



Raising Godly Women (RGW) – Vision and Proverbs (March 11, 2015)

These notes capture our March 11, 2015 meeting. This was a combined WoW² and RGW meeting. We opened our meeting in prayer and then began our first discussion of the study. Topic notes from the evening may not be in the order discussed during group, and they are not intended to cover everything discussed. They are intended as highlights to capture the essence of our evening. General notes follow each topic that was discussed.

God's Mission for the Group: For the older women to teach the younger women (Titus 2:3-5)

CURRENT VISION: "Purity from the Inside Out." **Scripture Reference:** Psalm 90:12, "Teach us to realize the brevity of life, so that we may grow in wisdom" (New Living Translation).

TOPICS DISCUSSED: Why a Vision? Why Proverbs?

Introduction:

- We introduced a different approach to RGW beginning with this study. In order for God to bring both WoW² and RGW under one vision, RGW studies will now be based on WoW² studies. This is to provide common ground for the mothers and daughters to have meaningful discussion about God's Word and its practical application within their lives.

Discussion Topic: Learning to Live by Vision and how Proverbs can Help

- **Opening Exercise:** The girls lined up horizontally. Then the mothers lined up parallel to their daughters (the mothers represented the girl's visions). The girls were then asked to walk to their visions. They did so with no problem. Then they were asked to walk to their visions with their eyes closed (the mothers relocated moved to a position without the girls knowing). The girls eventually found their visions, but it was much harder. Finally, the mothers were asked to line up vertically to the girls so that only the mother/vision who was standing at the front of the line could be seen. The mother/vision at the front of the line never belonged to the young lady in question. When each girl was asked if she could see her vision, she noted that she could not see it. Each girl was then taught to swipe her hands and the obstacles moved each time until her vision was once again visible. We completed the exercise with learning that Proverbs can be used to swipe the obstacles to clear the way to your vision. The intent of this exercise was to illustrate three things. 1) The importance of having a vision. 2) Understanding that obstacles may obscure your view of your vision, but they are not immovable. 3) Seeing how Proverbs can help you remove the obstacles and refresh your view of your vision.

- **Why a Vision:** It is important to have a vision, because without a designated destination, you will end up where ever life takes you and travel the roads that provide the least resistance. Matthew 7:13 tells us, “You can enter God’s kingdom only through the narrow gate. The highway to hell is broad, and its gate is wide for the many that choose that way” (New Living Translation). With this, we know that it is hard to stay on the path to God’s kingdom and easy to get off track. Having a vision to stay focused on that is aligned with God’s Word allows us to stay on track more often than we are off track. It also allows us to know when we are off track, so that we can get back on track. The question then becomes, what do we do when we realize we are off track and no longer have a straight unobstructed path to our vision? We can turn to Proverbs!
- **What About Obstacles:** Obstacles will be placed in your path. Your desire to stay on the narrow path will be tested. Those tests don’t mean God has left you or no longer loves you. We know this because we are told in Deuteronomy 31:8, “Do not be afraid or discouraged, for the Lord will personally go ahead of you. He will be with you; He will never fail nor abandon you” (New Living Translation). Those tests are simply put in place as mile markers to show you where you are in relationship with the Lord. How well you know Him. How well you trust Him. How well you rely upon His Word versus your earthly senses. Without a test, there is no testimony. Without a test there can be no victory. But, if you keep in mind that each obstacle is getting you one step closer to your testimony and His glory, the obstacle becomes an opportunity for victory rather than something to fear. **Take A Way:** Know that obstacles will come to obstruct your view of your vision but God has moved before you, laid a plan, and has provided tools to aid you in removing or traveling through each obstacle.
- **How Can Proverbs Help:** Traveling the path to the narrow gate can be difficult and absolutely exhausting, especially as you are beginning to learn what the Word says, how to rely upon it, and how to trust God. But the great thing about this is, God knows exactly what you’re facing. He knows exactly how hard it is to determine how to make the choices that will bring you closer to Him and exactly how weary you can get through the constant struggle of trying to do the right thing. Throughout this study, the hope is that you will recognize that He’s provided a jewel of a tool in Proverbs to aid you along your journey. Proverbs teaches us wisdom that we can use to recognize the path of choices that will lead us closer to Him, and that wisdom can be used to refuel our strength to follow through even when it’s inconvenient and difficult. **Take A Way:** Obstacles will obscure your vision, and those obstacles will be affected by your choices. Proverbs will help you learn how to make wise choices under pressure as you are removing, traveling through or around each obstacle.
- **Nuggets of the Night:** Here are a few of the standout observations from tonight’s discussion made by the young ladies present.
 - Wisdom is necessary to know how to do things God’s way and in His time
 - Wisdom is necessary to keep your eye on your vision and learn how to navigate your way even when you lose sight of your vision.

- Proverbs can be a useful tool to remove the obstacles or navigate through or around them to get back to your vision
- There's a difference between being independent with the Lord and being independent of Him. One should strive to be independent WITH Him not OF Him.
 - **Independent WITH Him:** You are independent or free of the weight of a person's expectations and the desires of your flesh. You are dependent upon the Lord's Word for guidance and submissive to His will for your life choices.
 - **Independent OF Him:** You allow your actions and character to depend on the expectations of others and the desires of your flesh.
- The Proverbs 31 Woman gives us a description of a noble wife. She is an example of how a Godly woman can go to Scripture for guidance on what it means to be a gift to your family. Proverbs 31 is a great example of how you can find practical wisdom in Proverbs and apply it to your daily lives to develop and stay focused on your vision.
- You can serve the Lord as a single woman as well as a married woman. As young ladies, you should be less caught up in whether you are the marrying type or not and more so on how you will serve the Lord because you don't know His plan for you. Trust in Him and serving and loving Him with all your heart should be your main concerns. He will handle the rest. This was good advice for all of us!
- **Closing:** We prayerfully installed a new leader for RGW. We then 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.