**Women of Warfare “WOW” Class 3**

**“Learning to Discern” *by Connie Stoffel***

**Friday, August 31, 2018**

**Personal Housecleaning:**

***“Many lessons will be taught to you***

***before they can be taught through you!***

**Exodus 4:11-12 Let’s take a look at Moses’ life: Just one man.**

[**Exo 4:11**](verseid:2.4.11) And the LORD [H3068](num:H3068)  said [H559](num:H559)  unto [H413](num:H413)  him, Who [H4310](num:H4310)  hath made [H7760](num:H7760)  man's [H120](num:H120)  mouth? [H6310](num:H6310)  or [H176](num:H176)  who [H4310](num:H4310)  maketh [H7760](num:H7760)  the dumb, [H483](num:H483)  or [H176](num:H176)  deaf, [H2795](num:H2795)  or [H176](num:H176)  the seeing, [H6493](num:H6493)  or [H176](num:H176)  the blind? [H5787](num:H5787)  have not [H3808](num:H3808)  I [H595](num:H595)  the LORD? [H3068](num:H3068)  [**Exo 4:12**](verseid:2.4.12) Now [H6258](num:H6258)  therefore go, [H1980](num:H1980)  and I [H595](num:H595)  will be [H1961](num:H1961)  with [H5973](num:H5973)  thy mouth, [H6310](num:H6310)  and teach [H3384](num:H3384)  thee what [H834](num:H834)  thou shalt say. [H1696](num:H1696)  [**Exo 4:15**](verseid:2.4.15) And thou shalt speak [H1696](num:H1696)  unto [H413](num:H413)  him, and put [H7760](num:H7760)  ( [H853](num:H853) ) words [H1697](num:H1697)  in his mouth: [H6310](num:H6310)  and I [H595](num:H595)  will be [H1961](num:H1961)  with [H5973](num:H5973)  thy mouth, [H6310](num:H6310)  and with [H5973](num:H5973)  his mouth, [H6310](num:H6310)  and will teach [H3384](num:H3384)  you( [H853](num:H853) ) what [H834](num:H834)  ye shall do. [H6213](num:H6213)

***TEACH:*** יָרָא    יָרָה yârâh  yârâ' *yaw-raw', yaw-raw'* A primitive root; properly to *flow* as water (that is, to *rain*); transitively to *lay* or *throw* (especially an arrow, that is, to *shoot*); figuratively to *point* out (as if by *aiming* the finger), to *teach: -* (+) archer, cast, direct, inform, instruct, lay, shew, shoot, teach (-er,-ing), through.

The Fathers teaching you through the Holy Spirit will be so precise that it will cause you to hit the mark in whatever you say of do, but you must follow Their leading. He will not only teach us: - what to say - what to do

***SAY:*** דָּבַר dâbar *daw-bar'* A primitive root; perhaps properly to *arrange*; but used figuratively (of words) to *speak*; rarely (in a destructive sense) to *subdue: -* answer, appoint, bid, command, commune, declare, destroy, give, name, promise, pronounce, rehearse, say, speak, be spokesman, subdue, talk, teach, tell, think, use [entreaties], utter, X well, X work.

***DO:*** עָשָׂה‛âśâh *aw-saw'* A primitive root; to *do* or *make*, in the broadest sense and widest application: - accomplish, advance, appoint, apt, be at, become, bear, bestow, bring forth, bruise, be busy, X certainly, have the charge of, commit, deal (with), deck, + displease, do, (ready) dress (-ed), (put in) execute (-ion), exercise, fashion, + feast, [fight-] ing man, + finish, fit, fly, follow, fulfil, furnish, gather, get, go about, govern, grant, great, + hinder, hold ([a feast]), X indeed, + be industrious, + journey, keep, labour, maintain, make, be meet, observe, be occupied, offer, + officer, pare, bring (come) to pass, perform, practise, prepare, procure, provide, put, requite, X sacrifice, serve, set, shew, X sin, spend, X surely, take, X thoroughly, trim, X very, + vex, be [warr-] ior, work (-man), yield, use.

A lot of people find out they have their gifting’s and they jump right in using them. They think there is some shortcut around having to learn. There are no shortcuts in the Kingdom of God. James warns us clearly….

