

The Prophetic



Growing in Understanding
by Hannah Tolnai



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HOMWORK STUDY GUIDE

Please read the enclosed book by Mike Bickle, Growing in the Prophetic, through out the six week course. (This book is available for free download at www.mikebickle.com)

WEEK 1

Pray in the Spirit daily (If you don't have a prayer language pray in English)
Meditate on a Psalm
Write Journal Entry for each Psalm

Week 2

Pray in the Spirit daily
Meditate on a Psalm
Write Journal Entry for each Psalm

Week 3

Pray in the in the Spirit daily
Meditate on a Psalm
Write Journal Entry for each Psalm
Read Chapter 3 In "Growing in the Prophetic" by Mike Bickle

Week 4

Read Chapter 4 In "Growing in the Prophetic" by Mike Bickle
Prophesy Over 1-3 Christian Friends

Week 5

Read Chapter 9 in "Growing in the Prophetic" by Mike Bickle
Prophesy over 1 Non believer
Study for Final Exam

Session 1: Introduction to Prophetic Ministry

I. GOALS FOR THIS COURSE

To gain a biblical understanding of the gift of prophecy

To approach the gift of prophecy through the lens of intimacy and humility

To gain an understanding of the mechanics of prophesying

To grow in the gift of prophecy and knowledge of the word

II. WHO CAN PROPHECY?

- A. In the Old Testament prophecy was a gifting reserved for a select few who heard and uttered the infallible word of the Lord. However, as early as the time of Moses, a day was foreshadowed when “all men could prophesy”

But Moses replied, "Are you jealous for my sake? I wish that all the LORD's people were prophets and that the LORD would put his Spirit on them!" (Numbers 11:29)

In the New Testament on the day of Pentecost Peter quotes Joel 2:28-32

‘And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God, That I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your young men shall see visions, Your old men shall dream dreams.¹⁸ And on My menservants and on My maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days; And they shall prophesy (Acts 2:17-19)

Paul instructs in 1 Corinthians 14:31 that ***you may all prophesy..***

³¹ For you can all prophesy one by one, that all may learn and all may be encouraged.

Paul also instructs that we should pursue the best gifts.

But earnestly desire the best¹ gifts. And yet I show you a more excellent way. (1 Corinthians 12:31)

- B. While we see clearly in the New Testament that the gift of prophecy is available to everyone, there is a responsibility on the believer to grow in character and to actively stir up the gifting that is placed in them.

⁶ Therefore I remind you to stir up the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands. (2 timothy 1:6)

In my experience in learning and growing in the prophetic I have seen many young people freshly saved or first filled with spirit immediately begin to prophesy, many of times with great clarity and accuracy. While it is exciting and encouraging, we always encourage those individuals to grow in their gifting, character and knowledge of the word. This leads us to our first misconception about the gift of prophecy...

Misconception 1

Character equals anointing.

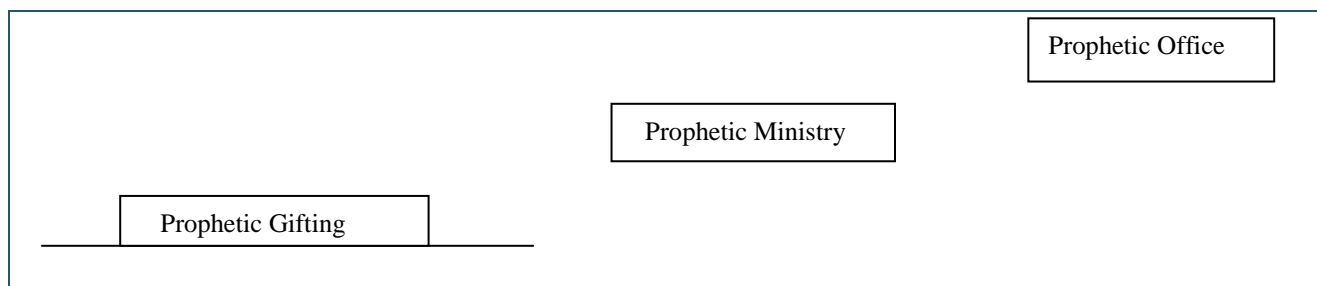
The gift of prophesy isn't based on maturity of years in the faith or personal merit. It is given to build the body and the mature as well as the immature may receive the gift. Love calls us to grow beyond childishness and immaturity into fruitful servants in both character and expression.

