

GIFTED TO SERVE



Gifted To Serve | Prophetically Speaking | 1 Thessalonians 5:14-21, 1 Corinthians 14:1-5, 29-33

1. Before Sunday's message, how would you have defined prophecy? How did your definition differ, if at all, compared to what was shared?
2. If you could be any of the Old Testament prophets, which one would be and why?
3. What was the impact of the Day of Pentecost concerning the work of the Holy Spirit generally? How does Pentecost specifically impact the gift of prophecy?
4. How is the role of the New Testament and contemporary prophet different from that of the Old Testament Prophet? Why does the role differ?

READ: 1 Corinthians 14:1-5, 29-33 & 1 Thessalonians 5:14-21

5. How accurate are the following definitions of prophecy: (1) "Prophecy is speaking out a word from God." (2) "Prophecy is reporting in human words something that God spontaneously brings to the mind of the believer." Is there anything lacking in these definitions?
6. Do you believe that God could speak through you in a similar way to when Jesus ministered to the woman at the well in John 4? Why? Why not? What factors enabled Jesus to be quite so accurate in his prophetic word to this woman? How is it different for you?
7. Have you ever been on the receiving end of a prophetic word, picture or prayer? Describe what this was like? How could you tell if it was genuine or false? Chris spoke about 4 tests: truth, love, order and fruit. Discuss each.
8. Can you think of an occasion when you are grateful that "God's ability to speak to you was greater than your ability to hear him"? Did a prophetic word or picture feature in this situation?
9. Paul says we should "earnestly desire" the gift of prophecy. What do you think this looks like in practice?
10. Paul says we should "not despise not prophecy". How open are you, honestly, to receiving and exercising this gift from God? What might hold you back?
11. What does Paul mean by what he says in 1 Corinthians 13:9? How does Paul suggest we should judge prophetic words? Are these consistent to your responses in Q7?
12. Spend some time praying for each other and "earnestly desire" the gift of prophesy together.