[**Jas 3:1**](verseid:59.3.1) My [G3450](num:G3450)  brethren, [G80](num:G80)  be [G1096](num:G1096)  not [G3361](num:G3361)  many [G4183](num:G4183)  masters, [G1320](num:G1320)  knowing [G1492](num:G1492)  that [G3754](num:G3754)  we shall receive [G2983](num:G2983)  the greater [G3187](num:G3187)  condemnation. [G2917](num:G2917)

MASTERS: **G1320**: διδάσκαλος didaskalos *did-as'-kal-os* From [G1321](num:G1321); an *instructor* (generally or specifically): - doctor, master, teacher. **G1321:** διδάσκω didaskō *did-as'-ko* A prolonged (causative) form of a primary verb δάω daō (to *learn*); to *teach* (in the same broad application): - teach.

This is instructors or teachers of different kinds. Almost every ministry can fall under this warning:

**Eph 4:11**  And G2532  he G846  gave G1325  some, G3588 G3303  apostles; G652  and G1161  some, G3588  prophets; G4396  and G1161  some, G3588  evangelists; G2099  and G1161  some, G3588  pastors G4166  and G2532  teachers; G1320    [**Eph 4:12**](verseid:49.4.12) For [G4314](num:G4314)  the [G3588](num:G3588)  perfecting [G2677](num:G2677)  of the [G3588](num:G3588)  saints, [G40](num:G40)  for [G1519](num:G1519)  the work [G2041](num:G2041)  of the ministry, [G1248](num:G1248)  for [G1519](num:G1519)  the edifying [G3619](num:G3619)  of the [G3588](num:G3588)  body [G4983](num:G4983)  of Christ: [G5547](num:G5547)

**“WE MUST LEARN TO DISCERN”**

**Teaching: Learning to Discern**

***What is true discernment?***

Different battles require different weapons, but….

***discernment is always necessary***!

We talked about Hebrews 5:14 last week:

[**Heb 5:14**](verseid:58.5.14) But [G1161](num:G1161)  strong meat [G4731](num:G4731) [G5160](num:G5160)  belongeth [G2076](num:G2076)  to them that are of full age, [G5046](num:G5046)  *even* those who by reason of [G1223](num:G1223)  use [G1838](num:G1838)  have [G2192](num:G2192)  their senses [G145](num:G145)  exercised [G1128](num:G1128)  to [G4314](num:G4314)  ***discern*** [G1253](num:G1253)  both [G5037](num:G5037)  good [G2570](num:G2570)  and [G2532](num:G2532)  evil. [G2556](num:G2556)

**GREEK: *discern***  **#1253 - Diakrisis: the act of judgment**

**Original Word:**διάκρισις, εως, ἡ **Part of Speech:**Noun, Feminine **Transliteration:**diakrisis  
**Phonetic Spelling:**(dee-ak'-ree-sis) **Short Definition:**distinguishing, deciding, passing sentence on **Definition:**distinguishing; hence: deciding, passing sentence on; the act of judgment, discernment.

We talked about the same word “diakrisis” being used again in 1 Corinthians 12:10 speaking about spiritual gifts:

“to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits, to

Two distinct “Discernments” here. One that every believer must possess and that must be exercised and cultivated… and one that is a gift to be used upon need of the situation.

Read Hebrews 5:14 again….

“But solid food belongs to those who are [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Hebrews+5%3A14&version=NKJV#fen-NKJV-30045a)]of full age, *that is,* those who ***by reason of [***[***b***](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Hebrews+5%3A14&version=NKJV#fen-NKJV-30045b)***]use*** have their senses ***exercised*** to ***discern*** both good and evil.” Hebrews 5:14

Constant use and fully trained are the ones who will discern…

In the following verses, I believe Paul was using both types of discernments in this portion of scripture. The “Gift of Discernment” came forth quickly because he had learned to exercise his ability to discern.

In Acts 16, Paul and Silas are in Philippi.

