

Responding Well to Corporate Prophetic Words Reflecting upon and Learning from May 22 – 23, 2021

Thesis: We are a people who seek to respond well to the Lord when he gives us corporate prophetic words.

Text: 1 Corinthians 12:7-11, 14:1-5, 14:23-25

As I shared on May 16, 2021, the body of Christ is in a new season. Something significant happened on April 9, 2021. “When the prince will pass, it will be 418 at last.” We unpacked that word together on Sunday, April 18, and on Sunday, May 16.

According to Luke 4:18, the Father anointed Jesus with the Holy Spirit to do the works of God. Jesus is anointed to meet our every need according to Isaiah 61, which Christ quotes in Luke 4:18. Those of us who partner with Jesus on his mission are invited to introduce Jesus to others in the power of the Holy Spirit. People in our spheres of influence need to know who Jesus is and what he is doing. You and I are so fortunate to be alive at this hour of history to partner with the Lord in what he is doing.

Let’s pause to worship our God. Our God is the amazing God. He is the Master Strategist, the poet of history. Our God put things in motion, weaving the threads together from more than 30 years ago, and he gave us a glimpse of his creative artistry and engineering during the week of April 9-18, 2021.

I encourage you to process the messages from April 18 and May 16 for more details regarding what the Lord is doing.

Last weekend the Lord released many prophetic words in two different corporate contexts here at Calvary (May 22-23, 2021). For ten years, our youth have participated in the [Encounter God’s Presence](#) youth camp. Each year, they come back jazzed, inspired, and fiery. Jane Winne, our Student Ministry Pastor, wanted us to host a rally for young people led by Jason and Heidi Williams, the key leaders of [Encounter God’s Presence](#) Ministries. Since Jason and Heidi were going to lead this rally for young people on Saturday, May 22, we felt led to ask them to minister to our church family on Sunday, May 23.

What God did last weekend was awesome.

The [Encounter God’s Presence](#) team led in worship, equipping, and ministry last weekend. Their team ministered prophetically on Saturday night and Sunday morning. It was a very significant weekend.

Today, I want to talk about *Responding Well to Corporate Prophetic Words*. We are a people who seek to respond well to the Lord when God speaks.

Please turn in your Bibles to 1 Corinthians 12:4-11, 1 Corinthians 14:1-5, and 1 Corinthians 14:23-25.

There are different kinds [varieties] of gifts, but the same Spirit. 5 There are different kinds of service [ministries], but the same Lord. 6 There are different kinds of working [activities] but the same God works [empowers] all of them in all men. 7 Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. 8 To one there is given through the Spirit the message of wisdom, to another the message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, 9 to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, 10 to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues. 11 All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he gives them to each one, just as he determines (1 Corinthians 12:4–11).

1. In this passage, Paul is answering a question from the Corinthians believers about spiritual gifts. *“I do not want you to be ignorant about spiritual gifts”* (1 Corinthians 12:1).
2. There are varieties of gifts, service (ministries), and working (activities), but the Trinitarian God-- the Spirit, Son, and Father-- is the source and empowerment of it all (1 Corinthians 12:4-6).
3. **We believe in the situational view of the spiritual gifts** (1 Corinthians 12, 14).
 - a. Since we have the Holy Spirit, the Spirit can manifest or release any spiritual gift through us for the need of the moment or situation (1 Corinthians 12:7, 11).
 - b. So, let's ask specifically for the spiritual gifts for our lives and learn to let God manifest them through us (1 Corinthians 12:8-10; 14:1).
4. **There are 9 spiritual gifts listed in 1 Corinthians 12:8-10.**
 - a. There are other spiritual gifts listed in Romans 12 and Ephesians 4.
 - b. None of these lists are exhaustive.
5. **God determines who is on the receiving end of a gift** (1 Corinthians 12:11).
 - a. So, we don't get mad, upset, or jealous when someone receives a gift, word, or anointing-- and we don't receive that gift or word. (See also 1 Corinthians 12:12-31).
 - b. We celebrate and bless what God is doing, rejoicing with those who rejoice (Romans 12:15).

- c. We acknowledge that God is here and moving in our midst (1 Corinthians 14:25).
- d. **If our hearts agree, and since the words are given corporately, we can also “get in” on those individual prophetic words.** If there is a prophetic word about healing, then the Lord is among us to heal, for instance.

Follow the way of love and eagerly desire spiritual gifts, especially the gift of prophecy. 2 For anyone who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God. Indeed, no one understands him; he utters mysteries with his spirit. 3 But everyone who prophesies speaks to men for their strengthening, encouragement and comfort. 4 He who speaks in a tongue edifies himself, but he who prophesies edifies the church. 5 I would like every one of you to speak in tongues, but I would rather have you prophesy. He who prophesies is greater than one who speaks in tongues, unless he interprets, so that the church may be edified (1 Corinthians 14:1–5).

