

Life Group Notes 6/7/2025

Pastor Victoria Adewumi—

Discipleship Week 3

No doctrine is a given unless it has been found in the Word given by the Holy Spirit and received by you. If you have observations or questions, feel free to send me an email with your comment or observations at tbeachhead@comcast.net. Thank you for taking the time.

– *Pete Mehegan, the Scribe.*

Remember: Be good to one another. Be sensitive and kind. Let God heal our heart and guide our discussions.

Please pre-read these notes and choose the direction that is appropriate for your group.

Be cognizant of your group's time and be sensitive. *Some groups would like to dwell on a single idea. Let the Spirit be your guide. Never feel obligated to complete this study.*

Note: I have highlighted suggested discussion questions that Pastor Victoria has raised this week, 6/7. Let's allow the Holy Spirit to guide all our discussions, using the highlights as trail blazes. ***The purpose is to minister to one another.*** I include each of the passages mentioned in full, to facilitate the enjoyment of these notes. Footnotes are not meant to distract. This week's footnote speaks:

1. [On the meaning of Jesus saying, "It is finished," on the cross.](#)
2. [On the authority of princes, children of the king.](#)

Important: At [the very end of these notes](#), I've included passages that were mentioned in this week's message for deeper study using SOAP journaling to help further your study during the week.

Victoria opened with revisiting Matthew 28: [18](#) *Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. [19](#) Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, [20](#) and teaching them to obey all that I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, even to the end of the age."*

1. Did you notice anything new this time? Can you share?
2. Do you remember which word in these verses Victoria hung out on?
3. Why is "all" so important? When you include the word "always" (Greek: "all the days..." ...until the end) how many times does "all" appear in these three verses?
4. If Jesus has "all authority," is there anything He *cannot* do, legally?
5. Why is it impossible for him to lie, legally? Can any power ever change the truth?

6. If we are commanded to disciple *all* nations, whom can we exclude?
7. Do *you* disciple all nations as an individual? Or is this a team effort as believers, discipling all nations?
8. How has that team effort worked?
9. How did the team effort work in the book of Acts? Take a moment to discuss the progress of the spreading of the gospel as Luke relates it to us in Acts.
10. Did all leave Jerusalem at once and immediately go?
11. Why did it happen over decades? Was that failure to go? Or was that the plan?
12. If we teach folks to obey *all* that He commanded us, what do we teach?
13. Where do we get our teaching material from?
14. How do you teach someone to obey?
15. Have you been taught to obey? Successfully? How are you doing?
16. If He is with us "all the days even to the end," what authority do we have?
17. When you do anything "...in Jesus' name," who is talking?
18. Do you understand that you are speaking for Jesus, praying in Jesus' place, reaching out to the Father as Jesus always did?

Look up Galatians 3: [23](#) *Before this faith came, we were held in custody under the law, locked up until faith should be revealed. [24](#) So the law became our guardian to lead us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith. [25](#) Now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian. [26](#) You are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. [27](#) For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. [28](#) There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. [29](#) And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed and heirs according to the promise.*

1. What is the difference between being taught in custody by a written law, and being disciplined?
2. How equally called and anointed are we, each one of us? Are there any distinctions left at all?
3. Notice verse 28. How important is it that we all learn to become "sons of God?"
4. Before this age, did women inherit? How did Christianity change all that in one verse?
5. What authority do children of the king have? See [footnote 2 below](#).

Look up Luke 9: [1](#) *Then Jesus called the Twelve together and gave them power and authority over all demons, and power to cure diseases. [2](#) And He sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal the sick. [3](#) "Take nothing for the journey," He told them, "no staff, no bag, no bread, no money, no second tunic. [4](#) Whatever house you enter, stay there until you leave that area. [5](#) If anyone does not welcome you, shake the dust off your feet when you leave that town, as a testimony against them."*

[6](#) *So they set out and went from village to village, preaching the gospel and healing people everywhere.*

1. What do you see?
2. What authority did Jesus' give the disciples at this time?
3. Have you ever been sent out on a mission with no provision? Do you have a testimony?
4. Did He give them *all* authority? Can you explain?
5. Look at verse 6. Put yourself in their shoes. They had *seen Jesus* do this, but they had not yet done it alone. What do you see?
6. Do you have a testimony?

