

# Life Group Notes 1/25/2026

## Victoria Adewumi—Break My Heart for What Breaks Yours

### 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](mailto: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.

**Leaders:** *please pre-read these notes and choose the direction that is appropriate for your group. Scan the detailed questions that follow the AI-generated study questions, to see if you want to add any more detailed questions.*

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, 1/25. 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***

**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.

**This format begins with a summary of the notes, followed by study questions. This week, notes in full detail can be found beginning on page 3:**

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#### Section I: Summary

Here's "co-pilot's" AI summary of the Sermon Lifegroup Notes

#### Summary of the Highlighted Section

This section guides a Life Group through reflection and discussion based on Victoria Adewumi's message. It begins with a quiz about the mission of GCC-NH and encourages participants to recall what stood out from the sermon. The opening remarks emphasize that attendees are seeking a transformative word from God, inviting them to share what they hoped to hear and whether their needs were met.

The notes prompt the group to consider the purpose of "Doing What Jesus Did," asking what actions of Jesus might be missing from their own lives. The group is led through a study of Romans 8, focusing on God's purpose, calling, justification, and glorification, and the assurance that God works all things for good for those who love Him.

A significant portion is dedicated to the parable of the sheep and goats in Matthew 25, exploring themes of compassion, service, and the distinction between those who act on Jesus' teachings and those who do not. Participants are encouraged to reflect on the unconscious nature of true service, the difference between sheep and goats, and the

importance of acting on Jesus' words, as reinforced by the parable of the wise and foolish builders in Matthew 7.

The section also addresses the role of works in salvation, clarifying that salvation is by grace through faith, not by works, but that believers are created for good works prepared by God. Participants are asked to consider the humility and surprise of the "sheep" in the parable, who did not realize the significance of their actions.

Further, the notes include Proverbs about kindness to the poor, and an observation that any good desire comes from Jesus through the Holy Spirit. This leads to a reflection on serving not out of obligation, but as a response to God's invitation and love.

The section concludes with a review of Philippians 2, connecting the call to "work out your salvation" with the assurance that it is God who works in believers for His good purpose. Victoria's message is summarized as serving from a place of being loved by Jesus, and the importance of seeing Jesus in others, shaping how we approach both God and people.

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## Section II: Study questions

### Opening Reflection & Personal Connection

1. What stood out to you most from Victoria Adewumi's message this week, and why?
2. Did you come to the group with a specific need or expectation? If so, do you feel it was addressed? How did your expectations shape your experience today?
3. Can you share a moment from the past week when you sensed God speaking to you or guiding you?

### Exploring the Mission and Message

4. What do you think are the three facets of GCC-NH's mission? How do they shape our group's purpose and your personal faith journey?
5. Victoria emphasized "Doing What Jesus Did." What are some actions of Jesus that you feel are missing from your own life or our group's life together? What steps could we take to embody these actions more fully?
6. How does the idea of "Doing What Jesus Did" challenge or inspire you personally?

### Scripture Engagement & Application

7. Read Romans 8:28-30 together. What promises or encouragements do you find in these verses? How do they apply to your current circumstances?
8. How do the concepts of calling, justification, and glorification shape your understanding of God's work in your life?
9. In Matthew 25:31-46, Jesus describes the separation of the sheep and goats. What is the key difference between the two groups? How does this challenge or affirm your understanding of service and compassion?
10. Reflect on a time when you served someone without realizing the impact. How does the idea of "serving Jesus unconsciously" resonate with you?
11. How does the parable of the wise and foolish builders in Matthew 7:24-27 connect to the message of Matthew 25? What does it mean to "hear and act" on Jesus' words? How can we cultivate a habit of acting on what we hear from God?

## Faith, Works, and Motivation

12. According to Ephesians 2:8-10, what is the relationship between faith, grace, and good works? How does this shape your motivation for serving others?
13. Victoria observed that any good desire comes from Jesus through the Holy Spirit. How does this perspective change the way you view your own acts of kindness or service?
14. What is the difference between serving out of obligation and serving in response to God's invitation and love? How can we discern the difference in our own lives?

