct our paths.

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

Reminder. We reminded ourselves to ask for prayer requests before closing each meeting!

Expectations for our Ephesians study.

- **We revisited our approach to Ephesians.** Rather than ask what these passages of Scripture mean to us, we chose to, once again, look at who is the **messenger** (Paul), what is the **message** (what we are seeking to once again discover), and who is the **audience** (the Ephesians, but we also want to know how it is applicable to us today).¹

¹ Some of the Meeting Notes from our previous Ephesians study can be found on the website (www.wow2women.com) by clicking on Meeting Notes, and then selecting “The Year of Becoming,” and/or “Learning to Walk,” as this study crossed two different years!

- **Questions to help us know what, if any fruit, we should produce.**
 - What is the apostle Paul saying?
 - Where is it falling in the soil of our heart? Do we understand the Word? Will we accept or reject it? Will the cares of the world, the deceitfulness of riches, or the pleasures of life choke it out? Or will the Word fall on an honest and valuable heart, so it will produce fruit?
 - How do we implement what we learn and/or receive the blessing God has provided, because some of what we read will be things we need to act on and some will be a blessing for us to receive?
- **Two parts of Ephesians.** We learned from Priscilla Shirer's Armor of God study, that Ephesians is broken into two parts: blessings we have and what to do with them.
- **Ephesians: A blueprint for life.**
 - We discussed what we are supposed to understand, learn, and get from this study, because Ephesians is like a blueprint for life! And, if we don't know how to read the blueprint, we will have a problem!
 - We also discussed how the first thing a person is taught about reading a blueprint is to find the door. Since our vision is to go before the throne of grace, we need to know where the access point is and whether we are stepping into it or stepping out of it! We know Jesus is our door, so we need to look for Him in what is being said. After all, He helps us get into where we need to be, to get out of where we're not supposed to be, and He guides us along the journey.
- **Examining ourselves.** We asked ourselves, "If I'm standing before the throne of grace, would I say or do that thing I am saying or doing in that moment?" This reminded us of when God approached Adam and the Woman in the Garden of Eden.
- **Addressing conflict.** Sometimes, the best way to reset after conflict is to take a moment to reintroduce yourself to someone.
- **Takeaways from the evening.**

- Are we in or out before the throne? Before the throne, we have to step out of our will and into His, because if we're there to get His grace, we have to leave with His will! We can't get grace AND have our will—those two DO NOT mix!
- We can also be stepping out of place we're in, so we can turn to Him.
- When stepping out of anything, know why we're stepping out, how we're stepping out, and what direction we are stepping. In other words, are we heading towards or away from the throne of grace and why? Are we heading towards the throne to obtain mercy and find grace or away from the throne for that mercy and grace to flow through us?
- We discussed the image of when we're before the throne, we have a specific assignment!
- It's okay to not be okay and not have it all together. It's okay to be where we are in the moment; just know where to get help and who has our back!
- God needs us to show up ... He needs us to show up at the throne, because that's where our help comes from! Just show up! Show up to learn and to receive.

- **Closing our discussion.** We collected our prayer requests for the evening.

Song(s) for the week: "Truth Be Told, by "Matthew West

(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j4wYkS8Z3lo>), and "If We're Honest" by Francesca Battistelli (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IDcTvtuuVU8>).

Homework Assignment(s): Work on our personal vision

Next Meeting: We will be off for Thanksgiving, so our next meeting will be on TUESDAY, December 1st, when we will close out 2020 with a Night of Prayer!

Closing: We closed in prayer for the needs lifted up, for the group overall, and as 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.