Establishing a Prophetic Community

I. Introduction

What is a prophetic community? A prophetic community takes place when a prophet or a high level prophetic anointing is present in a geographical location. In this atmosphere even non-prophetic people can prophesy.

Kris Vallotton
- This truth is demonstrated in the life of King Saul in 1 Samuel 10:6.

Why do we want to create a prophetic community?

1. Because we want to become a place where the voice of God is stewarded well for the region.
   - Stewardship is vital in the kingdom of God.

2. New testament prophetic ministry is for restoration.
   - He will restore the hearts of the fathers to their children and the hearts of the children to their fathers, so that I will not come and smite the land with a curse.” Malachi 4:6

3. As sons and daughters we have a covenant right to hear the voice of God.

So Moses went out and told the people the words of the LORD. Also, he gathered seventy men of the elders of the people, and stationed them around the tent. Then the LORD came down in the cloud and spoke to him; and He took of the Spirit who was upon him and placed Him upon the seventy elders. And when the Spirit rested upon them, they prophesied. But they did not do it again. But two men had remained in the camp; the name of one was Eldad and the name of the other Medad. And the Spirit rested upon them (now they were among those who had been registered, but had not gone out to the tent), and they prophesied in the camp. So a young man ran and told Moses and said, “Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.” Then Joshua the son of Nun, the attendant of Moses from his youth, said, “Moses, my lord, restrain them.” But Moses said to him, “Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the LORD’S people were prophets, that the LORD would put His Spirit upon them!” Numbers 11:24-29

It is you who are the sons of the prophets and of the covenant which God made with your fathers, saying to Abraham, ‘AND IN YOUR SEED ALL THE FAMILIES OF THE EARTH SHALL BE BLESSED.’ Acts 3:25

4. Because of the creative power found in the prophetic.

Then the LORD stretched out His hand and touched my mouth, and the LORD said to me, “Behold, I have put My words in your mouth. “See, I have appointed you this day over the nations and over the kingdoms, to pluck up and to break down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant.” Jeremiah 1:9-10
As we start this process of building a prophetic culture, it is important that we understand what prophecy is and what it is used for.

What is prophecy? In the purist form prophecy is foretelling and forthtelling.

Foretelling: To know the future.
- One of them named Agabus stood up and began to indicate by the Spirit that there would certainly be a great famine all over the world. And this took place in the reign of Claudius. **Acts 11:28**

Forthtelling: To cause the future.
- He said to me, “Son of man, can these bones live?” And I answered, “O Lord GOD, You know.” Again He said to me, “Prophesy over these bones and say to them, ‘O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. ‘Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones, ‘Behold, I will cause breath to enter you that you may come to life. ‘I will put sinews on you, make flesh grow back on you, cover you with skin and put breath in you that you may come alive; and you will know that I am the LORD.’ So I prophesied as I was commanded; and as I prophesied, there was a noise, and behold, a rattling; and the bones came together, bone to its bone. And I looked, and behold, sinews were on them, and flesh grew and skin covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then He said to me, “Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, son of man, and say to the breath, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD, “Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they come to life.”’ So I prophesied as He commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they came to life and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army. **Ezekiel 37:3-10**
- Prophesying over Jason Powers hundreds of millions of sperm.

Prophecy is used for: Edification – To build up.
- Exhortation – To call near.
- Consolation – To cheer up.

Direction - 1 Samuel 10
Correction - 2 Samuel 12
Conferral - 1 Samuel 16

In the kingdom self appointment to a position does not exist. If there is a true calling then others will recognize it.
- We see this in the life of David.
  1. 1 Samuel 16:13
  2. 2 Samuel 2:4
  2. 2 Samuel 5:3

A rule here at Freedom Point is that prophecy must remain in the vein of edification, exhortation and consolation. Should there be a need for any direction, correction or conferral that will come through Lee and me.

**Paul encourages the church at Corinth to prophesy.**
Pursue love, yet desire earnestly spiritual gifts, but especially that you may prophesy. For one who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God; for no one understands, but in his spirit he speaks mysteries. But one who prophesies speaks to men for edification and exhortation and consolation. One who speaks in a tongue edifies himself; but one who prophesies edifies the church. Now I wish that you all spoke in tongues, but even more that you would prophesy; and greater is one who prophesies than one who speaks in tongues, unless he interprets, so that the church may receive edifying.

1 Corinthians 14:1-5

So what about tongues?

1. Paul encouraged the use of tongues
   ➢ I wished you all spoke with tongues. Verse 5

2. My opinion is that the day of Pentecost reveals the purpose for the gift of tongues.
   ➢ And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit was giving them utterance. Now there were Jews living in Jerusalem, devout men from every nation under heaven. And when this sound occurred, the crowd came together, and were bewildered because each one of them was hearing them speak in his own language. They were amazed and astonished, saying, “Why, are not all these who are speaking Galileans? “And how is it that we each hear them in our own language to which we were born? “Parthians and Medes and Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the districts of Libya around Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs—we hear them in our own tongues speaking of the mighty deeds of God.” Acts 2:4-11
   ➢ Charity Cook in Russia speaking perfect Russian.
   ➢ Kelvin McDaniel at Wendy’s

3. I want to encourage anyone who feels they have a tongue to not simply give it and set down. Pray for the interpretation as well.
   ➢ Now I wish that you all spoke in tongues, but even more that you would prophesy; and greater is one who prophesies than one who speaks in tongues, unless he interprets, so that the church may receive edifying. 1 Corinthians 14:5
   ➢ Therefore let one who speaks in a tongue pray that he may interpret. 1 Corinthians 14:13
   ➢ So, if you have faith to give a message in tongues, you need to have faith to interpret it as well.