- C. All though, we see in the new testament pattern of prophesy that this gifting is open to everyone, there are different levels of gifting in this ministry

Gift of Prophecy (low level of prophetic anointing offered to everyone used for encouragement strengthening etc.)

Prophetic Ministry (a more mature approach to the prophetic ones who have inclined their ear to hear)

Office of Prophet (this is a unique gifting given to certain individuals)



III. THE TESTIMONY OF JESUS THE SPIRIT OF PROPHECY

- A. Prophecy is the testimony of Jesus, which is the revelation of what is on His heart for His people.

And I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me “See that you do not do that! I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren who have the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.” (Revelation 19:10)

- B. The testimony of Jesus is the unfolding of God’s plan for mankind from the beginning to end. There are four phases to this testimony. Two are complete, one is unfolding, and one is yet to come.

1. First phase of the Testimony of Jesus began before the world was even created.

just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, (Ephesians 1:4)

2. The second phase began and carried through the completion of the Old Testament

3. The third phase of his testimony was his manifestation in the flesh.

4. The last phase of His testimony is as Paul says, ‘The summing up of all things in Christ’

Having made known unto us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he hath purposed in himself: That in the dispensation of the fullness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in him: Eph. 1:9-10.

- C. Our Part in His Testimony

1. He called you before the foundations of the earth to this generation for such a time as this. How then are we to live?

And all these, having obtained a good testimony through faith, did not receive the promise, God having provided something better for us, that they should not be made perfect apart from us. Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. (Hebrews 11:39-12:2)

2. What does this look like?
 - a. We take time to store oil. (Matt. 25.) intimacy
 - b. Daily eating the scroll and pressing in for encounter, not despising the mundane but rather growing in faithfulness.
 - c. Staying ready as we mark out the signs of the times.

SESSION 2: The Heart of the Prophetic

I. SERVANT HEART OF THE PROPHETIC

- A. It is important that as we choose to pursue a life in the prophetic that we live in a way that is servant hearted. Shelley Hundley a prophetic woman out of Kansas City, Mo says. “I long for a prophetic people who will come in early and leave late”. We need the realization that the manifestation of the gifts is for the edification of Jesus’ bride.

But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all (1 Corinthians 12:7)

The function of our gifts is not to separate us out and make us higher than the rest of the church, but rather to mature and unify the church.

...But God composed the body, having given greater honor to that part which lacks it,²⁵ that there should be no schism in the body, but that the members should have the same care for one another.²⁶ And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; or if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with it. (1 Corinthians 12:24-27)

Misconception Two

All prophetic people are flaky

Our gifting should always be pointing to Jesus and not to ourselves.

- B. We will be looking further into the lives of the Old Testament prophets as they lived servant hearted lives poured out before the Lord. Jesus Himself displayed a lifestyle of humility. In the next session we will look at the Sermon on the Mount as an avenue into servant hearted living.

II. SERMON ON THE MOUNT

- A. The Sermon on the Mount is found in the Book of Matthew in chapters 5-7. In this message we will specifically be focusing on chapter 5:1-12. **The beatitudes..**

Now when he saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him,² and he began to teach them, saying:³ “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.⁴ Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.⁵ Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.⁶ Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.⁷ Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.⁸ Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.⁹ Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God.¹⁰ Blessed are those who are persecuted because righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.¹¹ “Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me.¹² Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

- B. Every step of the way Jesus chose the way of the Sermon on the Mount. We are often fascinated by the way that He lived and our hearts scream out “Oh to live like he did!” But what about the way that he died? With every last breath Jesus preached the way of the Sermon on the Mount.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it. (1 John 1:1-5)

- C. So often, we as Christians look for the moment when we will be called out for greatness, looking for the moment when some man or woman of God affirms us from a podium, looking for someone to come along and say you can do this, you can be one of the few who lives a deeply profound and impactful life...When the God of Heaven takes a seat on the side of a mountain and gives us the greatest invitation... The Sermon on the Mount.