## Deeper Reflection &amp; Group Engagement

15. What practical steps can you take this week to "see Jesus in others" and serve from a place of being loved by Him?
16. How do you respond to the idea that our identity as beloved children of God is a gift to be received by faith? How does this affect your confidence in approaching God?
17. Discuss the role of humility and surprise in the parable of the sheep and goats. Why do you think both groups were surprised by the verdict?
18. How do Proverbs about kindness to the poor influence your understanding of generosity and compassion?

## Closing Reflection &amp; Commitment

19. What is one takeaway or action step you want to focus on after today's discussion?
20. How can the group support you in living out what you've learned?
21. Take a moment to pray together, asking God to reveal opportunities to serve and love others in the coming week.

### Section III: Complete study notes

**Quiz question:** List the three facets of GCC-NH's mission:

1. Hint: Reach the \_\_\_\_...! C\_\_\_\_ for ...! T\_\_\_\_...the...!
2. What do you remember of Victoria's message?
3. Victoria's opening comments might have been a supernatural work of knowledge, as Jesus' own words with the Samaritan woman at the well. She said, "You did not come here to hear me speak. You didn't come here to hear me expound on a topic. You came, because you want to hear from heaven a specific word that will bring life into your specific situation. You came because you want to be transformed, and we pray that you will leave this place different from when you arrived." Is this true?
4. Can you share what you came to hear?
5. Did you hear what you needed to hear?
6. She spoke of the lifegroup, "Doing What Jesus Did." Have you been a part of that lifegroup? Do you have a testimony?
7. What exactly did Jesus do that we are not doing?
8. She quoted from Romans 8:28 *And we know that God works all things together for the good of those who love Him, who are called according to His purpose.* <sup>29</sup>For those God foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, so that He would be the firstborn among many brothers. <sup>30</sup>*And those He predestined, He also called; those He called, He also justified; those He justified, He also glorified.* What do you see?

9. List the benefits Paul describes in this passage and which we can look forward to, even this week.

Turn to and read together Matthew 25:<sup>31</sup>*When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, He will sit on His glorious throne.* <sup>32</sup>*All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate the people one from another, as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats.* <sup>33</sup>*He will place the sheep on His right and the goats on His left.*

<sup>34</sup>*Then the King will say to those on His right, 'Come, you who are blessed by My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.* <sup>35</sup>*For I was hungry and you gave Me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave Me something to drink, I was a stranger and you took Me in,* <sup>36</sup>*I was naked and you clothed Me, I was sick and you looked after Me, I was in prison and you visited Me.'*

<sup>37</sup>*Then the righteous will answer Him, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You something to drink?* <sup>38</sup>*When did we see You a stranger and take You in, or naked and clothe You?* <sup>39</sup>*When did we see You sick or in prison and visit You?'*

<sup>40</sup>*And the King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of Mine, you did for Me.'*

<sup>41</sup>*Then He will say to those on His left, 'Depart from Me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels.* <sup>42</sup>*For I was hungry and you gave Me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave Me nothing to drink,* <sup>43</sup>*I was a stranger and you did not take Me in, I was naked and you did not clothe Me, I was sick and in prison and you did not look after Me.'*

<sup>44</sup>*And they too will reply, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to You?'*

<sup>45</sup>*Then the King will answer, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for Me.'*

<sup>46</sup>*And they will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."*

1. What do you see?
2. Did you see anything new? Can you share?
3. In the life of a shepherd, what is the difference between sheep and goats?
4. What do sheep do that goats do not do?
5. In this parable, what is the difference? What do sheep do that goats do not do?
6. Review how Jesus closes the Sermon on the mount. See Matthew 7:<sup>24</sup>*Therefore everyone who hears these words of Mine and acts on them is like a wise man who built his house on the rock.* <sup>25</sup>*The rain fell, the torrents raged, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because its foundation was on the rock.* <sup>26</sup>*But everyone who hears these words of Mine and does not act on them is like a foolish man who built his house on sand.* <sup>27</sup>*The rain fell, the torrents raged, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell—and great was its collapse!"* What do you see?
7. What is the difference between the two builders in this parable?
8. If you were to make a comparison between this in Matthew 7 and what we just read in Matthew 25, what do sheep do that goats do not do?
9. Were the sheep in the parable aware of what they had done? Did they come to the throne with a list of good works?