[**Act 16:16**](verseid:44.16.16) And [G1161](num:G1161)  it came to pass, [G1096](num:G1096)  as we [G2257](num:G2257)  went [G4198](num:G4198)  to [G1519](num:G1519)  prayer, [G4335](num:G4335)  a certain [G5100](num:G5100)  damsel [G3814](num:G3814)  possessed [G2192](num:G2192)  with a spirit [G4151](num:G4151)  of divination [G4436](num:G4436)  met [G528](num:G528)  us, [G2254](num:G2254)  which [G3748](num:G3748)  brought [G3930](num:G3930)  her [G848](num:G848)  masters [G2962](num:G2962)  much [G4183](num:G4183)  gain [G2039](num:G2039)  by soothsaying: [G3132](num:G3132)

***Notice what she is saying:***

[**Act 16:17**](verseid:44.16.17) The same [G3778](num:G3778)  followed [G2628](num:G2628)  Paul [G3972](num:G3972)  and [G2532](num:G2532)  us, [G2254](num:G2254)  and cried, [G2896](num:G2896)  saying, [G3004](num:G3004)  These [G3778](num:G3778)  men [G444](num:G444)  are [G1526](num:G1526)  the servants [G1401](num:G1401)  of the [G3588](num:G3588)  most high [G5310](num:G5310)  God, [G2316](num:G2316)  which [G3748](num:G3748)  shew [G2605](num:G2605)  unto us [G2254](num:G2254)  the way [G3598](num:G3598)  of salvation. [G4991](num:G4991)

Satan is not afraid of using truth to deceive people. Truth/not full truth is being spoken by the enemy of God. Men and women with the gift of discernment are specially gifted in distinguishing between those words, deeds and appearances that are true and those that are false.

Though her words were true, the spirit behind them was false and sought to lure people with a little bit of truth so that the opportunity could be used to heap reproach upon the gospel.

Paul judged her words to be true, but knew by appearance that the spirits guiding her were insincere. He was not fooled by what might have been an appearance of godliness.

This happens all the time in ministry and we need to use great caution regarding the spirit behind the half truths.

Appearances must also be carefully weighed against the Scriptures. Paul didn’t confront the spirit right away. The word “grieved” gives us a clue.

[**Act 16:18**](verseid:44.16.18) And [G1161](num:G1161)  this [G5124](num:G5124)  did [G4160](num:G4160)  she( [G1909](num:G1909) ) many [G4183](num:G4183)  days. [G2250](num:G2250)  But [G1161](num:G1161)  Paul, [G3972](num:G3972)  being grieved, [G1278](num:G1278)  turned [G1994](num:G1994)  and [G2532](num:G2532)  said [G2036](num:G2036)  to the [G3588](num:G3588)  spirit, [G4151](num:G4151)  I command [G3853](num:G3853)  thee [G4671](num:G4671)  in [G1722](num:G1722)  the [G3588](num:G3588)  name [G3686](num:G3686)  of Jesus [G2424](num:G2424)  Christ [G5547](num:G5547)  to come [G1831](num:G1831)  out of [G575](num:G575)  her. [G846](num:G846)  And [G2532](num:G2532)  he came out [G1831](num:G1831)  the [G3588](num:G3588)  same [G846](num:G846)  hour. [G5610](num:G5610)

**GRIEVED:** G1278 διαπονέω diaponeō *dee-ap-on-eh'-o* From [G1223](num:G1223) and a derivative of [G4192](num:G4192); to *toil through*, that is, (passively) *be worried:* - be grieved.

**G1223** διά dia *dee-ah'* A primary preposition denoting the *channel* of an act; *through* (in very wide applications, local, causal or occasional). In composition it retains the same general import: - after, always, among, at, to avoid, because of (that), briefly, by, for (cause) . . . fore, from, in, by occasion of, of, by reason of, for sake, that, thereby, therefore, X though, through (-out), to, wherefore, with (-in). In composition it retains the same general import.

**G4192:** πόνος ponos *pon'-os* From the base of [G3993](num:G3993); *toil*, that is, (by implication) *anguish:* - pain.

Sometimes we think of things as black and white…..the enemy loves to operate in the almost white area, almost full truth. Sometimes it may even be what appears to be good.

Matthew 16 Chapter. Jesus begins telling His disciples that He would suffer….

[**Mat 16:21**](verseid:40.16.21) From [G575](num:G575)  that time forth [G5119](num:G5119)  began [G756](num:G756)  Jesus [G2424](num:G2424)  to shew [G1166](num:G1166)  unto his [G848](num:G848)  disciples, [G3101](num:G3101)  how that [G3754](num:G3754)  he [G846](num:G846)  must [G1163](num:G1163)  go [G565](num:G565)  unto [G1519](num:G1519)  Jerusalem, [G2414](num:G2414)  and [G2532](num:G2532)  suffer [G3958](num:G3958)  many things [G4183](num:G4183)  of [G575](num:G575)  the [G3588](num:G3588)  elders [G4245](num:G4245)  and [G2532](num:G2532)  chief priests [G749](num:G749)  and [G2532](num:G2532)  scribes, [G1122](num:G1122)  and [G2532](num:G2532)  be killed, [G615](num:G615)  and [G2532](num:G2532)  be raised again [G1453](num:G1453)  the [G3588](num:G3588)  third [G5154](num:G5154)  day. [G2250](num:G2250)

Like us today, Peter is going to have no part of that.

