



The Way, The Truth, and The Life Christian Center, Inc. **SERMON NOTES**

“The Gifts of the Holy Spirit: Prophecy”

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: 1 Corinthians 14: 1

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Summary

The sermon focused on the gifts of the Holy Spirit, particularly prophecy. The discussion emphasized the importance of practicing spiritual gifts, such as speaking in tongues and interpreting them for edification, exhortation, and comfort. Key points included the distinction between the simple gift of prophecy and the office of a prophet, which involves revelation. The session also highlighted the role of the Holy Spirit in guiding believers and the need for discernment in receiving and interpreting prophetic messages. Practical exercises were conducted to help participants understand and apply these principles. Understanding the Trinity.

1 Corinthians 14: 1

Follow after charity, and desire spiritual gifts, but rather that ye may prophesy.

Practicing the Gift of Prophecy

- Follow after charity - all gifts must be governed by the love of God under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.
- The word "prophecy" is related to the idea of "bubbling forth" or "flowing over".
- The purpose of the gift of prophecy is edification, exhortation, and comfort of the listeners. In other words, the gift of prophecy aims to build up the body of Christ, encourage others to keep going in faith, and bring comfort to those who are struggling (1 Corinthians 14:3).
- During the service last week, attendees practiced edification, exhortation, and comfort by praying silently and sharing the thoughts/impressions they received from the Holy Spirit.

Shared thoughts focused on being confident in God's promises, having faith, hearing the Spirit, and not fearing.

- When you practice prophecy, focus on the specific message the Holy Spirit is giving you. Don't add your own thoughts or ideas to it. The message should be clear and true to the message God is trying to communicate.
- Remember, the message given through the gift of prophecy should always align with God's biblical purposes: edification, exhortation, and comfort. If it doesn't do those things you must question if it's from the Holy Spirit.

Simple Prophecy vs. Prophetic Office

- There's a distinction between the gift of prophecy and the prophetic office. The "simple gift of prophecy" is a word from the Lord shared to build up the body, like encouragement or a timely word of wisdom.
- On the other hand, the office of the prophet is primarily for revelation. Prophets also speak warnings or calls to repentance.

Discernment in Receiving Prophetic Words

- Attendees were reminded of the importance of spiritual discernment when it comes to receiving prophecies. Believers must rely on the Holy Spirit to help discern whether a prophetic word is true or false. While prophecy is a powerful gift, believers should always be cautious and ensure that any prophetic message received is carefully validated. The senior pastor plays a crucial role in overseeing and judging prophecies.
- The senior pastor is entrusted with ensuring that any word shared aligns with God's truth, the teachings of the church, and the direction God is moving the church body. This process of validation helps protect the church from confusion or misguidance, allowing the church body to grow together in faith, unity, and obedience.

The Role of the Holy Spirit

- In John 16:7-14, Jesus explains the role of the Holy Spirit, who will guide believers into all truth.

- Apostle Tuff discussed how the Holy Spirit is referred to as the "Comforter" in John 16, there to help, strengthen, and provide insight to believers, not just to provide comfort.
- The Holy Spirit does not speak of Himself, but rather speaks what He hears from God and shows believers things to come.
- The Holy Spirit is the true source of prophetic revelation and guidance. Prophecy isn't from human ideas or imagination—it's God speaking through the Holy Spirit.
- Above all, the Holy Spirit's role in the gift of prophecy is to **bring glory to Jesus Christ**. Prophecy is never meant to promote our own agenda or bring attention to ourselves, but always to lift up Jesus and point others to Him.

Key Takeaways

- When practice the gift of prophecy focus on the specific impression from the Holy Spirit, by praying in the Spirit and sharing impressions. The emphasis should be on discerning and sharing the exact message the Spirit provides, rather than adding to or interpreting beyond what is given. The goal is to speak what the Spirit impresses, not one's own ideas.
- Discernment is crucial when receiving prophetic words - Believers must rely on the Holy Spirit's guidance to discern true prophecy from false or fleshly words, weighing them against Scripture
- There is a distinction between the gift of prophecy and the office of a prophet - The gift is for edification, exhortation and comfort, while the prophetic office involves divine revelation and authority.
- The purpose of all prophecy is to bring glory to Christ, not oneself - Prophecy should “flow over” from the Holy Spirit, not human agendas, with the goal of building up the body and honoring Jesus.

Reflection Questions:

- According to 1 Corinthians 14:1-3, how can you ensure the prophecies you share are focused on edification, exhortation and comfort rather than your own agenda?

- In light of the distinction between simple prophecy and the prophetic office discussed by the speakers, how can you grow in discerning when God may be calling you to a deeper prophetic anointing?
- Reflecting on Jesus' explanation of the Holy Spirit's role in John 16:7-14, how can you better position yourselves to be led and empowered by the Spirit in exercising spiritual gifts like prophecy?

Scripture References

- 1 Corinthians 12:7-11 (Gifts of the Spirit)
- 1 Corinthians 14:1-3 (Purpose of prophecy)
- 1 Timothy 4:1 (Spirit speaking "expressly")
- John 16:7-14 (Role of the Holy Spirit)