III. WHY CHOOSE THE WAY OF THE BEATITUDES?

- A. Who can live this way? **No one.** (Apart from the Holy Spirit) **and everyone.** (It is the portion for every believer to walk in the manner of the beatitudes)
- B. The Sermon on the Mount is not just a list of rules that we struggle to live up to, but rather a temperature gage to see how much we are living by the spirit and abiding in Jesus. In John 15:5 Jesus gives us the road map to live holy and bear fruit that will last

⁵ “I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶ If anyone does not remain in me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. ⁷ If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you. ⁸ This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples. (John 15:5-8)

- C. It is impossible to live the Sermon on the Mount apart from the help of the Holy Spirit.

So I say, live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature. For the sinful nature desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the sinful nature. They are in conflict with each other, But if you are lead by the spirit than you are not under the law.

- D. Jesus makes an astounding and profound statement about keeping his commandments in John 15:9-11.

⁹ “As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you; abide in My love.¹⁰ If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father’s commandments and abide in His love. ¹¹ “These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you, and that your joy may be full.

IV. FACING OURSELVES IN THE LIGHT OF THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT

- A. We must give ourselves more than just to the study of the Sermon on the Mount, but also face ourselves in the light of its teachings. How much will we let this into our Hearts? How much will we let the Holy Spirit bring to light all that is hidden in our hearts?
- B. Ways we can follow the leadership of the Holy Spirit

2. Be faithful in small decisions (what to do with time, money, speech, eyes)
3. Blessing our enemies

V. TOOLS FOR GROWING IN THE PROPHETIC

- A. We must learn to incline our ears to hear. It is every Christian's portion to hear the voice of the Lord. Hearing the Lord's voice is vital for life in ministry.

My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. (John 10:27)

The Lord is the author of speech and language. Most of us assume the Lord is silent, distant and far off. The reality is, He is often speaking and we are rarely listening. We need to shift our paradigm from expecting *not* to hear His voice to expecting *to* hear His voice.

- B. Below are some helpful ways to grow in the prophetic

1. Meditate on the word – As you read the scripture begin to ask the Lord questions. As you ask the Lord questions write down what you hear.

2. Journal- Always keep a note pad near you in prayer and meditation

3. Pray in the spirit- Praying in the spirit is fellowshiping with the Holy Spirit

4. Don't despise the days of small beginnings- Not everyone will have a full open vision of heaven. Instead of being frustrated with the small bit of revelation you receive, look at it as a journey of friendship with the Lord.

5. Begin to act in obedience- Stepping out in obedience even when we don't have the full picture.

Session 3: Intimacy the Foundation for Prophetic Ministry

I. FRIENDSHIP WITH THE LORD

- A. My heart is to see a prophetic people whose mouths overflow with the secrets that the Lord has revealed through deep friendship and fellowship. The Lord is searching for friends; will you be one who answers the call?
- B. Prophecy from the place of intimacy is the surest foundation to build upon. The Lord says in Psalm 25:14 that he 'confides' in those who fear Him.

The LORD confides in those who fear him; he makes his covenant known to them. (Psalm 25:14)

Surely the Sovereign LORD does nothing without revealing his plan to his servants the prophets. (Amos 3:7)

- C. The Prophetic Servant should deal tenderly with people without drawing attention to himself or boasting arrogantly about his gifting.

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. (1 Corinthians 13:2)

- E. Prophecy is more than the reception and output of information. It is an invitation into friendship. Every time we ask the Lord for a word, we are taking the journey into friendship and choosing to partner with his heart. We are choosing to see people, ministries, etc. through His eyes. Nothing better illustrates this partnership than the lives of the Old Testament prophets...