Peter takes Jesus aside and rebukes Him….Peter is saying something that could be perceived as “good”. Not wanting Christ to die. Speak positively Jesus….you will overcome

[**Mat 16:23**](verseid:40.16.23) But [G1161](num:G1161)  he [G3588](num:G3588)  turned, [G4762](num:G4762)  and said [G2036](num:G2036)  unto Peter, [G4074](num:G4074)  Get [G5217](num:G5217)  thee behind [G3694](num:G3694)  me, [G3450](num:G3450)  Satan: [G4567](num:G4567)  thou art [G1488](num:G1488)  an offence [G4625](num:G4625)  unto me: [G3450](num:G3450)  for [G3754](num:G3754)  thou savourest [G5426](num:G5426)  not [G3756](num:G3756)  the things [G3588](num:G3588)  that be of God, [G2316](num:G2316)  but [G235](num:G235)  those [G3588](num:G3588)  that be of men. [G444](num:G444)

What Peter was saying could be looked at as good thing to say by you and me. But Jesus discerned that behind Peter’s voice was the spirit of Satan. And so every word about God or that supposedly comes from God must be carefully tested and examined in light of the Bible.

**Money at the bank….. touch and feel the real thing, so you can recognize the phony**

[**Psa 119:66**](verseid:19.119.66) Teach [H3925](num:H3925)  me good [H2898](num:H2898)  judgment [H2940](num:H2940)  and knowledge: [H1847](num:H1847)  for [H3588](num:H3588)  I have believed [H539](num:H539)  thy commandments. [H4687](num:H4687)

**Judgement: H2940:** טַעַם ṭa‛am *tah'-am* From [H2938](num:H2938); properly a *taste*, that is, (figuratively) *perception*; by implication *intelligence*; transitively a *mandate: -* advice, behaviour, decree, discretion, judgment, reason, taste, understanding.

The word “Judgement” used in **Psalm 119:66** means “taste.” It is the ability to make discriminating judgments, to distinguish between, and recognize the moral implications of, different situations and courses of action. It includes the ability to “weigh up” and assess the moral and spiritual status of individuals, groups, and even movements.

We had talked last week that Discernment was Synonymous with thinking biblically….

So discernment is learning to think God’s thoughts after Him, practically and spiritually; it means having a sense of how things look in God’s eyes and seeing them in some measure “uncovered and laid bare”

[**Heb 4:13**](verseid:58.4.13) Neither [G2532](num:G2532) [G3756](num:G3756)  is [G2076](num:G2076)  there any creature [G2937](num:G2937)  that is not manifest [G852](num:G852)  in his sight: [G1799](num:G1799) [G846](num:G846)  but [G1161](num:G1161)  all things [G3956](num:G3956)  *are* naked [G1131](num:G1131)  and [G2532](num:G2532)  opened [G5136](num:G5136)  unto the [G3588](num:G3588)  eyes [G3788](num:G3788)  of him [G846](num:G846)  with [G4314](num:G4314)  whom [G3739](num:G3739)  we have to do. [G2254](num:G2254) [G3056](num:G3056)

***CAUTION: Discernment is NOT:***

It is not judge-mentalism, suspicion, critical, or condescending.

It is a thorough examination, scrutinizing through the lens of the word, thinking like God thinks, having His mind on all thing.

[**Psa 119:125**](verseid:19.119.125) I [H589](num:H589)  *am* thy servant; [H5650](num:H5650)  give me understanding, [H995](num:H995)  that I may know [H3045](num:H3045)  thy testimonies. [H5713](num:H5713)

UNDERSTANDING: H995: בִּין bı̂yn *bene* A primitive root; to *separate* mentally (or *distinguish*), that is, (generally) *understand: -* attend, consider, be cunning, diligently, direct, discern, eloquent, feel, inform, instruct, have intelligence, know, look well to, mark, perceive, be prudent, regard, (can) skill (-ful), teach, think, (cause, make to, get, give, have) understand (-ing), view, (deal) wise (-ly, man).