Victoria likens this sending to two Old Testament sendings and commissionings. Look up Genesis 1:28 *God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and every creature that crawls upon the earth."* Also Genesis 9:1 *And God blessed Noah and his sons and said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth. 2The fear and dread of you will fall on every living creature on the earth, every bird of the air, every creature that crawls on the ground, and all the fish of the sea. They are delivered into your hand."*

1. How do the blessings on Adam and Eve and the blessing on Noah compare with Jesus commissioning the disciples? Explain.
2. When we "go out" what are we going to fill the earth with? How will that change the planet and subdue it?
3. What does it mean, when something is "delivered into your hand?"

Victoria says, "I have news for you: There are no demons in heaven. There is no sickness in heaven. So if this authority is to take down the devil and to bring healing, that's not for 'them up there,' that's for us down here."

1. What does this mean?
2. What does it imply?
3. Look back at Matthew 28. What authority has been vested in us? How much?
4. Victoria points out, "Jesus is telling us, 'You have been given authority over hell, sickness and the grave. This is what you inherited. Because you have inherited it, I want you to go out and disciple others, teaching them everything I have taught you to do.'" Do you see this? What does this commission change in us?

Look at what Jesus said after the seventy returned in Luke 10:18 *So He told them, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. 19Behold, I have given you authority to tread on snakes and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy. Nothing will harm you. 20Nevertheless, do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."*

1. Describe the authority here.
2. How did Satan fall when the seventy went out? What authority supplanted his.
3. How swift was Satan's fall when the seventy arrived in those towns and villages? How quickly does lightning fall from heaven?
4. Victoria says, "This idea of going out and making disciples, teaching them to do what Jesus taught us to do is also connected to this idea of preaching the word, bringing healing and taking dominion." Explain.
5. Did Jesus ever send anyone anywhere just to argue with other people?
6. What were the disciples told to do when an argument developed, and resistance prevented them from healing? Do you stay? Or go and heal elsewhere?
7. What mattered more: the debate or the sick and oppressed getting healed and delivered? Explain.

Review again Mark 16:15 *And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. 16Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned. 17And these signs will accompany those who believe: In My name they will drive out demons; they will speak in new tongues; 18they will pick up snakes with their hands, and if they drink any deadly poison, it will not harm them; they will lay their hands on the sick, and they will be made well."*

1. What do you see? Describe the authority Jesus delegates here.

2. How are the powers of darkness described in these verses?
3. Is anything you know of poisonous, that doesn't harm the body but destroys the soul?
4. Who are the snakes today and how do they behave?
5. Do you lay your hands on the sick? Have you ever? What is or has been the result?
6. Now look at the next verses: 19After the Lord Jesus had spoken to them, He was taken up into heaven and sat down at the right hand of God. 20And they went out and preached everywhere, and the Lord worked through them, confirming His word by the signs that accompanied it. What do you see?
7. What is the implication in Jesus' seating arrangement? Why God's right hand?
8. If He is sitting, how is His authority manifested today? In whom?
9. Look at verse 20: What is the result of the apostles' obedience? What promise, if any, was not fulfilled?
10. What are we missing today, if anything? Is what happened with the apostles still "supposed" to happen with us, in us and through us today?
11. Opinion question: why would anyone "suppose" this is not to be expected today?
12. Look at John 19:30 When Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, "It is finished." And bowing His head, He yielded up His spirit. Look at footnote 1 below. What exactly is "finished" the moment Jesus yields up His spirit?

Victoria says, "When Jesus says this, it is not just a turn of phrase. It is the declaration of a fact, that the work [He was commissioned to do] has been finished. If the Work is finished, we have been given His authority. We are lining up [with the promise] and declaring that the Word of God is true."

