Prophetic Ministry

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# What is Prophetic Ministry

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|  | 1 Corinthians 14:3 “But the one who prophesies speaks to people for their strengthening, encouraging and comfort.”  ESV Says, “For their upbuilding, encouragement and consolation.”  Colossians 2:7 “Let your roots grow down into Him, and let your lives be built on Him.” |

***“Prophetic words remind us of our destiny, confirm our calling, encourage, edify and comfort us. When we receive them, we are called to pray over them and utilize them as warfare against the enemy.” Kris Vallotton***

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|  | **Pastor Katherine always says, “Prophecy isn’t an inevitability, but an INVITATION to partner with God and walk out the prophetic word. We get to choose how much of it we walk out!** |

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|  | 1 Timothy 1:18-19 This command I entrust to you, Timothy, my son, in accordance with the prophecies previously made concerning you, that by them you fight the good fight, keeping faith and a good conscience, which some have rejected and suffered shipwreck in regard to their faith. |

* We are speaking into what God is building into their lives.
* Ephesians 2:10 “For we are God’s workmanship created in Christ Jesus, to do good works which God prepared ahead of time for us to do.”
* Psalm 139:16 “You saw me before I was born. Every day of my life was recorded in your book. Every moment was laid out before a single day had passed.”
* We get to take a look at their book and speak into what God has prepared for them.
* These “words” come in quick thoughts, pictures, phrases.
* Often God just gets us enough to get started, once we step in faith He will fill more.

Proverbs 18:20 “ Wise words satisfy like a good meal; the right words bring satisfaction”.

Mark 13:11 “ Just say what God tells you at that time, for it is not you who will be speaking, but the Holy Spirit.”

* Faith is what makes this work.

## The Prophetic Balance

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|  | The Holy Spirit & our humanity |

Prophetic words flow through a human vessel. This means that the prophetic word will be filtered through our experience, the teaching we have received, our ethnic culture, our national origin, our gender, etc. All of these elements are part of who we are, and unconsciously they flavor our prophetic words. KV

When we prophecy, there will often be a certain “prophetic style” or specific prophetic themes that can be traced throughout our prophecies. These styles and themes are actually instilled in us by God and He intentionally uses our prophetic accent as a part of His divine message to the people He is prophesying to. KV

***We don’t need to try to act or sound like any one else. We don’t’ need to let Imposter Syndrome have a place. Your unique voice is needed and God wants to use it.***

Short words don’t equal less power. Don’t underestimate the power of the Holy Spirit attached to the word.

## Our Heart Posture

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|  | J. RYLE, Hippo in the Garden “When we prophesy today, we are basically conveying in our own words what we believe to be the thoughts and feelings of God about a person or event.” |

Our heart impacts how we prophesy.

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|  | 1 Corinthians 14:1 “Pursue Love and desire spiritual gifts, especially that you may prophesy.” |

Pursue- (DIOKO) “to run swiftly in order to catch a thing, to run after, to press on: figuratively of one who in a race runs swiftly to reach the goal.” BLB

1 Corinthians 13: 2 “If I have the gift of Prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge and if I have a faith that can move mountains, **but have not love, I am nothing.”**

Love then, is of utmost importance.

“We don’t live by bread alone, but by every Word which precedes out of the mouth of God. (Matthew 4:4)

**WATCH: EMPOWERING PEOPLE & THE CONNECTION- GRAHAM COOKE**

Sit with the Lord. 1st commandment and greatest commandment.

* We must allow Him to tell us how much He loves us both through *the Word* and through *personal revelation* of His heart. It profits us nothing with out *receiving it* and *believing it.*
* ***Lana Vawser says, “If I am not convinced of His goodness, if I am not convinced of His kindness, and His love, I will find it harder to surrender. I will find it harder to trust and those sly foxes will raid my vineyard of love. How we see Him will effect how we hear Him.”***
* What Lens are you looking through?
* How we see the Father will impact how we prophesy.

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|  | **Example of the Prophetic Word I got on “God is going to stretch you”. Give example of how it could have gone.** |

1. What is in our heart will impact what flows out. For it’s not what is on the outside but what is on the inside.

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|  | Mark 7:15 “It’s not what goes into your body that defiles you; you are defiled by what comes from your heart…”  Proverbs 4: 23 “Guard your heart above all else, for it determines the course of your life.  Matthew 5:8 Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. |

Check in on your heart. Is there a love deficiency?

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|  | Revelations 19:10 “ For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy”.  Testimony- Strong’s Definitions” Evidence Given, Record, Report, Witness  “This means that prophecy at its very heart is designed to unfold the beauty and loveliness of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.” -Enduring Word, Walvoord |

This is why our heart posture is so important, we are representing God’s heart when we speak.

When we prophesy we are testifying to who Jesus is and who He wants to be in their life.