**HOW DOES THIS WORK FOR US:**

As laid out in scripture, we are to individually ask God to give us this understanding, this discernment just as David and many others have.

Then we engage with the Word of God to obtain it.

Then we understand that God has granted some this gift and this becomes our sounding board.

1. One aspect of Discernment is trained for, We must train ourselves to discern. This is accomplished through the word. Studying the word. Prayer. Intimacy with God. Remaining teachable…..

A little knowledge is a dangerous thing. That is also true here. Those who are the most susceptible are the ones who have a measure of biblical knowledge. Our confidence in our ability, our confidence in our intelligence can lead us astray.

1. Lean on God and Lean on those who have the gift of discernment. This becomes the place where we confirm what we believe God is saying. Am I hearing from God or something similar.

God gives these gifts to the church…..lean on each other, we need each other.

While all Christians are responsible for what they believe, it seems clear that some people are especially gifted by God for this task. This is not merely a gift, but a responsibility.

Biblical scholar and commentator Lenski says, *“Certain difficult cases occur, for which more than common Christian discernment is necessary.*

***Biggest Reason today for the need of discernment:***

Jesus warns, “false christs and false prophets will arise and perform great signs and wonders, so as to lead astray, if possible, even the elect”

[**Mat 24:24**](verseid:40.24.24) For [G1063](num:G1063)  there shall arise [G1453](num:G1453)  false Christs, [G5580](num:G5580)  and [G2532](num:G2532)  false prophets, [G5578](num:G5578)  and [G2532](num:G2532)  shall shew [G1325](num:G1325)  great [G3173](num:G3173)  signs [G4592](num:G4592)  and [G2532](num:G2532)  wonders; [G5059](num:G5059)  insomuch that, [G5620](num:G5620)  if [G1487](num:G1487)  *it were* possible, [G1415](num:G1415)  they shall deceive [G4105](num:G4105)  the [G3588](num:G3588)  very [G2532](num:G2532)  elect. [G1588](num:G1588)

Signs, wonders and miracles, no matter how extraordinary and how beneficial they appear, must be examined and compared to the Word of God.

The difficulty with discernment is just that, it’s difficult. We can probably all tell of a time that we have missed it big time.

It’s easy for us to discern the outright sin areas, the black and white. But the Christians job the majority of the time is discerning the look a-likes.

We all have heard the scripture iron sharpens iron. It’s the same with discernment.

[**Pro 27:17**](verseid:20.27.17) Iron [H1270](num:H1270)  sharpeneth [H2300](num:H2300)  iron; [H1270](num:H1270)  so a man [H376](num:H376)  sharpeneth [H2300](num:H2300)  the countenance [H6440](num:H6440)  of his friend. [H7453](num:H7453)

If my mentor has numerous character defects, instead of being sharpened, I will find myself doing the very same things she does. If she doesn’t use discernment, then I won’t use discernment!

Seek out mentors who have overcome. Seek out mentors who have conquered.

**Discernment: A gift of the Spirit:**

Ladies, God still empowers some of His people to unmask false prophets and carnal hypocrites. He gives them the insight to expose imitations and deceptions that most Christians would take as genuine.

Those Christians who are gifted with discernment will be able to compare ungodly words, deeds and appearances with what God has revealed in Scripture and expose the fraudulent leaders and teachers for what they are.

They are gifted with unusual ability in separating what is true from what is false and what is right from what is wrong and we need this in the body or else these more difficult circumstances can actually lead us astray.

**Good or God**

[**2Co 11:13**](verseid:47.11.13) For [G1063](num:G1063)  such [G5108](num:G5108)  *are* false apostles, [G5570](num:G5570)  deceitful [G1386](num:G1386)  workers, [G2040](num:G2040)  transforming themselves [G3345](num:G3345)  into [G1519](num:G1519)  the apostles [G652](num:G652)  of Christ. [G5547](num:G5547)  [**2Co 11:14**](verseid:47.11.14) And [G2532](num:G2532)  no [G3756](num:G3756)  marvel; [G2298](num:G2298)  for [G1063](num:G1063)  Satan [G4567](num:G4567)  himself [G846](num:G846)  is transformed [G3345](num:G3345)  into [G1519](num:G1519)  an angel [G32](num:G32)  of light. [G5457](num:G5457)

[**2Co 11:15**](verseid:47.11.15) Therefore [G3767](num:G3767)  *it is* no [G3756](num:G3756)  great thing [G3173](num:G3173)  if [G1499](num:G1499)  his [G846](num:G846)  ministers [G1249](num:G1249)  also be transformed [G3345](num:G3345)  as [G5613](num:G5613)  the ministers [G1249](num:G1249)  of righteousness; [G1343](num:G1343)  whose [G3739](num:G3739)  end [G5056](num:G5056)  shall be [G2071](num:G2071)  according [G2596](num:G2596)  to their [G846](num:G846)  works. [G2041](num:G2041)

The Word “Met-askh-ay-mat-id'-zo” Paul uses three of it’s five uses right here…..

