



THE LEADER AND THE PROPHETIC

Trusted Leaders in Volatile Times

I. Introduction

A. Purpose for Discussion



1. Volatile Climate produces complex pastoral challenges - **#Wizard of Oz - Not in Kansas anymore**
 - a. Times of brokenness – Financial, moral, relational, emotional, social, spiritual.
 - b. Times of technological advances – Internet, podcasts, Facebook, Tweet, World is Flat.
 - c. Times of mixture – Varying theology, philosophy, strategy and methodology.**#WE ALL WANT THE RIVER, BUT NEED RIVER BANKS TO AVOID THE FLOOD.**



2. The Need for Strong River Banks - we must be leading others down the right path:
 - a. Theology – what we believe
 - b. Philosophy – why we do what we do.
 - c. Strategy –how we do what we do.
 - d. Methodology – when, where and who we do it with.



3. Leadership Mistakes that break the River banks:
 - a. Ignorance – They don't know what they don't know.
 - b. Complacency – They don't know, but are unwilling to find out what to know.
 - c. Bad Doctrine – Received wrong teaching and didn't test the Ministry.
 - d. Wrong Practices – Regardless of what they know, they still do the wrong thing.

B. Prophetic Leaders Needed in Prophetic Times



1. It is in these times we need to make sure we are aligned and accountable.
 - a. Aligned to the Word of God.
 - b. Aligned with the leading of the Holy Spirit.
 - c. Aligned with our Pastor.
 - d. Aligned with our church ministry philosophies and practices.
 - e. Aligned with each other and unified in theology, philosophy, strategy and methodologies.
2. We need leaders who can lead prophetically with a commitment to the five above mentioned items!
3. Talk today about leading people in these times with the goal of building a healthy, thriving, fruit-bearing local church.

II. What is the Prophetic

We serve a prophetic God and we are prophetic people. God delights in sharing His will and ways with us. We believe that prophetic ministry is a vital tool to building a healthy local church (along with all five fold ministries). / We have the conviction that the Biblical prophetic ministry will always confirm scripture and always point us to becoming more like Jesus and fulfilling His purposes. / God also established His church and elders to be the pastoral covering and protection for this important ministry area. / Those that violate these principles run the risk of creating measurable damage to those who receive any input from a dysfunctional approach to prophetic impartation of any kind.

A. Definition

1. The influence of Divine Guidance from God to his followers.

B. Biblical Expressions of Prophetic Ministry

1. Prophecy of Scripture: Speaks of the declaratory and revelatory elements of the word of God as the highest revelation of God to man. The written word of God is the highest form of authority which allows the believer to make an instant response of obedience to the word of God (2 Peter 1:20-21; Acts 1:16a; 2 Timothy 3:16). **#The Bible is His Voice, the spirit of Prophecy.**
2. Spirit of Prophecy: Atmosphere of prophetic when a believer may prophesy when normally, without such an atmosphere, he or she probably would not (Revelation 19:10; 1 Samuel 19:10; John 11:51). **#Services have prophetic atmosphere. Words come through Spirit or people.**
3. Gift of Prophecy: Gift resident within certain believers who, on a regular basis, operate in the realm of edification, exhortation and comfort (1 Corinthians 12:4,6; 13:2)
H.S. distributes 18 Spiritual Gifts, one is prophecy. May move predominately or occasionally.
4. Office of a Prophet: A five-fold ascension gift ministry given by the church to one who operates in the realm of guidance, rebuke, judgment, correction and revelation (Ephesians 2:20; 4:11; Acts 13:1; 1 Corinthians 12:28-29).
#Each church should have some five-fold representation for overall direction and insight.

Let's get real practical and honest and talk about how this applies to us:

IV. Leading with the Prophetic

One of the greatest challenges Spirit-filled churches face, is how to keep young, excited, vibrant leaders focused on right ministry practices.

#Horror stories of well meaning, yet ill-informed leaders destroying lives of others:

- Cindy – Came forward for prayer for loneliness and a spouse and was told by ministry leader that the next person God would bring into her life was the one and she was to forsake all and follow Him because he was the one for her. Met a guy, quit job, moved to Montana, was beaten, abused, lost all money and savings, and he left her for another girl six months later.
- Brandt – was told to stop taking his medication for schizophrenia, and ended up in a psychiatric ward.