1. Review John 20:28 Thomas replied, "My Lord and my God!" 29 Jesus said to him, "Because you have seen Me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." Explain what it means to walk by faith and not by sight.
2. What was Thomas walking by? Why was it so hard for him to believe until he could see for himself?
3. Is it hard for you to believe what you have not seen?
4. What will change when the Word and not the seeing of our eyes becomes the basis for what we believe and expect?
5. Victoria says, "When you see the prayer team up here after the service, you see that no one is begging God to do a single thing, because the work is finished. The prayer team is praying under the name of Jesus and by His authority." What does this mean?
6. Why does depression have to go and sickness have to flee?
7. Have you ever prayed and *not* seen an answer? How did that effect your faith?
8. Do you remember what Victoria said, concerning this? (Wait before you peek.)
9. Victoria explains, "At Grace Capital Church we do not preach personal human experiences as gospel. We preach the Word of God, as it is clearly written. We preach what the Bible says, period...the end." Explain.
10. "The Word says, 'By His stripes we are healed,' and that's what we preach until we see our experiences lining up with the word." Explain.
11. What do you see the day after you plant a seed in your garden? What do you expect to see soon? Does the planting depend on your sight for it to germinate? How is the Word like the seed?
12. Is the Word dependent on your faith to spring to life?

13. What happens if you do not plant the seed? What happens if you do not speak the Word?

Victoria brings us to look at the batting averages of Ted Williams, Babe Ruth and David Ortiz...famous for leading their league as Major League players:

- ✦ Ted Williams' record setting batting average was .406. This means that six at bats out of ten, he did not get a hit. And he set the record for a career high.
- ✦ Homerun champ Babe Ruth's batting average was .342. He did not get a hit 66% of the time.
- ✦ David Ortiz' career batting average was .286. He did not get a hit 72% of the times he was at bat.

Victoria asks, "When they walked up to the plate, do you think they believed they were going to hit the ball? Or no? Do you think they were saying, 'If it's God's will, I'll hit it. If it's not God's will, I won't hit it?'"

1. Answer her.
2. Explain your answer. What were they thinking?
3. How do faith and experience motivate the at bat? Do you have a testimony?

Victoria says, "We are not playing a game up here. When we're praying, we're praying for health, healing and breakthrough every time: the restoration of health, the restoration of marriage, the restoration of hope, financial breakthroughs. I believe that God answers, because that's what God's Word says, for health, healing and breakthrough every time. But even if we don't see it immediately, can we be determined to get up to that plate every time, swinging the bat believing that we're going to see a homerun? And even if we do not see a homerun, can we remain determined and ready for the next time at bat, because the more often we swing that bat, the more often we're going to see the homerun?"

1. What do you see?
2. Answer her? Can you expect the homerun?
3. Have you ever played baseball?
4. Did you ever strike out?
5. Did you quit after you struck out? Or did you bat again?
6. How does a batting cage help your swing? How does praying again help you pray?
7. Victoria says, "We believe that the more often we pray, the more often we will see a breakthrough, the more homeruns we're going to see, and the more victories we will possess." Explain.
8. "Landing the plane," Victoria continues, "I want you to know it is OK to go scared." How does praying for someone become frightening? Do you have a testimony?
9. Jesus once asked, "Which is easier for you to say, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or 'Rise, take up your bed, and walk?'" Answer him. Which is easier to say? Why?
10. Have you ever told someone who was clearly impaired, in a wheelchair or bedridden, that their sins were forgiven? Have you ever told them to get out of their bed and walk? Do you have a testimony?
11. Were their sins forgiven? How do you know?
12. Did they get up and walk? How do you know?

Return to Matthew 28 and look at the verse immediately before Jesus commissioned them to make disciples wherever they went: "[16](#)Meanwhile, the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain Jesus had designated. [17](#)When they saw Him, they worshiped Him, but some doubted."

1. What do you notice?
2. Can you actually see Jesus and still doubt?
3. Did their doubting prevent their call and commission?
4. Did their doubting last?
5. From your knowledge of history, did their doubting prevent them from going?
6. What overcomes doubt? Where do you get more knowledge? How do you come to know God?
7. Look at the experience of the disciples on the road to Emmaus after Jesus' resurrection: Luke 24: [29](#)*But they pleaded with Him, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening and the day is almost over." So He went in to stay with them. [30](#)While He was reclining at the table with them, He took bread, spoke a blessing and broke it, and gave it to them. [31](#)Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized Jesus—and He disappeared from their sight. [32](#)They asked each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us as He spoke with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?"* What do you see?
8. Has your heart ever burned withing you, just by hearing the Word of God spoken in season? Do you have a testimony?
9. Are you at a disadvantage because you don't see Jesus face to face? Explain.
10. Where does Paul say faith comes from? Does it come from seeing Jesus face to face? Or does it come by hearing Him and seeing Him in the Word?
11. Explain again. How is the Word a seed?
12. What do we do at our next "at bat?"