Transforming themselves:

Transformed:

Transformed:

Definition: I change the outward appearance (the dress, the form of presentment) of something, transfigure; I adapt.

**TRANSFORMING**: H3345: μετασχηματίζω metaschēmatizō

*met-askh-ay-mat-id'-zo* From [G3326](num:G3326) and a derivative of [G4976](num:G4976); to *transfigure* or *disguise*; figuratively to *apply* (by accommodation): - transfer, transform (self).

Please study out G3326 and G4976

Paul says that three types of individuals use this masking:

***- false apostles,***

***- satan himself,***

***- satan’s servants……***

Ladies, they aren’t transforming themselves of what we see in the movies, dark and sinister, they are transforming as apostles, angels of light, servants of righteousness.

This why Chuck Smith says: *That is why it is extremely important to have the gift of the discernment of spirits. You cannot always tell a false prophet by what he says. Many times what he says is 99% correct and that is what makes them so dangerous. You cannot always tell them by their actions.*

Charles Spurgeon once said*, "Discernment is not simply a matter of telling the difference between what is right and wrong; rather it is the difference between right and almost right."*

This is the enemies device…..it’s the 99% tile. It’s almost truth. It’s almost right. So close. It’s not the evil that will trick us, it’s going to be the “good”. It may be us attempting to do good, it may be those attempting to do good for us…..

Back to our original text in Acts 16 where this young girl was saying what was true, but Paul discerned what was the spirit behind it.

True discernment means not only distinguishing the right from the wrong; it means:

- distinguishing the primary from the secondary,

- the essential from the indifferent,

- and the permanent from the transient.

And, yes, it means most certainly means distinguishing

- between the good and the better,

- even between the better and the best.

**Four things discernment does for us:**

1. **It acts as a means of protection, guarding us from being deceived spiritually**.

***It protects us from being blown away by the winds of teaching that could throw us off-course!***

***Last Weeks Quote:* Always be watching:**

***“The original intent of your life and your Kingdom purpose***

***will always be tampered with by the enemy.”***

The person may be presenting false doctrine, or the motive behind it is wrong. Another example could be, A new job may seem “good”. Raise in pay, it’s the right thing to do, but it may be the thing that sets me off course.

The course of action can appear good, but still not be God’s best for us.

1. **Discernment also acts as an instrument of healing**

*Discernment can be the surgical scalpel in our spiritual surgery that makes healing possible*.

Most of us resist the scalpel, but God uses discernment as a means to bring us to wholeness in Him.

As I place myself against the more solid material/person, I begin the true sharpening process. I allow myself to be more sharp, but only as the dull edge is removed.

1. **Discernment functions as a key to Christian freedom**.

*The zealous but undiscerning Christian becomes enslaved to others; we find ourselves in difficulty doing what we thought was “good”.*

I have counseled many people that thought that they were doing good and were there to help others, but actually destroyed them. Led them astray.

1. **Finally, discernment serves as a catalyst to spiritual development** **and growth.**

[**Pro 14:6**](verseid:20.14.6) A scorner [H3887](num:H3887)  seeketh [H1245](num:H1245)  wisdom, [H2451](num:H2451)  and *findeth it* not: [H369](num:H369)  but knowledge [H1847](num:H1847)  *is* easy [H7043](num:H7043)  unto him that understandeth. [H995](num:H995)

*A wise woman of God can receive counsel from others, not dead set to have her own way. She listens to her mentors in Christ, not the gossip of others. How do you feel about this woman, how do you feel about this circumstance?*

***Ladies, we need to Learn* to discern. *We need to hunger and thirst* to discern**, **ESPECIALLY TO HAVE THE DISCERNMENT OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST.**

Saint **Catherine of Siena** TOSD (25 March 1347 in **Siena** – 29 April 1380 in Rome)