Quote - George Mallone: "Prophecy today, although it may be very helpful and on occasion overwhelmingly specific, is not in the category of the revelation given to us in Holy Scripture... A person may hear the voice of the Lord and be compelled to speak, but there is no assurance that it is pollutant-free. There will be a mixture of flesh and spirit."

A. Responsibility to Pastor People



PASTORAL OVERSIGHT

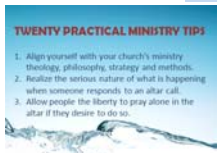
1. To oversee and protect God's people - The pastoral oversight is responsible to oversee God's people, guarding the flock by watching over any ministries that could have harmful influence in the lives of people. Those living a godly life and seeking to behave responsibly have no fear of accountability (Acts 20:28; Philippians 1:1).
2. To guard and protect integrity of ministries - The pastoral oversight of a local church should guard the integrity of prophetic ministry by structuring this ministry experience with the people prepared to receive ministry from proven prophetic, gifted leaders (Titus 1:7; 1 Timothy 3:2).
3. To release the power of the prophetic - The pastoral oversight of a local church understands the power of the prophetic ministry over people's lives and so approaches this with faith and expectation for the individual with carefulness and wisdom (Romans 1:11; 2 Timothy 1:6; Deuteronomy 34:9).



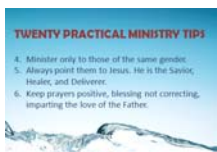
CHURCH TEAM LEADERS REALITIES #READ WITH ME

1. We have been called to pastor and care for people entrusted to our care.
2. We have been given the incredible privilege to be a part of a local church leadership team.
3. We have been given delegated authority from God and our pastors to assist in helping people.
4. We must do our part to insure that people are pastured and cared for in the proper way.

B. Ministry Team Guidelines – TOP 20 Do's and Dont's



1. Align yourself with your church's ministry theology, philosophy, strategy and methods – If you can't agree and align, move aside. Protect the church and the people.
#Lady with healing rooms passion, wants altar to be fishing hole for her agenda.
2. Realize the serious nature of what is happening when someone responds to an altar call.
3. Allow people the liberty to pray alone in the altar if they desire to do so.
4. Minister only to those of the same gender. Couples are released to minister to any individual asking for ministry; however only those of the same gender may lay hands on the person receiving prayer.
5. Always point them to Jesus. He is the Savior, Healer, and Deliverer.
6. Keep prayers positive, blessing not correcting, imparting the love of the Father.
#More strokes than pokes. Pray prayers of faith, hope and love.

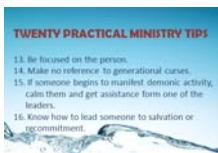




7. Ask people how you can pray for them and remain specific to the request. It should not become a counseling time.
8. No directional or correctional prophesying – If you have a word, submit to your pastoral oversight.



9. Avoid tongues as it does not necessarily minister to people.
#should botta Honda.
10. Don't preach, pray.
11. Avoid swaying or pushing someone as it is often distracting.
#45 degree angle, blowing and pushing, to get the fall ratio up.
12. Approach everyone with a meek and respectful spirit.



13. Be focused on the person you are ministering to, and give them your undivided attention.
#Don't take this to the extreme; intense staring.
14. Make no reference to generational curses.
15. If someone begins to manifest demonic activity, calm them and get assistance from one of the leaders.
16. Know how to lead someone to salvation or recommitment.
#Many will come for prayer and not know the Lord.



17. Know how to lead someone to be filled with the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.
#They might just need to be filled to be empowered for change.
18. Don't be shocked by what you are told or what you see.
"AAAAAHHHHHHHHHHH, you are kidding me! Yikes!"
19. Hygiene should be impeccable. No heavy use of fragrances. Use breath mints as needed.
#Isaiah 33:11 – Your breath is a fire that consumes you.
20. Modest attire is a no brainer!
#You represent God and the church leadership. Dress the part.

V. Conclusion

Question and Answer time.
Pray over leaders.