1. **We are to eagerly desire and pursue spiritual gifts**, not just have a “take it or leave it” attitude about them (1 Corinthians 14:1).
2. **We are to express the spiritual gifts in the context of love for God and love for others** (1 Corinthians 14:1, referencing 1 Corinthians 13).
3. **We are to seek especially the gift of prophecy** (1 Corinthians 14:1).
4. **Tongues** is a very valuable and important gift, especially as a prayer language to the Lord, **which edifies the believer** (1 Corinthians 14:2, 4).
5. **Inspirational prophecy strengthens (builds up), encourages (stirs up), and comforts (binds up)** (1 Corinthians 14:3).
 - a. The Lord gave Pastor Steve this revelation about prophecy: **This is parental love.** This is what we do for our kids.
 - b. This is the Father’s heart toward us. He gives us good gifts.
 - c. God gives us prophetic words to help us fight the good fight.
 - i. *Timothy, my son, I give you this instruction in keeping with the prophecies once made about you, so that by following them you may fight the good fight, 19 holding on to faith and a good conscience. Some have rejected these and so have shipwrecked their faith (1 Timothy 1:18–19).*
6. **Inspirational prophecy builds up the church** (1 Corinthians 14:5).

So if the whole church comes together and everyone speaks in tongues, and some who do not understand or some unbelievers come in, will they not say that you are out of your mind? 24 But if an unbeliever or someone who does not

understand comes in while everybody is prophesying, he will be convinced by all that he is a sinner and will be judged by all, 25 and the secrets of his heart will be laid bare. So he will fall down and worship God, exclaiming, "God is really among you!" (1 Corinthians 14:23–25).

1. **There are 3 types of people in 1 Corinthians 14:23-25.**
 - a. Believers who move in spiritual gifts.
 - b. Believers who do not move in spiritual gifts, or the uninitiated.
 - c. Unbelievers who obviously don't move in spiritual gifts.
2. **There are at least three results when the Spirit brings forth prophetic revelation in the corporate context, in small groups or services.**
 - a. People become aware of their need for God (1 Corinthians 14:24).
 - b. People have the secrets of their heart revealed (to strengthen, encourage, and comfort; 1 Corinthians 14:24).
 - c. People are drawn to acknowledge God is present and to respond in worship to God (1 Corinthians 14:25).

Last weekend, the Lord gave inspirational prophetic words to the [Encounter God's Presence](#) team, and they ministered those words. The ministry times were effective and powerful. The Spirit moved among us.

Here are some observations that I want to make concerning last weekend.

1. **We want to give thanks to the Lord (Psalm 50:23).**
 - a. We thank the Lord for what he did on Saturday and Sunday, May 22-23.
 - b. We thank the Lord for the opportunity our youth have every year at the [Experience God's Presence](#) youth camp. God moves powerfully, just like you witnessed last weekend.
 - c. We thank the Lord for our youth and youth ministry. We give thanks to the Lord for Jane Winne and the entire SMC team.
 - d. We thank the Lord for our children and children ministry team. We are so grateful for Becky Gressett and our CM team.
2. **We celebrate the prophetic, *for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy (Revelation 19:10).***
 - a. When we see someone get ministered to like we did on May 22 and 23, we fall more in love with Jesus and how he sees us.
 - b. We celebrate how well Jesus knows us and our friends.
 - c. We celebrate the Lord calling out a person.
 - d. We enjoy what God is doing in their lives.

- e. You might not have gotten a word, but you rejoice and celebrate that Jesus knows all of our stories (Romans 12:15).
 - i. Jesus is a good friend. He is contending for our friends and for us. He has gifts, callings, and words over each of our lives.
 - ii. All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he gives them to each one, just as he determines (1 Corinthians 12:11).
 - f. Even if we weren't ministered to, we were ministered to, because our friends were ministered to. We were touched by the way the Lord touched our friends.
 - g. You might not have known every person to whom the Lord spoke prophetically, but you can trust that the Lord was speaking.
 - i. That is why the Lord also gave words to people whom we know well.
 - ii. For example, everyone knows **Walter Emigh**. The prophetic words given to Walter were so on target that many people in the room were laughing. It reminded us that God knew what he was saying to the people whom we don't know as well.
3. **We bless, you, Calvary, for being willing to stay in the presence of the Lord on both Saturday night and Sunday morning.**
- a. I am grateful your sensitivity to the Spirit.
 - b. I appreciate your availability to the Lord, to let God do what he wants to do and to let God take all the time he needs.

Let's talk about how to respond well to corporate prophetic words.

