

Session 2: Prophetic Ministry



Prophetic Ministry

1. A Prophetic word shares the heart of the Father and the treasures that the Father sees in a person
2. The prophetic not only informs but activates and is catalytic in nature. They do not condemn. They build up and encourage
3. The prophetic is a gift of the Holy Spirit
4. It is God's will that we all Prophesy
5. Together with the other gifts the spirit it is used in evangelism and drawing people to Christ. Prophecy shows the relevance of Christianity

Prophecy defined

- ▶ Prophecy is foretelling and forth telling
- ▶ Foretelling to know the future
 - ▶ Agabus speaks prophetically of a famine that would take place worldwide
- ▶ Forth telling to cause the future
 - ▶ God instructs the prophet, Ezekiel, to prophesy to dead bones and they became a mighty army
 - ▶ Ezekiel didn't just tell the future he caused the future

The gift of prophecy

- ▶ First Corinthians 14:1 pursue love yet desire earnestly spiritual gifts, especially that you may prophesy.
- ▶ Prophecy is a gift, not an award.
- ▶ The gift of prophecy is given by grace as a gift you cannot work for the gift of prophecy nor is it something we deserve

The gift of prophecy

- ▶ 1 Corinthians 12:11 All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he distributes them to each one, just as he determines.
- ▶ He gives the gifts to people who ask for them
- ▶ The gifts of the Spirit do not validate our walk with God.
- ▶ Nor do they serve as a measuring stick of spiritual maturity

The Testimony of Jesus

At this I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, "Don't do that! I am a fellow servant with you and with your brothers and sisters who hold to the testimony of Jesus. Worship God!"

For it is the Spirit of prophecy who bears testimony to Jesus." Rev 19:10

When we prophecy, we declare what Jesus can do, has done, and wants to do in an individual.

This is the testimony of Jesus

The goal of the gift of prophecy

1 Corinthians 14:3 the one who prophesies speaks to men for edification, exhortation, and consolation.

- ▶ Edification (strengthening) means to build up, spiritual advancement
- ▶ Exhortation (encouragement) means to call near, it is an intimate call, to deliver truth and "evidence that stands up in God's court."
- ▶ Consolation (comfort) means to cheer up, comfort. To speak close with tenderness

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Love is the motivation of Prophecy

1 Corinthians 13

1 If I could speak all the languages of earth and of angels, but didn't love others, I would only be a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal.

2 If I had the gift of prophecy, and if I understood all of God's secret plans and possessed all knowledge, and if I had such faith that I could move mountains, but didn't love others, I would be nothing.

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All can Prophecy: We are in the last days

Acts 2:17-18

17 "In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams.

18 Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy.

We are in the last days now. This word was given at the day of Pentecost. The beginning of the lasts days

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Prophetic Mandate

Isaiah. 61:1-3

1. The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners,

2. to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn,

3. and provide for those who grieve in Zion—to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of joy instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair. They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the Lord for the display of his splendor.

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11 Attributes of the Prophetic Mandate

1. Preach good news to the poor,
2. Heal the heartbroken,
3. Announce freedom to all captives,
4. Pardon all prisoners.
5. Proclaim the year of the Lord's favor and the day of vengeance of our God. (Announce the year of his grace a celebration of God's destruction of our enemies) (The Message)

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11 Attributes of the Prophetic Mandate

6. Comfort all who mourn,
7. Care for the needs of all who mourn in Zion,
8. Give them bouquets of roses instead of ashes,
9. Give the messages of joy instead of news of doom,
10. Give them a praising heart instead of a weary spirit.
11. Rename them "Oaks of Righteousness" planted by God to display his glory.

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Three parts of a prophecy

- ▶ **Revelation:** What is God saying?
- ▶ **Interpretation:** What does the revelation mean
- ▶ **Application:** What should we do with a prophetic word once we know what it means?

Old Testament versus New Testament covenant prophecies

- ▶ The old covenant taught us to love our neighbor and hate our enemy. The new covenant teaches us to love our neighbor and love your enemy
- ▶ If we prophesy out of an old covenant perspective were going to release words of condemnation and judgment.

How to receive the gift of Prophecy

Three times the apostle Paul exhorts us to eagerly desire spiritual gifts.

1 Cor 12: 31 Now eagerly desire the greater gifts.

1 Cor 14: 1 Follow the way of love and eagerly desire gifts of the Spirit, especially prophecy.

1 Cor 14: 39 Therefore, my brothers and sisters, be eager to prophesy, and do not forbid speaking in tongues.

Impartation

Pray with me

- Holy Spirit I desire earnestly the gifts of the Holy Spirit, especially the gift of prophecy
- I ask you for the gift of prophecy

Prophetic Activation

- ▶ Think of one person in your life with whom you have the most problems.
- ▶ Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal to you one aspect of the glory of God that is assigned to that person.
- ▶ Write it down
- ▶ Share it with your group
- ▶ Now tell that person what you see and observe how this affects your relationship

Break Out Groups

- Review your prophetic words for the person in your group

Group Testimony

- Tell us prophetic words that you received for others

Closing Exhortation

- We must prophesy out of a healed heart
- We all have areas of our hearts that need healing.
- Jesus stands at the doors of your heart at knocks
- The most dangerous person in the church today is an anointed unhealed heart
- We need to commit ourselves to receiving counsel from God and let Him heal our hearts

Journal every day and be transparent with God about how you feel, and He will give you counsel to heal your heart