II. EXAMPLES OF PROPHETS IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

- A. **Hosea-** Hosea literally walked out the lord's heart over Israel

The word of the LORD that came to Hosea son of Beeri during the reigns of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz and Hezekiah, kings of Judah, and during the reign of Jeroboam son of Jehoash^[a] king of Israel: When the LORD began to speak through Hosea, the LORD said to him, "Go, take to yourself an adulterous wife and children of unfaithfulness, because the land is guilty of the vilest adultery in departing from the LORD." (Hosea 1:1-2)

- B. **Jeremiah-** Jeremiah was known as the weeping prophet because He felt the burden of the Father's heart towards His children and His grief over their rejection of Him

This is what the LORD says: "When seventy years are completed for Babylon, I will come to you and fulfill my gracious promise to bring you back to this place. ¹¹ for I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. (Jeremiah 29:10-11)

Session 4: The Mechanics of Prophecy

I. DIFFERENT WAYS OF RECEIVING

- A. God speaks in many different ways. The following are general categories that give language to what we are receiving from the Lord.

The Seeing Eye and the Hearing ear, the Lord has made them both (Prov. 20:12)

1. **Seeing-** Seeing is usually expressed in dreams, visions, picture's in your mind's eye etc. examples of Seers are Jeremiah, Ezekiel, and Daniel
2. **Hearing-** Hearing is most often described as the hearing of "a word or phrase" also the Audible voice of the Lord.
3. **Feeling-** Many times people will feel the emotions of the Lord over a person or situation. This is often the feeling of the Lord's mercy, love, compassion etc.
4. **Knowing-** The feeling of knowing is generally like an impression. Many of times the person prophesying will feel that they instinctively 'know' something about a situation or characteristic in a person's life.

II. THE ANATOMY OF A PROPHETIC WORD

- A. When giving a prophetic word there are three steps that we go through, **revelation** (what's said) **interpretation** (What it means) and **application** (What to do with the information received)

1. **Revelation-** This is the divine information (prophetic impression, dream, vision, etc.). It is important not to try and interpret and breakdown every impression and picture according to our own understanding of the person's perceived needs. We are simply to deliver what we receive in as clear a way as possible.

For we know in part and we prophesy in part (1 Cor. 13:9)

Some give into the temptation to manufacture the interpretation before it is clear. ***This is a recipe for disaster.*** Again, the safest thing is to simply give what we receive. As we grow in our gifting, our ability to interpret will also grow. This requires patience and discipline.

We must understand the grid through which revelation, interpretation and application flow. —Jesus said ‘I am the truth’. Since Jesus is the truth and the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy, Revelation from Jesus will always be true. However, revelation must pass through the grid of human beings that are not by nature true but by transformation are becoming true. Therefore, prophecy from God can end up being communicated inaccurately. Consider the following:

- a. God speaks accurately-pure revelation untainted by the human process- Some prophetic words can be 10% God’s words and 90% man’s words while others have a greater revelatory content. It is possible to speak 100% accurate words from God, yet most prophecy is a mixture.
 - b. Man hears inaccurately- Because the way we perceive revelation is usually with mixture, the word may reflect either a ‘mature’ word that hits the mark, or a ‘weak’ word that may encourage, but is not as effective. We need to encourage ourselves, that as we grow, both in intimacy with Christ, and in our prophetic gifting that we will see an increase of mature words and a decrease of weak words.
 - c. Man prophesies in part- in the growth process we learn to discern how to give the portion of the revelation God is making clear. Thus we avoid unhealthy ‘bunny trails’ and speculative thoughts.
2. **Interpretation**- This is where we ask “**what does the revelation we are receiving mean?**” The Interpretation phase of the prophetic word is where we gain God’s insight or understanding into the picture, impression, etc. It is easy to get a wrong interpretation because revelation often comes in bits and pieces and could be symbolic. We need more understanding to proceed.

