

## **The Heart of the Prophetic**

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In the first session of his prophetic series, Ben Armstrong shares the heart and foundation for the prophetic gift.

### **Prophetic Foundation**

Prophecy Is Rooted in Love

- As you learn about the prophetic, it's important to know the heart behind the gift. Without the heart, the gift can be dangerous.
- When we love people the way God loves them, He can trust us with the secrets of who they are; not what they have done.

Gifts Are an Expression of Love

- Spiritual gifts are an expression of love, not a chore. We are called to easily desire them, especially the prophetic (1 Corinthians 14:1).
- The ABCDs of the prophetic: always build up, always cheer up, and always cause people to draw near to God.

1 Corinthians 13

- 1 Corinthians 13 is sandwiched between two chapters that explain spiritual gifts. It was written in the context of the administration of spiritual gifts.
- Your prophetic word should line up with love as described in 1 Corinthians 13. This will guarantee that the word reflects the heart of God.

### **Prophecy & Identity**

Shifting Atmospheres

- We are called to be thermostats and shift our environment.
- Prophetic people are excited to change atmospheres because they are asking God, "What are you doing and how can I partner with You?"

Your Identity

- Before prophesying, it is important to learn the heart of God and your identity so that you can minister from a healthy place.
- The gifts were not given so you could prove your worth in God. He wants you to know and operate from your identity.
- Prophecy out of who you are as a son or daughter of God.

What's Going on in Heaven?

- First heaven: earth
- Second heaven: angels and principalities
- Third heaven: where God is and His plans are established
- Our job is to bring heaven to earth.

## **Prophetic Culture**

### Leading Others to the Father

- When you minister to others, they should be so blessed that they become jealous for the Father.
- Like Daniel, we are called to always point people back to God when they experience our gifts.
- There are healthy levels of praise we can receive from people that can fuel us. However, the praise of man should not be our source of identity.

### Creating a Prophetic Culture

- Be patient with people and the process of seeing a word come to pass.
- It's important to teach people that they "get" to prophesy versus forcing them to prophesy.
- It can take time to develop a healthy prophetic culture.
- What one generation had to learn about the prophetic can be instinctual for the next.

### Prophetic Lifestyle

- Fear keeps us from hearing the voice of God. If we can overcome fear, we can hear Him; it's easy to hear His voice.
- When you have value for and take interest in a person, it will be easy to share an encouraging, prophetic word.
- We are called to use the prophetic to create a culture of generosity.