I don’t usually quote Catholics but Catherine of Siena nailed it in her Dialogue and she writes:

*“If it is the devil who has come to visit the mind under the guise of light, the soul experiences gladness at his coming. But the longer he stays, the more the gladness gives way to the weariness and darkness and pricking as the mind becomes clouded over by his presence within. But when the soul is truly visited by me (i.e. God), eternal Truth, she experiences holy fear at the first encounter. And with this fear comes gladness and security, along with a gentle prudence.”*

The enemy can make you feel good, with an almost truthful message. The serpent’s words and taste were good. When she saw it was good…. He appealed to the sensual side. How it would make her feel.

I want you to see something awesome again this week!

**Php 1:9** And [G2532](num:G2532)  this [G5124](num:G5124)  I pray, [G4336](num:G4336)  that [G2443](num:G2443)  your [G5216](num:G5216)  love [G26](num:G26)  may abound [G4052](num:G4052)  yet [G2089](num:G2089)  more [G3123](num:G3123)  and [G2532](num:G2532)  more [G3123](num:G3123)  in [G1722](num:G1722)  *knowledge* [G1922](num:G1922)  and [G2532](num:G2532)  *in* all [G3956](num:G3956)  *judgment;* [G144](num:G144)  [**Php 1:10**](verseid:50.1.10) That ye [G5209](num:G5209)  may approve [G1381](num:G1381)  things that are excellent; [G1308](num:G1308)  that [G2443](num:G2443)  ye may be [G5600](num:G5600)  sincere [G1506](num:G1506)  and [G2532](num:G2532)  without offence [G677](num:G677)  till [G1519](num:G1519)  the day [G2250](num:G2250)  of Christ; [G5547](num:G5547)  [**Php 1:11**](verseid:50.1.11) Being filled [G4137](num:G4137)  with the fruits [G2590](num:G2590)  of righteousness, [G1343](num:G1343)  which [G3588](num:G3588)  are by [G1223](num:G1223)  Jesus [G2424](num:G2424)  Christ, [G5547](num:G5547)  unto [G1519](num:G1519)  the glory [G1391](num:G1391)  and [G2532](num:G2532)  praise [G1868](num:G1868)  of God. [G2316](num:G2316)

**KNOWLEDGE: G1922:** ἐπίγνωσις epignōsis *ip-ig'-no-sis* From [G1921](num:G1921); *recognition*, that is, (by implication) full *discernment*, *acknowledgement:* - (ac-) knowledge (-ing, -ment).

**JUDGEMENT: G144**: αἴσθησις aisthēsis *ah'ee-sthay-sis*

From [G143](num:G143); *perception*, that is, (figuratively) *discernment:* - judgment.

(dok-im-ad'-zo) Definition: I put to the test, prove, examine; I distinguish by testing, approve after testing; I am fit.

**APPROVE: G13811** δοκιμάζω dokimazō *dok-im-ad'-zo* From [G1384](num:G1384); to *test* (literally or figuratively); by implication to *approve:* - allow, discern, examine, X like, (ap-) prove, try.

If we are swallowing things we hear hook, line and sinker. We must examine them; the measuring stick is ALWAYS the Word of God. Test it.

**GOOD RULES TO LIVE BY REGARDING DISCERNMENT:**

- Have eagerness with examination;

- Not argumentative, but investigative;

- Not Judgmental, but scrutinized.

**Two Things Will Always Accompany Truth:**

- Confirmation by the Word.

- Verification of Fathers of Faith

**REAL LIFE IS A MINEFIELD**

**AND WE ARE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE BATTLE**

So how do we navigate this minefield: we use discernment!

“Our actions as Women of Warfare should be set up to discern the right direction *before* we step on that mine. We need to have the ability to keep effective tabs on it *while* it is present, and to debrief after it explodes.

We must be always be teachable and willing to take whatever disciplinary actions or clarifying lessons that may be needed to get us back on course.

In doing all this, expect that the Spirit *will* lead, if really asked and if really given a chance to lead.

Move out carefully, thoughtfully, biblically, and prayerfully.

Then we monitor ourselves and actions as we proceed with guidance from our mentors. We reflect on the each course of action, learning from our mistakes and/or successes, but only after we have completed the journey.

**Always remember: WEEK 1**

***“God will use our life experiences - BUT ONLY THROUGH HIS PERSPECTIVE!”***