10. Did the two groups organize themselves into the two groups? Who does the organizing?
11. Who maintains the records with the lists of deeds? Why is this important?
12. Do your works save you?
13. Review Ephesians 2:<sup>8</sup>For it is by grace you have been saved through faith, and this not from yourselves; it is the gift of God, <sup>9</sup>not by works, so that no one can boast.  
Put this into your own words.
14. Now continue the review: Ephesians 2:<sup>10</sup>For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance as our way of life.  
What do you see in this verse? What do we learn of good works?
15. Make a guess, drawn from this verse: What was up with the goats?
16. In the above parable, what were the works that had been prepared?
17. Were the sheep boastful? Explain.
18. Both the sheep and the goats were surprised by the verdict. Can you explain why?
19. Who always remembers what you did for the least, even when you forget?
20. Look at Proverbs 19:<sup>17</sup>Kindness to the poor is a loan to the LORD, and He will repay the lender. Also Proverbs 28:<sup>27</sup>Whoever gives to the poor will not be in need, but he who hides his eyes will receive many curses. What do you see in your own words?

Victoria made an observation. "Did you know this, church? If there is anything that you desire to do that is good, it is the Lord Jesus Christ by His Holy Spirit that puts that desire into your heart to do it. Jesus gets all the credit, because He's the one that actually did the work. He prepared it in advance, so that you would get to partner with Him, and walk it out. That leads me to say, 'We are not serving. We are not trying to conjure up goodness...in fact we are receiving it as a good gift from our Heavenly Father.' This means we are not serving out of obligation, we are serving in response to His divine invitation. It is our honor and privilege to work this out."

1. What is your response?
2. Review Philippians 2:<sup>12</sup>Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed, not only in my presence, but now even more in my absence, continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling. <sup>13</sup>For it is God who works in you to will and to act on behalf of His good purpose. Put these verses into the context of Victoria's observations. What do you think? Do they fit well?
3. Victoria continues, "We serve knowing that Jesus is madly in love with each one of us." Explain. Who is not included in this love?
4. Who brings this love to the unloved?
5. She says, "It is so important, because how we see Jesus is how we will approach Him and how we will approach others." Explain. Do you have a thought to share or a testimony?

Next, Victoria reviews Matthew 25:14-30, the parable of the talents. Take a moment to read it together. Now examine Mt 25:<sup>24</sup>Finally, the servant who had received the one talent came and said, 'Master, I knew that you are a hard man, reaping where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed. <sup>25</sup>So I was afraid and went out and hid your talent in the ground. See, you have what belongs to you.' <sup>26</sup>'You wicked, lazy servant!' replied his master. 'You knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather

where I have not scattered seed. <sup>27</sup>Then you should have deposited my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received it back with interest. <sup>28</sup>Therefore take the talent from him and give it to the one who has ten talents. <sup>29</sup>For everyone who has will be given more, and he will have an abundance. But the one who does not have, even what he has will be taken away from him. <sup>30</sup>And throw that worthless servant into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