The best way to gain more understanding on revelation is to **ask questions of the Lord.** For Instance, the Lord may be showing you a picture of a ‘paintbrush’ Rather than jumping to conclusions about the person being an ‘artist’ we can ask the Lord, what does my picture mean? **The act of prophesying is one of the ultimate acts of dependency on the Holy Spirit.** Asking questions of the Lord means we are dialoguing with Him. We are practicing intimacy!

* It may also be helpful to ask questions of the person you are prophesying over. By doing this, it may save you from going off in the wrong direction. Asking questions such as ‘Are you an artist?’ does not lessen the impact of your prophetic word.

3. Application (what to do with the prophetic information)

The application refers to the wisdom of how to apply the information that we recently interpreted. I recommend asking the following questions, some which apply to individual ministry sessions and some which apply to corporate situations. How much of it is to be shared, 30%? Or 100%? When should it be shared? Why? What is the desired impact? What mindsets do we want to see changed or actions be taken?

The main question is, “What will bring about the maximum amount of edification?” We are to be ‘prophetic servants’, which means that it is not about us or our gift or recognition. It is about strengthening the church both corporately and individually. In this light, maximum edification is the goal.

III. MORE ON THE WAYS WE HEAR

A. The following is a list of some of the ways God speaks/we hear. It is a starting point and does not contain every instance.

1. **Pictures-** Different from visions. They are like visual impressions. Examples include pictures of places, people, activity etc. they can be literal or symbolic. This is a good place to exercise the Interpretation phase of the “anatomy of a prophetic word”. Ask the Lord questions such as: “Is this picture for myself or to be shared with the individual. And “What are you saying through this picture?”
2. **Bible Verses-** The Lord may highlight a scripture passage for you to give to the person, this is why giving yourself to the study and meditation of the word is important. Clarification and or exhortation may be beneficial.
3. **A word or phrase-** In this case, you may receive just one word such as ‘justice’ or ‘change’ or even a phrase like ‘she has a mother’s heart’. Many times as we open our mouths the Lord will fill it with more. If you don’t receive anything else it is ok to just give the word or phrase.

4. **Names, clothing, identities-** Sometimes God may speak to you through the person's name, identity etc. it is good to be aware of these areas but not to get 'stuck' in using this method of prophesying.
5. **Impressions-** This can be a faint or very clear sense of 'knowing' in your inner man. You may feel like you just 'know' something about the person's life or experience. The more you move out on these small impressions generally, the more comfortable you'll feel.
6. **An impression in your 'mind's eye'-** This is usually a strong impression accompanied by a picture that confirms or explains the impression.
7. **Emotions-** This often comes in the release of compassion from God so that you are feeling what he feels about a person; e.g. mercy, his affections,
8. **External circumstances-** Sometimes the Lord may speak to you through what is happening around you, for example a song, weather noises etc.
9. **Dreams and Visions-** Sometimes the Lord will speak through dreams about a person event etc. This must be approached with much discernment and caution.

IV. SOME DO'S AND DON'TS REGARDING PROPHETIC MINISTRY

- A. When starting out in prophetic ministry it is always safe to stay within the confines of 1 Corinthians 14:3: edification, exhortation and comfort

But he who prophesies speaks edification and exhortation and comfort to men. (1 Corinthians 14:3)

- B. Below are some helpful Do's and Don'ts when ministering individually and corporately.
 1. Avoid using terms such as 'thus sayeth the Lord'. Phrases like this leave no room for the person receiving your ministry to 'candle' and 'test' the word. **Do** use phrases such as "I feel the Lord saying" or "I believe the Lord is giving me a picture for you". Phrases like this are good because they are presented in humility.
 2. With pictures, visions, and dreams it is good to ask the Lord if the picture is for you, to help you understand the revelation, or if it is to be shared with the person you are prophesying to.