Look at how the letter to the Hebrews expresses this principle in chapter 12:

[1](#)*Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off every encumbrance and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with endurance the race set out for us. [2](#)Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. [3](#)Consider Him who endured such hostility from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.*

1. What do you see?
2. How do you fix your eyes on Jesus, whom you do not see? (Look at verse 3)
3. How does Jesus author our faith?
4. How does He complete/perfect it?
5. Remembering Hebrews 11, how many of the faithful described in that chapter hit home runs?
6. How many seemed to strike out?
7. Did they, in fact strike out, or was getting sawn in two, in fact, also a home run? Explain.
8. How is making disciples, preserving our own reputation and remaining faithful to the last breath, in fact, a home run?
9. "God has sent each one of you to your families, to your workplaces, to all of your relationships to walk in power and in authority, to bring the good news of Who He is, and who we are in Him, and to bring healing, not just physical healing, but the whole, spirit and soul and body." How does that change the concept of "...into all the world?"
10. If you faithfully reach your circle, how are all circles reached?

Victoria closes with a prophetic declaration: “Church! We are sons of God who have been called to make disciples of all nations, therefore just like Jesus did. We see what our Father is doing, and we do what we see our Father doing, walking in authority and power over the darkness of this world, preaching the good news of Who Jesus is, and bringing healing, wholeness and multiplication to the kingdom in anticipation of His return. Amen.”

1. Respond.
 2. What elements do you see in this declaration?
 3. What are the limitations?
 4. What is the fruit you anticipate?
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Follow up application:

1. Use the [Soap study below](#) to pursue your own understanding.
2. Monitor your own encounters this week. What is changing? Make notes.
3. What is happening to your own limits? Make note of any change.

Take the time to pray.

Scribe's Footnotes:

1. **On the meaning of Jesus saying, “It is finished,” on the cross**—Before He breathed His last, in John 19:30, Jesus cried out, “Τετέλεσται” (*tetelestai*, it is finished). Victoria rightly pointed out that this was more than a turn of phrase, but a declaration of fact. It is, in fact, a legal declaration in Greek that means a debt, or covenant, or demand has been “Met completely and paid in full.” According to Thayers Greek Lexicon, his statement means, “everything has been accomplished which by the appointment of the Father as revealed in the Scriptures I must do and bear.” He did everything and met every requirement, and so our inheritance is assured by virtue of His last breath. We now become partakers of His life in the Father.
 2. **On the authority of princelings, children of the king**—This is just a simple footnote to buttress Victoria’s observation that things do not always happen according to our plans or fantasies, and yet nothing diminishes the authority we have received in Christ Jesus as sons of God. Think about the principles of royalty in order to understand: When a prince is born, all the power of the kingdom lies innate in him. Indeed, the firstborn is the future king. In majesty, he is considered great, but not yet in power. A child born to a king is placed under a guardian, as Paul explains in Galatians above. No child governs in childhood. In England, the firstborn is designated “Prince of Wales.” Wales, a state in the United Kingdom, is, indeed, a Principality...and the head of state of Wales is its prince. When Elizabeth died, Charles became King of England, and William, Charles’ son, became the Prince of Wales. Princes, then, the sons of kings, are vested with the power and authority that the king delegates to them, which authority will increase with their age and experience and reputation. Children of the kingdom grow on this wise, by age, wisdom and experience, the source of the power of our testimony.
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For further study:

06/07/2025

Sermon Life Group Notes

Take a moment each day this week to apply the **SOAP method** (**S**cripture—Copy the scripture. / **O**bservation—Write what you see. / **A**pplication—Write what God is saying. / **P**ray—Write what your response is.) to some of the scripture we looked at this week:

Monday: Luke 9:1-5 Tuesday: Genesis 1:28 Wednesday: Genesis 9:1-2 Thursday: Mark 16:19-20 Friday: John 20:28-29 Saturday: Galatians 3:25-29 Sunday: Hebrews 12:1-3
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Once again, some passages suggested here have more than the usual number of verses. This is not to increase the burden but to provide clarity of context. Pick the verses that speak to you most clearly, and run these through the SOAP steps.