## Perceiving God

1 Corinthians 2:11-16 “…For who has known the mind of the Lord that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ.”

* Old Testament prophets RECEIVED the word of the Lord.
* New Testament prophets PERCEIVE the word of the Lord.

## Perceive means: To attain awareness or understanding of, to regard as being such, to become aware of through the senses.

Psalms 25:14 “There’s a private place reserved for the devoted lovers of Yahweh, where they sit near Him and receive the revelation- secrets of His promises.”

Jeremiah 33:3 “Ask me and I will tell you remarkable secrets you do not know about things to come.”

Proverbs 25:2 “ It is the glory of God to conceal a matter, but the glory of kings is to search out a matter”  
TPT “ God conceals the revelation of His word in the hiding place of His glory. But the honor of kings is revealed by how they thoroughly search out the deeper meaning of all that God says.’

* As we discern and grow in relationship we will also grow in timing or when to stay quiet.

The Holy Spirit was given to us to instruct in all things and to reveal the heart and mind of God. Therefore, as we grow in our relationship we are able to hear (perceive) more clearly and discern his tones, his thoughts, his feelings, his heart.

* Be *intentional* to cultivate sensitivity to the Lord.

Mark Virkler talks about two types of people: The Analyzer and the Intuitive

***James Ryle mentions 3 categories: Prophetic, Intuitive and the Rational.***

* Prophetic- pertains to written, spoken, seen, heard or experienced
* Intuitive- that which is felt or sensed though perhaps is indefinable EX: When I pray/prophesy I experience “feelings”.
* Rational- thought or remembered or simply known through common sense

## God’s Voice verse the Enemy’s Voice

Lana Vawser says, “The enemy’s main aim is to steal, kill and destroy and to hinder your relationship with Jesus and hearing the Lord’s voice. He is crafty and a master of perversion. He roams around like a roaring lion looking for whom he may devour (see 1 Peter 5:8)”

* The “fruit” of His voice is: Confusion and condemnation
* Lack of Clarity
* Lack of peace
* Fear

The fruit of the Lord’s Voice is:

* Peace
* Empowering
* Strengthening
* He never contradicts His Word.
* His voice always reveals His nature.

## Discerning Prophecy

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|  | 1 Thessalonians 5:19-21 “Do not quench the Spirit; do not despise prophetic utterances. But examine everything carefully; hold fast to that which is good.” |

* Supernatural Ministry can be messy and can cause elimination within churches.
* Paul urges us to not despise the prophetic gift, but to value it, examine it and hold on to what is good. KV
* J.C Ryle asks these 3 questions: “Does it honor the lordship of Jesus Christ? Does it align with the Scriptures Does it produce the fruit of the Spirit?”
* Prophetic words should draw men to Jesus not back to man. Ryle says, “Do they make me fall more in love with Him than I thought possible? Or do they take me away from the simplicity of single- hearted devotion to Jesus Christ?

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|  | 1 Corinthians 14:29 “ Let two or three prophets speak, and let the others pass judgement.” |

* We evaluate the words and use the Word of God as our plumb line. KV

If it goes against scripture we throw It out.

* We evaluate the word through prayer and the Holy Spirit KV

Is it drawing me to Jesus? Is it producing or showing the fruit of the Spirit?

* We evaluate the word with the help of spiritual authority we are in relationship with. KV

If a man is drawing you to himself, beware.

In the OT the Spirit of God did not live inside humans, nor hand the human spirit been brought to life. This took place when we were born again. Therefore, when prophets in the OT heard from God, it was an occasion because Christ was not living inside of them. - KV

In this new dispensation, our spirit is alive and the Holy Spirit lives inside us. Now, as Christians, we daily interact with the spirit world. It is easy to confuse the Holy Spirit’s words with our newly regenerated spirit’s words.

* In the New Testament Church, however the Christian who receives the word has as much responsibility to judge the word as the one who gave it because both the GIVER and the RECEIVER have the same Holy Spirit living inside of them. - KV

## The Gifts Should Function with Order

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|  | 1Corinthians 14:10 Let all things be done decently and in order. |

They must be done! …and since they must be done, do them orderly. There is a balance between orderly or being controlling. The most orderly place on the planet is a graveyard, but there is no life there.

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|  | 1 Corinthians 14: 32 “The spirits of prophets are subject to prophets” |

This means that you can’t say, “The Holy Spirit made him or her act disruptive”.

## Guidelines for Judging Words

1. Bible. Anytime a word is in disagreement with the Bible it should be IMMEDIATELY discarded.
2. Extra-Biblical. The entire Bible is in God, but not all of God is in the Bible. We may say, we don’t believe in things non-biblical, but there are practices that have been passed down and have been widely accepted as part of church culture, for instance an Altar Call.