3. Don't prophesy according to the person's outer demeanor, dress, or facial expressions (or lack thereof). God sees the heart and is able to reveal that to us if we don't get bogged down in what they look like.
4. Give only what you receive and deliver it in a loving, humble and kind way. Treat people with respect and dignity.
5. Remember it is ok to ask questions for clarification.
6. Avoid prophesying 'Hatch, Match and Dispatch' or 'Dates, Mates and Babies' which are major directional words. These should be reserved for a much higher level of prophetic gifting. Too often, I have seen zealous young people prophesy marriage, moving etc. This can be a recipe for disaster.
7. When the Lord reveals an area of sin or weakness in a person's life. The key is to remember we are not there to expose the person, but to shine the light of Christ. Edification is key.
8. Refrain from attaching timelines and dates to your prophetic words. This can be especially confusing if the word doesn't come to past within the dates prophesied. Sometimes dates can disqualify what would have been a mature word.

V. A WORD ON FLATTERY AND MANIPULATION

- A. Often when the Lord highlights a prophetic gifting on one's life, people are drawn to it. There is a temptation to use 'flattery' to 'tell the people what they want to hear'. Having a life grounded in intimacy and the word is a great way to safeguard oneself.

¹⁸ For such people are not serving our Lord Christ, but their own appetites. By smooth talk and flattery they deceive the minds of naive people. (Romans 16:18)

For the time will come when men will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. (2 Timothy 4:3)

- B. A second temptation with the prophetic is manipulation. Manipulation can occur when a person uses prophesy to further their own purposes instead of the Lord's. This can easily happen when you know a situation or area of weakness in a person's life and prophesy into it from your own perception rather than God's.

VI. SOME HELPFUL QUESTIONS FOR DIALOGUE WITH THE LORD

A. The following questions are just examples of dialogue with the Lord. They are not by any means a formula.

1. What are his/hers spiritual gifts (Words of wisdom, knowledge, prophesy, discernment of spirits, faith, tongues, miracles, healing)
2. What are his/hers service gifts (compassion, leadership, exhortation/cheerfulness, teaching, generosity)
3. What are the person's Five Fold callings (Apostle, Prophet, Pastor, Teacher, Evangelist) -**God may be highlighting a characteristic or an overflow of a characteristic from this category but it is highly unlikely that one individual will fully function in all five area**
4. What biblical character is the person most like?
5. What season is the person's life in? Is the Lord moving them into a new season?
6. What scripture had the Lord been highlighting to them recently?
7. What has the Lord been speaking to them in the secret place lately?
8. What effect does this person have when they walk in a room
9. What is this person's reputation before heaven?
10. Life Experience

VII. PERSONAL PROPHETIC HISTORY

A. Many of us have had words spoken over our lives. Word of direction, vision, destiny etc. There is a responsibility on us to steward these words and not let them fall by the wayside. Prophecy is Often:

1. Contingent (obedience to the Lord)
2. Partial (We see in part, often don't have the full picture)
3. Progressive (we usually gain more insight as time goes on)

B. How do we effectively steward the word of the Lord?

1. Test the word (find it in scripture) True prophecy should always line up with scripture.

Two or three prophets should speak, and the others should weigh carefully what is said (1 Corinthians 14:29)

2. Write the word down (How will we know if the Lord has answered if we can't remember it?)
 3. Pray in the word. (Remind God of his promise.)
- C. Since I've begun to record my own personal history I've seen a dramatic increase of the Lord's answers.

Session 5: Dreams and Visions

I. INTRODUCTION TO DREAMS

“And it shall come to pass afterward That I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your old men shall dream dreams, Your young men shall see visions. (Joel 2:28)

A. Visions/Trances- Isaiah, Ezekiel, Peter, Paul

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, and the train of His robe filled the temple. Above it stood seraphim; each one had six wings: with two he covered his face, with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. And one cried to another and said: “Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of His glory!” And the posts of the door were shaken by the voice of him who cried out, and the house was filled with smoke. So I said: “Woe is me, for I am undone! Because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen

The King, the LORD of hosts.” Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a live coal which he had taken with the tongs from the altar. And he touched my mouth with it, and said: “Behold, this has touched your lips; your iniquity is taken away, and your sin purged.” Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying: “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?” Then I said, “Here am I! Send me.” (Isaiah 6:1-8)

The hand of the LORD came upon me and brought me out in the Spirit of the LORD, and set me down in the midst of the valley; and it was full of bones. ² Then He caused me to pass by them all around, and behold, there were very many in the open valley; and indeed they were very dry. (Ezekiel 37:1-2)

I was in the Spirit on the Lord’s Day, and I heard behind me a loud voice, as of a trumpet, ¹¹ saying, “I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last,” and, ^[a] “What you see, write in a book and send it to the seven churches which are in Asia: to Ephesus, to Smyrna, to Pergamos, to Thyatira, to Sardis, to Philadelphia, and to Laodicea.” (Revelation 1:10-11)

The next day, as they went on their journey and drew near the city, Peter went up on the housetop to pray, about the sixth hour. Then he became very hungry and wanted to eat; but while they made ready, he fell into a trance and saw heaven opened and an object like a great sheet bound at the four corners, descending to him and let down to the earth. In it were all kinds of four-footed animals of the earth, wild beasts, creeping things, and birds of the air. And a voice came to him, “Rise, Peter; kill and eat.” ¹ But Peter said, “Not so, Lord! For I have never eaten anything common or unclean.” And a voice spoke to him again the second time, “What God has cleansed you must not call common.” This was done three times. And the object was taken up into heaven again. (Acts 10:9-16)

B. Trance Defined- A sleep like state sometimes characterized by partly suspended animation with diminished or absent sensory and motor activity: a state of profound abstraction or absorption

Vision Defined- A supernatural appearance that conveys revelation

- C. Purpose of dreams
 - 1. Calling/destiny
 - 2. Preparation/warning.
 - a. Pharaoh's dream (Gen 41)
 - b. Nebuchadnezzar's dream (Daniel 2,4)
 - c. Joseph's dreams
 - 2. Direction
 - 3. New Seasons

III. INTRODUCTION TO DREAM INTERPRETATION

- A. With dream interpretation, there are some basic symbols; however, it is not a science. It's a language. As you pursue dream interpretation you will begin to notice the unique way in which the Lord speaks to you.
- B. Some helpful tools for dream interpretation
 - 1. Pray for increase in dreams and interpretive skills. (The Lord is the giver of dreams, it is good to ask!)
 - 2. Determine if the dream is Individual or corporate in nature
 - 3. Determine if the dream is symbolic or literal (most often symbolic)
 - 4. Diagram the dream
 - a. What is the feel of the dream?
 - b. Scenes
 - c. Patterns/themes
 - 5. Determine the Application of the dream
 - a. Intercession
 - b. Prophecy
 - c. Clues and confirmation
 - 6. Ask the Lord about timing
- C. Dream Interpretation and application should be approached with wisdom. It is good to wait on a dream and inquire of the Lord before moving out on it. It is always a good idea to ask for confirmation.

Session 6- Life of a Prophetic Messenger

I. SPEAKING BOLDLY: BEING A LOVER OF TRUTH

- A. For the sake of love, Jesus wants the nations to hear about the Positive and negative things that are coming *before* they come, to give them opportunity to respond. Jesus wants the nations to understand the revival that is sure to come to the Church –**Mike Bickle**
- B. As prophetic messengers we must learn to rightly perceive the Lord as *Bridegroom, King and Judge*
- C. We must learn to follow the lamb, Jesus Christ the Faithful Witness and love the truth as He does.

You are a king, then!" said Pilate. Jesus answered, "You are right in saying I am a king. In fact, for this reason I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone on the side of truth listens to me." (John 18:27)

II. CLOSING THOUGHTS

I hope that through this course you have gained the necessary information to wet your appetite for diving deep into a life in the prophetic. Speak boldly and enjoy your journey of friendship with the Lord and dependence on the Holy Spirit!