1. What do you see?
2. How did the third servant see Jesus? How does he approach Him?
3. Look at the first two servants? Did they see Jesus differently? Explain.
4. Seeing Jesus in the same light as the third, what did they do differently?
5. What is the fruit of imitating the example Jesus sets?
6. How does Jesus characterize the third servant? Is that harsh? Or accurate?
7. Review what Jesus told the apostles at the last Supper in John 15: <sup>14</sup>You are My friends if you do what I command you. <sup>15</sup>No longer do I call you servants, for a servant does not understand what his master is doing. But I have called you friends, because everything I have learned from My Father I have made known to you. <sup>16</sup>You did not choose Me, but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit—fruit that will remain—so that whatever you ask the Father in My name, He will give you. <sup>17</sup>This is My command to you: Love one another. What do you see?
8. Look at verse 15. What is the difference between a servant and a friend?
9. What are the advantages to understanding what the master is doing?
10. What are the advantages, listed here, to friendship?
11. What are the obligations listed here?
12. Victoria repeats, "If we love Jesus, we will love what He loves, and we will do what He has done." Explain.
13. Confirm this with what we've seen today in scripture.
14. Examine what the serpent tells Eve in this light: Genesis 3: <sup>4</sup>"You will not surely die," the serpent told the woman. <sup>5</sup>"For God knows that in the day you eat of it, your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." Did Adam or Eve become "more like God" by eating?
15. What were Adam and Eve lacking that the apostles at the dinner table had gained?
16. What did Adam and Eve need more of? Did they need to do more?
17. Do you ever feel like you have to "do more?"
18. Victoria says, "God has already given you His identity as a good gift, and our job is to receive that gift by faith." Explain.
19. Look again at what Adam tells God in Genesis 3: <sup>10</sup>"I heard Your voice in the garden," he replied, "and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid myself."
20. How did Adam see God? What was Adam's expectation?
21. What is yours, when next you find yourself with God in the garden in the cool of the day?

Victoria then asked three questions:

- † Do you expect punishment from God when you fail?
- † Do you think your past mistakes are disqualifying you from His help?
- † Do you believe that if you do not do it, it will not get done?

Answer her. Take a moment.

She then says, "Our first responsibility, then is hidden in 2 Corinthians 4:<sup>4</sup>*The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.* <sup>5</sup>*For we do not proclaim ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake.* <sup>6</sup>*For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," made His light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ."*

1. Whose fault is the blindness in those we love who do not yet see?
2. What is our responsibility?
3. Why do some lack understanding? Is it their fault?
4. What is our task, then?
5. How is this done?
6. Review Matthew 25: <sup>40</sup>*And the King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of Mine, you did for Me.'* What did they do?
7. Look at Ecclesiastes 9:<sup>10</sup>*Whatever you find to do with your hands, do it with all your might, for in Sheol, where you are going, there is no work or planning or knowledge or wisdom.* How did they do it?

Look at 2 Corinthians 5:<sup>20</sup>*Therefore we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were making His appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ: Be reconciled to God.* <sup>21</sup>*God made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God.*

1. What is the duty of an ambassador? For whom do they speak?
2. What is God telling you, by this?
3. If the ambassador is imploring you, how important is this?
4. How is reconciliation even possible?
5. What is the benefit of reconciliation?
6. What is the hallmark and fruit of God's righteousness?
7. How are you doing?

Examine Hebrews 10:<sup>19</sup>*Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, <sup>20</sup>by the new and living way opened for us through the curtain of His body, <sup>21</sup>and since we have a great priest over the house of God, <sup>22</sup>let us draw near with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.*

1. What do you see?
2. Do you have that confidence?
3. What is next, after you draw near with a sincere heart and in full assurance faith?

She says, "In the Old Covenant this way was closed. Sin has no place in the Holy of Holies. But in the New Covenant inaugurated by the blood of Jesus Christ on the cross, you, my friend, in your sin, in your destructive habits, in your addiction are still seen by God as righteous, holy and blameless."

1. Explain. Is this true?
2. Does God see your works AFTER they were completed? Or does He credit your works to you before you were even born?
3. Look at Isaiah 46:<sup>9</sup>*Remember what happened long ago, for I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like Me.* <sup>10</sup>*I declare the end from the beginning, and ancient times from what is still to come. I say, 'My purpose will*

stand, and all My good pleasure I will accomplish.’ What does this mean, “I declare the end from the beginning?”

