



Meeting Notes: 12-Year Anniversary Celebration
(October 4, 2017)

These notes capture our October 4, 2017 meeting. We opened our meeting in prayer and then began our evening. Topic notes may not be in the order discussed during group, and they are not intended to cover everything. They are intended as highlights to capture the essence of our evening. General notes follow each discussion topic.

2018 Vision: “2018 – Taking Up Our Shield of Faith”

Scripture Reference: Ephesians 6:16 – “¹⁶above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one.”

Discussion Topic: We reviewed where we were in this past year, where we are now, and where we would like to go in the coming year. Below are the nuggets I wrote down:

- **Timing.** Sometimes, things don’t have to be done right away.
- **Trust.** I asked the question, “What does trust look like to you, and this was the answer: When things don’t go how I expect, just laying back and resting in Him and being patient.” This was my takeaway from the evening, because it’s a visual example that fully develops my understanding of an abstract concept.
- **Connections.** He will put the right people in our path in His time and not necessarily ours.
- **The Pruning Process.** For those who don’t know, I have a vining plant in my dining room, which is where we met last night. This plant had gotten so huge, it was not only taking over my dining room, it had piles of leaves stretched out across one side of the room; some of the vines were even growing out both doors into my hallway on one side and my sitting room on the other! Because the plant had gotten so huge, someone I know dubbed it, “Bernie, The Jungle Plant.” Last night, as we looked at Bernie, we discussed why I trimmed her back. From that came the revelation, “all the excess ‘stuff’ on the plant, while it made the plant beautiful, it also made it immobile.” From there we asked ourselves, “How often are we stuck because of all our excess stuff: physical, emotional, spiritual?”
HOMEWORK: Go before the Lord and ask Him, “What is my excess stuff I need to trim?”
- **Intrinsic Rewards.** We discussed how organizing in the natural doesn’t always take as long as we think, but how good it feels once things ARE organized! Not only can we find what we’re looking for, we can also see the fruit of our labor! This discussion opened the door for the Lord to answer one of my prayers, which was to know the intrinsic value of why He allowed some things in my life to turn

out the way they have. In addition to developing my character through these trials, He's also given me knowledge He can use to bless someone else. **My takeaway.** Being the visual person I am, when I can't see the result of something, I need to seek the Lord for the intrinsic value, so I won't lose hope, faith, or perseverance during the process!

- **2018 Vision.** Since this past year was about learning to put on the shoes of the preparation of peace, it only seems fitting that in this upcoming year we should learn how to take up our shield of faith. I am very interested to see if this is the year He will teach us how to walk in our spiritual authority, because our shield of faith will go before us to quench every fiery dart of the enemy.
- **Thirteen.** Next October our small group turns 13, so we looked up what that number means. It's the number of rebellion backsliding, and apostasy. It is also the number of double portion.¹ Therefore, we are claiming the Lord will pour out a double portion of His anointing and His faith upon us!
- **Bernie and New Beginnings.** Both our group and Bernie are in a season of new beginnings. Just like she was cut back to the pot to start over, we are resetting as a group. Consequently, those of us who were present are looking forward to watching Bernie to see what lessons she will teach us.

Next Meeting: The current plan is to return to our Ephesians study.

Closing: We closed our meeting in with a time of worship and 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.

¹ Kevin J. Conner, *The Tabernacle of Moses*, (Portland: City Bible Publishing, 1976), p. 117