- 1. **Remember these truths about prophecy.**
 - a. **Prophecy is an invitation.** *"If anyone has ears to hear, let him hear"* (Mark 4:23).
 - i. **An invitation requires a response** (Jeremiah 18:1-10).
 - 1. *If at any time I announce that a nation or kingdom is to be uprooted, torn down and destroyed, 8 and if that nation I warned repents of its evil, then I will relent and not inflict on it the disaster I had planned. 9 And if at another time I announce that a nation or kingdom is to be built up and planted, 10 and if it does evil in my sight and does not obey me, then I will reconsider the good I had intended to do for it (Jeremiah 18:7-10).*
 - ii. **How will we respond?**
 - 1. Behold, Jesus stands at the door, knocks, and calls to us.

2. *Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with me (Revelation 3:20).*
- b. **Even the best prophets among us only see in part.**
 - i. *For we know in part and we prophesy in part (1 Corinthians 13:9). All prophetic voices are a mixture of human and divine.*
 - ii. *Do not put out the Spirit's fire; 20 do not treat prophecies with contempt. 21 Test everything. Hold on to the good (1 Thessalonians 5:19–21). Keep that which is good and let the other stuff fall away.*
2. **We need to steward the words the Lord gives to us.**
 - a. To steward prophetic words well means that **we are active, not passive.**
 - i. Cherish the prophetic words the Lord gives to you.
 - ii. Take them seriously, like Mary did. *But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart (Luke 2:19).*
 - b. **First, write down what the Lord said** to you and we reflect on those words.
 - i. Revelation
 - ii. Interpretation
 - iii. Application
 - iv. Write it down and extract some points and thoughts. Take those points back to the Lord, whether it is a current word or not.
 - v. **Remember: God speaks so that we are drawn into conversation and into communion.**
 1. Knowing God is communion with God.
 2. Through prophetic utterance, we get to hear God speaking to us.
 3. He uses prophetic words in a church family to speak to us and to invite us into hearing his voice. *"My sheep hear my voice"* (Matthew 10:27).
 4. Communication is a two-way street.
 - c. **Second, share with your leaders what you heard and ask them to help you process those words, since you received those words in a corporate context.**
 - i. It is wisdom to process with your pastors, your small group leaders, or other prophetic people in our congregation, like Jay and Magan.
 - ii. **Corporate prophetic words have corporate application and interpretation.**
3. **We need to take seriously the prophetic words which the Lord speaks through our leaders, like Pastor Steve.**

- a. ***There are more encounters with God in your destiny than in your history.***
 - i. Pastor Steve gave this word on May 2.
 - ii. He emphasized this word and wanted us to get it.
 - iii. You won't hear Pastor Steve say, "Thus sayeth the Lord." But, he tried to let us know that he had confidence in that word.
 - iv. I encourage us to hear this word, write it down, reflect on it, and fight the good fight with it.
- b. When the Lord speaks a phrase to you, through a preacher, minister, or teacher, that grabs your heart or that they say is important, **write it down and ponder it. Talk with the Lord about it.**
- c. When the Lord gives prophetic utterance or gifts of healings in a corporate service, **you can have faith to get prayer or to receive that gift because God is here and moving among us.**

In closing today, I want to share the prophetic word which I received on Saturday, May 22.

EGP Prophetic Word for Jeff McGee 5'22'21

Context: At the Encounter God' Presence rally for youth on Saturday, May 22, at 6:00pm (the prophetic words came around 9:00 or 9:30pm), Paul, one of the team members (Paul and Yuri Huntington, pastors) and Heidi Williams prophesied over me. It came near the end of a long, powerful time of prophetic ministry by 3 member of Jason Williams' team.

After the whole service was over, and as we were cleaning up and putting out the chairs, I thanked them for their ministry to our youth and adults, and for what they shared. The whole team was shocked. They didn't know who I was nor that I was senior pastor. That makes these 2 words even more remarkable.

Paul Huntington: Prophetic Ministry to Jeff McGee

Hey You. What is your name? [JTM note: He pointed to me and asked my name. I said "Jeff." I answered standing against the Workroom wall.]

Jeff.

Your behind-the-scenes work will have a public praise. Your behind-the-scenes work will have a public praise.

And what you do that is never seen, all the struggle, the pain, [he groans out loud], all the groaning... you know what I am talking about... that is now going to be in the public because you paid the price for it. You cried out for the heart of God, you cried out for the burning, you cried out for fire. [JTM note: During the worship service tonight, I prayed again: "Let the fire fall, let the wind blow, let your glory come down. I prayed for fresh fire on all these young people.] Now, your church is about to watch you burn. [JTM note: I laughed out loud.] You're gonna burn. You're gonna burn, buddy. And it is going to be so awesome, and so powerful; it's gonna be so contagious.

The number you have been praying for is going to be dealt with. [JTM note: That number probably has to be financial resources to meet our financial shortfall, to pay off Calvary's debt, and to fund missions, and probably has to refer to the prayers for harvest and laborers for the harvest field.]