Another vital understanding we must have is that we control what we say and how we say it.
   ➢ and the spirits of prophets are subject to prophets; 1 Corinthians 14:32
   ➢ So this thought that says “God made me say that” is biblically incorrect.
   ➢ As prophetic people we control everything that we release in prophecy.
   ➢ We must also discern if what we are getting is for the body or for myself, meaning if I get a word and I am not sure who it is for, it’s most likely for myself.
The difference between the gift of prophecy and office of the prophet

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gift of prophecy</th>
<th>Office of the Prophet</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Edification, exhortation &amp; comfort</td>
<td>Direction, correction &amp; conferral</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ministers to local body (limited sphere of authority)</td>
<td>Ministers to a region or nation (greater authority)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ministers the prophetic word</td>
<td>Tends to become the prophetic word</td>
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<tr>
<td>Strengthens the foundation</td>
<td>Lays foundation and cast vision with the apostle</td>
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Tools for developing a prophetic community

1. **Recognizing that God is always speaking and He speaks in different ways**
   - My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me.  **John 10:27**

   **A. Spiritual perception**
   Perception is not limited to only the visual. Spiritual perception is the realm of knowing.
   - In this type of perception, a person sees something in his spirit but his mind sees no image.
   - This is more of a hunch, a gut feeling, a check within our spirit.

   **B. Pictorial visions**
   Numbers 12:6:  I the Lord will make myself known to him in a vision.

   In this kind of vision, an image is revealed to the mind and can be identified and described in terms of pictures.
   - These are Holy Spirit visual aids.
   - An example of this would be praying for a person and seeing a picture of a particular organ in your mind. This indicates what area to pray for.

   **C. Panoramic vision**
   Hosea 12:10:  I have multiplied visions.

   In a panoramic vision a person sees a pictorial vision in motion in his mind. This may last a few seconds. You may also hear words in the realm of the spirit.
   - Ananias has this kind of vision and sees that he is to go lay hands on Saul so that he will receive his sight back.
   - Paul has the same experience as well where he sees in a vision Ananias come and lay hands upon him so that he will regain his sight.

   **D. Dreams**
   Daniel saw a dream and visions in his mind as he lay upon his bed; then he wrote the dream down…  **Daniel 7:1**

   Here a person receives a message from the Holy Spirit in the form of visionary revelation while asleep.
Joseph’s 4 dreams
1. The angel tells Joseph to take Mary as his wife.  
   Matthew 1:20
2. The angels tell Joseph to take his family and flee to Egypt.  
   Matthew 2:13
3. The angel tell Joseph to return to Israel.  
   Matthew 2:19
4. God then tells him to go to Galilee.  
   Matthew 2:22

The wise man are warned by God in a dream to not return to Herod.  
Matthew 2:12

Solomon received from the Lord in his dream.  
I Kings 3:5-15, 2 Chronicles 1:8

I sleep but my heart is awake.  
Song of Solomon 5:2

2 examples of dreams in my life
1. Dream in May about a family.
2. Regional dream 2 weeks ago today

E. Hearing
This can be an inner voice or an audible message.  They come in many categories:  It can be sentences, thoughts, words or phrases.  They can come from Holy Spirit, Jesus, the Father and angels.

When I hear these things do I have a sense of peace?  The bible states we are to seek peace and pursue it.  Also we are commanded in scripture to test the spirits to see if they are from God.  
I John 4:1-3

Examples of an audible voice:
- Jesus to Saul on the road to Damascus.  Acts 9:3-7
- God the Father to Jesus.  Matthew 3:17
- God the Father at the Mount of Transfiguration.  Matthew 17:1
- An angel spoke to Phillip.  Acts 8:26

F. Feelings
This is when you feel an emotion.  For example, it could be joy, love, empathy, etc.

G. Reading the word of God
Giving Chad Payne a word from Judges chapter 11.

2. Look for treasure within people
- The goal of the gift of prophecy is to bring out the best in people!  We are to mine the gold that is among the dirt and to find hidden treasures in the lives of people.
- If we see negative things in the person's life we are ministering to, we are to ask the Holy Spirit to give us the answer to the problem we discern.  Then we prophesy the answer – not the problem.  (This is when you start operating in gift clusters)
- This will result in the person we are prophesying to receiving grace to solve the problem that they are stuck in.  For example, if we are ministering to someone and discern that
they are struggling with pornography, the Holy Spirit will often give us a prophetic word for them something like this: “God is calling you to a new level of purity and holiness.” In this way, we have prophesied the answer without speaking about the problem and have released grace to break the bondage of pornography.

3. Healthy prophetic core values
How you listen is determined by your core values.

“So take care how you listen; for whoever has, to him more shall be given; and whoever does not have, even what he thinks he has shall be taken away from him.” Luke 8:18

- We all see with an accent but we just don’t know it.

Perception is everything in prophetic ministry.

If we view God as angry at the world, then we will “hear” out of that paradigm. This will result in:

- Judgmental prophetic words.
- Natural disasters will be viewed as God punishing people for their sins.
- Sickness, like AIDS, will be attributed to God judging people.
- We will be looking for what is wrong in the world instead of what is right.
- We will have a “slave” relationship with God.
- We will use the Old Testament Prophets to model our ministry.

If we view God as loving, affectionate, and in a good mood then we will “hear” out of that paradigm. This will result in:

- Believing the best about people.
- Extending mercy, grace, and forgiveness.
- Looking for what is right in the world.
- Looking for treasure in people.
- Seeing death, sickness, disasters, and the works of the devil as enemies of the Body of Christ. We will feel empowered to minister to bring life, healing, and comfort to the world.