4. Which matters more? The beginning or the end?
5. Which matters more? The seed? Or the fruit thereof?
6. Which brought more fruit? The birth? Or the resurrection? Explain.
7. What are we to examine? Our beginning? Or the miracle of our promised end?
8. Victoria speaks of our confidence to approach Him. How is that confidence comparable to our faith?

She continues, “The righteous are those who visited the sick, and the imprisoned and who fed the hungry and gave drink to the thirsty. Church, all of these acts are the fruit of knowing that we are righteous, holy and accepted. They were serving Jesus unconsciously. They were serving God without even recognizing Him. They were merely serving, having been made the righteousness of God. It was this righteousness that produced the desire to give, to love and to serve.

1. What do you see?
2. Where does fruit come from?
3. Is it possible to serve Jesus without knowing it? Explain.

Victoria then gave a quiz:

† Who is the first person in the Bible to be called “righteous”?

1. Did you answer correctly?
2. Examine Genesis 6:<sup>8</sup>Noah, however, found favor in the eyes of the LORD. <sup>9</sup>This is the account of Noah. Noah was a righteous man, blameless in his generation; Noah walked with God. Which comes first? Favor or righteousness?
3. Victoria says that this testimony of Noah has been ascribed to us. From today’s lesson, can you prove it with scripture?
4. Did Noah build the arc before or after his reputation was established?
5. Apply to Noah the verse we read above from Ephesians 2:<sup>10</sup>For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance as our way of life. What do you learn?
6. Now look at 1 John 4:<sup>19</sup>We love because He first loved us. <sup>20</sup>If anyone says, “I love God,” but hates his brother, he is a liar. For anyone who does not love his brother, whom he has seen, cannot love God, whom he has not seen. Which came first, the works or the love?
7. How is love manifested? (Describe how God manifested His love to you.)
8. Victoria says, “We cannot successfully love or care for anyone if we are not first clear on the love that God has for us.” Explain.
9. How important to this discussion is what follows in 1 John 4:<sup>21</sup>And we have this commandment from Him: Whoever loves God must love his brother as well. Explain. When you love your brother, whom are you loving as well?
10. Victoria emphasizes, “When we truly love God, we love whom He loves. We love whatever He loves. We care for those for whom He cares.” Explain.
11. Why, in the kingdom, will the first always be last and the last first?
12. In this context can you explain 1 John 3:<sup>2</sup>Beloved, we are now children of God, and what we will be has not yet been revealed. We know that when Christ appears, we

will be like Him, for we will see Him as He is. <sup>3</sup>And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as Christ is pure. When does Christ appear?

13. Has it ever happened? To whom did He appear after the resurrection?

14. Have you ever seen Christ? Can we hope to see Him?

15. What is the next step in your quest to see Him as He is?

Victoria claims “Our gospel is to see Jesus in every person, knowing when we are ministering to their needs we are ministering to him.”

1. Is this true?

2. Look further at 2 Corinthians 5:<sup>14</sup>For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that One died for all, therefore all died. <sup>15</sup>And He died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves, but for Him who died for them and was raised again. <sup>16</sup>So from now on we regard no one according to the flesh.

*Although we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer.* What changed in how Paul looked at others?

3. Whom did Paul exclude in his approach?

4. Do you exclude any in your approach? Explain.

**Take the time to pray.**

#### Follow up application:

1. Use the **Soap study below** to pursue your own understanding.
2. List the steps you are taking to purify yourself as Christ is pure.
3. Write down those verses that help you see more of your identity as a beloved child of God.
4. Try looking at others as Paul did: Christ died expressly for them. Write down what changes.

#### For further study:

Take a moment each day this week to apply the **SOAP method** (Scripture—Copy the scripture. / Observation—Write what you see. /Application—Write what God is saying. /Prayer—Write what your response is.) to some of the scripture we looked at this week:

Monday: Romans 8:28-30

Tuesday: Proverbs 19:17, 28:27

Wednesday: Ephesians 2:8-9

Thursday: Ephesians 2:10

Friday: Philippians 2:12-13

Saturday: John 15:14-17

Sunday: Ecclesiastes 9:10

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.