God is going to bring a wave in. He's is going to bring a wave in. He's going to bring a wave. [JTM note: wave of harvest. And, as I reflect today on 5'29'21, I think it includes a wave (movement) of the Spirit.]

And, the thing is this. You can either run from it, or just say, "OK," and take it. Take it. Take the wave. Cause God is going to give you the tools that you need to mentor those, to raise them up, and then to send them out. [JTM note: So I think that the wave, the number, relates to harvest, to laborers for the harvest field, especially of the 20 and 30 and 40 somethings, I think. And, I also think it relates to provision for the vision.]

Amen?! God is going to do that with you.

Heidi Williams then comes over to the mic and prophesied to me.

I have this quote I have heard. And, I think it is for you.

"Your private prayers are going to become public miracles."

So, when you go into the secret place, he hears what you have been praying.

And, even for... there is something specific that you, that when you go into the private place, that you are asking God for. And he says, "This year."

Interpretation

It is Sunday morning, 5:00am, 5'23'21, as I transcribe these prophetic words.

I think what I have been asking for most frequently in the private place (small corporate prayer meetings and personal prayer times) are:

1. for harvest (especially for the children, youth, and young adults (20s, 30s, 40s),
2. for signs, wonders, and miracles,
3. for provision for the vision,
4. for the manifest presence of God, that the Lord would be at home here.

Dear Lord, thank you for years and years and years (decades) of prayer times in private and in the prayer room and in prayer teams and with pastors and with small groups and with city wide efforts. None of those prayer times is wasted. I know that. You have kept us and me praying all of these years. You have kept us worshiping and ministering to an audience of One. It is not a burden. It is a joy.

Application

1. Share with the staff team this prophetic word.
2. Share with the deacons at our next meeting.
3. After I shared with the staff and deacons, they suggested that I share it with the congregation.
4. Continue to pray into this word for my life and for Calvary.

SPJ Prophetic words transcription 5-23-21, 5:30am

I just transcribed the words from the prophetic words given at the EGP youth rally on 5-22-21. And as I'm walking to the closet, I hear the song in my head: "it's gonna be worth it. It's gonna be worth it all...."

As I finish transcribing, the Lord reminds me that one of the secret places of prayer is my early morning intercession at Calvary.

Now there is a battle for faith. I have heard these amazing words before, and they have yet to be fulfilled. Like Sarah.

And, I am reminded that God answered those words for Sarah "way late" by human standards, way past time, way overdue. And, I am up in years like Sarah. Those were some of my thoughts.

And, here are God's thoughts. God kept repeating the promises to Sarah. And God fulfilled all the promises and prophetic words to Sarah and Abraham.

God has kept repeating his promises and prophetic words to me through the decades.

And, God will fulfill faithfully all his promises and prophetic words to me, to Calvary, and to my family.

Ministry Time

1. We are a people who seek to respond well to the Lord when he gives us corporate prophetic words.
- 2.

Worth It All

[Rita Springer](#)

I don't understand Your ways
Oh but I will give You my song
Give You all of my praise
You hold on to all my pain
With it You are pulling me closer
And pulling me into Your ways

Now around every corner
And up every mountain
I'm not looking for crowns
Or the water from fountains
I'm desperate in seeking, frantic believing
That the sight of Your face
Is all that I need
I will say to You

It's gonna be worth it
Gonna be worth it
It's gonna be worth it all
I believe this
It's gonna be worth it
It's gonna be worth it
It's gonna be worth it all

I don't understand Your ways
Oh but I will give You my song
I'll give You all of my praise
You hold on to all my pain
And with it You are pulling me closer
Pulling me into Your ways

Now around every corner
And up every mountain
I'm not looking for crowns
Or the water from fountains
I'm desperate in seeking, and I'm frantic believing
That the sight of Your face

Is all that I need
I will say to You then

It's gonna be worth it
It's gonna be worth it
It's gonna be worth it all
I believe this
It's gonna be worth it
It's gonna be worth it
It's gonna be worth it all, yeah

It's gonna be worth it
It's gonna be worth it
It's gonna be worth it all
I believe all I pay
It's gonna be worth it, all my joy
It's gonna be worth it all
It's gonna be worth it all

Now around every corner
And up every mountain
I'm not looking for crowns, or the-
Or the water from fountains
I'm desperate in seeking, Lord I'm frantic believing
That the sight of Your face

Is all that I'm needing
You're all I'm needing, Lord
You're all I'm needing
I'll lift my voice to you and say

You're gonna be worth it
You're gonna be worth it
You're gonna be worth it all
I believe this
You're gonna be worth it
You're gonna be worth it
You're gonna be worth it all
I know

Songwriter: Rita Springer