

WIML Cohort

Previous Teaching (Marion/Kari/Dianne)

There is a difference between the roles/function of the prophet's gifts in the "Gifts" categories

The "wired" prophet (Rom 12). Shaped to care about what matters to God (Charis-in you)

The "vocal-utterance" prophet (1 Cor 12). Empowerment/inspired to minister

The "appointed/office" prophet is authorized to lead/establish/train. (Doma-to you)

The Basics of Prophecy

*Acts 2:17-18 "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.

Prophesieth/prophesies (Grk) propheteuo (prof-ate-yoo'-o); *to foretell events, divine, **speak under inspiration**, exercise the prophetic office: KJV-prophesy.*

To Prophecy: To speak for God, on His behalf, by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

To reveal the relevant work of God – putting words to what God is doing

When we act prophetically, we are inspired by Holy Spirit to communicate for God – He is communicating His heart, His grace, and His purposes, his justice, through the "prophet", to the recipient of the word.

2 Peter 1:21 For prophecy never had its origin in the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

We all can and should prophesy.

1 Corinthians 14:1 Let love be your highest goal, but also desire the special abilities the Spirit gives, especially the gift of prophecy. NLT

Prophets and Prophecy

- Everyone can prophesy but not everyone is a prophet
Just like everyone can and should teach, there are recognized teachers
- The "inspired" in the moment – operates in a spiritual atmosphere or in relationships, i.e., worship and prayer

- The “prophet” is on assignment. Functions in all environments. As led by the Spirit
- The Prophet is called to prophecy using a wide range of expressions and in many settings
- There is defined office of Prophet (five-fold offices)

The Church needs the ministry of the Prophet

Ephesians 4:11-12 So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, 12 to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up

- God has established the prophet’s ministry
- The prophet is an equipping ministry – to train prophets
- The prophet adds a miraculous dimension to the church
- * The prophet and teacher function well together

Our present systems often either deny or diminish the role of the prophet in our churches and denominations

- Attitudinally
- Structurally
- Officially

There are key roles the prophet functions in:

- Discerning
- Vigilance
- Judging
- Confirming
- Establishing
- Imparting
- Challenging
- Empowering

Old Testament Prophets and New Testament Prophets

- The Old Testament prophet operated separate from the Temple and usually operated in isolation for the believing community. Their primary assignment was to call Israel back to God and to give direction. They were highly predictive/foretelling. They were accountable only to God

- The New Testament prophets are directly connected to the Church and serve and equip believers in their calling to reach the world.
They help in the spiritual formation of believers, and in giving direction.
They are spiritually vigilant and lead in intercession as well as a voice of moral conscience.
They are not primarily foretelling but can be. They are accountable to the church leaders, to other prophets, and ultimately to God.

Examples of NT prophets

Agabus and the prophets

*Acts 11:27-28 During this time some prophets traveled from Jerusalem to Antioch.
28 One of them named Agabus stood up in one of the meetings and predicted by the Spirit that a great famine was coming upon the entire Roman world. (This was fulfilled during the reign of Claudius.)*

Prophets and teachers

*Acts 13:1-3 Among the prophets and teachers of the church at Antioch of Syria were Barnabas, Simeon (called "the black man"), Lucius (from Cyrene), Manaen (the childhood companion of King Herod Antipas), and Saul.
2 One day as these men were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Appoint Barnabas and Saul for the special work to which I have called them."
3 So after more fasting and prayer, the men laid their hands on them and sent them on their way.*

Judas and Silas

Acts 15:32 Then Judas and Silas, both being prophets, spoke at length to the believers, encouraging and strengthening their faith.

Acts 21:9 He (Phillip) had four unmarried daughters who prophesied.

Acts 21:10 After we had been there a number of days, a prophet named Agabus came down from Judea. (to warn Paul)

Paul to Timothy

2 Timothy 1:6 For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands.

Presbytery is what we call a team of recognized prophets who will minister (prophetically) to established and emerging leaders.

The prophetic ministry validates, confirms, affirms, defines, encourages, inspires, and enlarges purpose and vision.

It is a divine moment when God shares glimpse of how he sees you!

The first NT Presbytery Acts 13:1-3

Barnabas and Paul commissioned in a Presbytery at Antioch

Acts 13:1-3 1 Now there were in the church at Antioch prophets and teachers, Barnabas, Simeon who was called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen a lifelong friend of Herod the tetrarch, and Saul.

2 While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them."

3 Then after fasting and praying they laid their hands on them and sent them off. (ESV)

1. The Prophets/prophecy

"Now in the church at Antioch there were prophets and teachers"

2. The Presbytery – A formal prophetic event to confirm and commission

"the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them."

3. The Confirmation/affirmation

"work to which I have called them"

4. The Empowering, impartation and commissioning

"they placed their hands on them and sent them off"

The results of the Presbytery:

The process served as a divine seal on what God had already been doing

Clarified and/or revealed God's will

The process confirmed and validated Barnabas and Saul's gifts and callings of to them personally.

The process confirmed and validated Barnabas' and Saul's giftings and callings to the church at large. They were propelled into the work they were called and prepared for.

The WIML Presbytery:

HOW DO I KNOW IF I AM A PROPHET?

God may have called you out prophetically

Does God give you assignments to go tell someone/s something

Do you discern what the Holy Spirit is doing or wants to in a gathering?

Do you “read” people’s motives

Can you judge other people’s prophecies well?