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|  | An Example of Extra Biblical: ‘Holy Spirit is saying go to Africa, work at this job and write these words to someone”. We cannot go to the Bible, open it up and see where it says specifically for me to walk out these instructions. Even adding a Biblical Passage can still be “extra biblical” for instance “I see Isaiah 60” over you. This was for a specific group of people for a specific time in life. When applied to you, this would be extra- Biblical. |

1. Anti- Biblical. These means against the Bible.

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|  | Galatians 1:8 “But even if we, or an angel from heaven, should preach to you a gospel contrary to what we have preached to you, he is to be accursed.” |

1. It must bear witness with the one who receives it.

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|  | Romans 8:16 “The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God. |

1. The fruit of the Prophetic word must be that the person receiving it is brought closer to God and His people.

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|  | Philippians 3:8-10 “ More than that, I count all things to be los in view of the surpassing vale of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but rubbish so that I may gain Christ, and may be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own derived from the Law, but that which s through faith in Christ, he righteousness which comes from God on the basis of faith, that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His suffering, being conformed to His death. |

1. The prophets and leadership that we are in relationship with should be in agreement with the word and its interpretation.

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|  | Hebrews 13:17 “ Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they keep watch over your souls as those who will give an account. Let hem do this with joy an not grief, for this would be unprofitable for you. |

1. The interpretation of any prophetic revelation belongs to God, not to human-kind. Therefore, we also need the Holy Spirit’s anointing to know the meaning of the word as well as what to do with it.

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|  | 2 Peter 1:20-21 “But know this first of all, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one’s own interpretation, for no prophecy was ever made but an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God. |

Sometimes when we receive a word we won’t realize it’s meaning until after it’s been fulfilled.

## Judging the Interpretation

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|  | Matthew 16:6-12 “And Jesus said to them, “watch out and beware of the leaven of the pharisees and Sadducees.” They began to discuss this among themselves, saying, “He said that ecause we did not bring any bread.” But Jesus, aware of this, said, “You mean of little faith, why do you discuss among yourselves that you have no bread? Do you not yet understand or remember the five loaves of the five thousand, and how many baskets full you picked up? Or the seven loaves of the four thousand, and how many large baskets full you picked up? How is it that you do not understand that I did not speak to you concerning bread? But beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees.” Then they understood that He did not say to beware of the leaven of bread, but of the teaching of the Pharisees and Sadducees. |

It is easy to misjudge a prophetic word by believing that it relates to our immediate circumstances or something close to our heart that we are hoping for. This is called selective hearing!

## Prophetic Words KV

1. When we receive a prophetic word, we must judge the word to make sure it is from God.   
  
2. The next step is for us to learn how to receive the word.   
  
3. Jesus also said he was coming quickly, but two thousand years have passed and we are still waiting. Perceived delay does not mean denial. Again, we need to recognize that when we receive a prophetic word we are actually receiving a word from a Source that is outside of time and in eternity. God may give us a word today that won’t be fulfilled for decades.

4. God seldom does things by Himself. He is looking for willing participants who will:

1. Walk with Him and wait on Him.
2. He often requires us to be involved with Him to see our destinies fulfilled.
3. Ask the Holy Spirit to show you what part He wants you to partner in and part He wants you to rest in God fulfilling for you. Ishmael vs Isaac

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|  | 1. Journal: Ask the Father, what do you want to be for me? 2. Talk through the parts of a prophetic word. Words of Knowledge, the prophetic word, Words of Wisdom. Practice those areas with feed back. |

## Activations in class

*Resources: Lana Vawser, Prophetic Voice of God. James Ryle, Hippo in the Garden. Kris Vallotton, Basic Training for the Prophetic.*

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|  | Matthew 25:14-28 (Read in class) |

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|  | 1 Timothy 4:14-15 “Do not neglect the spiritual gift within you, which was bestowed on you through prophetic utterance with the laying on of hands by the presbytery. Take pains with these things; we absorbed in them, so that your progress will be evident to all. |

# How the Gifts Grow If we use what we receive and steward that, God will impart more. If we want to receive a deeper level or prophetic revelation, then we must be faithful with the level of insight that we have now. Some people who have only received one talent spend too much time wondering why they only have 1 and someone else received more. Comparison is the thief of joy! The key to growing in our prophetic gift is faithfulness!

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|  | 1 Peter 4:10 “ As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. |

Use the gifts God has given you!

# The Baptism of the Holy Spirit

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|  | Acts 1:8 “You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria and even to the remotest part of the earth. |

Jesus told the disciples to wait for the promise of the Father which, when received, would give them power from on high. The word for power is Dunamis, which is where you get the word Dynamite.

* Baptism in the Holy Spirit is the power behind the gifts.

**Pray in the Spirit! All the time. The more you pray in the Spirit the clearer you will hear.**

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|  | 1 Corinthians 14:4 “He who speaks in a tongue edifies himself. “  Jude 20 “ But you, Beloved, building yourselves up in your most holy faith and praying in the Holy Spirit.” |