

*Nehemías*

La Jerusalén del Antiguo Testamento



When God Speaks:

# Discerning the Voice of God:

- ✦ How can we grow in our ability to hear God speak? (Ur hi)
- ✦ 1 Corinthians 14:1, "Follow the way of love and eagerly desire spiritual gifts, especially the gift of prophecy."
- ✦ First, if we're going to grow in the prophetic (hearing God's voice) we need to eagerly desire the gift of prophecy. This is a command, Paul gives us.

# Discerning the Voice of God:

- ✦ First, if we're going to grow in the prophetic we need to eagerly desire the gift of prophecy.
- ✦ When God speaks to you, He gets glory, your life changes, and other's lives are impacted too.
- ✦ Three ways to eagerly desire God's speaking: (1) Pray for it. Pray in faith, claiming God's promises. (Jn 10:27)

# Discerning the Voice of God:

- ✦ First, if we're going to grow in the prophetic we need to eagerly desire the gift of prophecy.
- ✦ Three ways to eagerly desire God's speaking: (1) Pray for it. Pray in faith, claiming God's promises. (Jn 10:27)
- ✦ (2) Practice hearing God's voice. Take time to listen. Prepare. (alone, home, work)
- ✦ (3) Take risks. (looking foolish)

# Discerning the Voice of God:

✦ Second, if we are going to grow in the prophetic, in hearing God's voice, we must understand the purpose of prophecy, and operate in it. 1 Corinthians 14:2-4

# Discerning the Voice of God:

✦ 1 Corinthians 14:2-4, “For those who speak in a tongue do not speak to other people but to God. Indeed no one understands them; they utter mysteries by the Spirit. But those who prophesy speak to people for their strengthening, encouragement and comfort. Those who speak in a tongue edify themselves, but those who prophesy edify the church.”

# Discerning the Voice of God:

- ✦ Second, if we are going to grow in the prophetic we must understand the purpose of prophecy, and operate in it.
- ✦ People often misunderstand the purpose of prophesy. They think it is to rebuke people, or to set them straight, to let them have it.
- ✦ Context: **LOVE**. Main purpose of prophecy is to help you love well. (NY)

# Discerning the Voice of God:

- ✦ Third, if we're going to grow in the prophetic, we need to understand how God uses us to advance his purposes through prophecy.
- ✦ 1 Corinthians 14:23-33, "So if the whole church comes together and everyone speaks in tongues, and inquirers or unbelievers come in, will they not say that you are out of your mind? But if an unbeliever or an inquirer comes in while everyone is prophesying,

# Discerning the Voice of God:

- 1 Corinthians 14:23-33, “they are convicted of sin and are brought under judgment by all, as the secrets of their hearts are laid bare. So they will fall down and worship God, exclaiming, ‘God is really among you!’”
- Prophecy helps inquirers discover the reality of God. They encounter him. (plane)

# Discerning the Voice of God:

✦ 1 Corinthians 14:26-31, “What then shall we say, brothers and sisters? When you come together, each of you has a hymn, or a word of instruction, a revelation, a tongue or an interpretation. Everything must be done so that the church may be built up. If anyone speaks in a tongue, two – or at the most three – should speak, one at a time, and someone must interpret.

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✦ 1 Corinthians 14:26-31, “If there is no interpreter, the speaker should keep quiet in the church; let them speak to themselves and to God. Two or three prophets should speak, and the others should weigh carefully what is said. And if a revelation comes to someone who is sitting down, the first speaker should stop. For you can all prophesy in turn so that everyone may be instructed and encouraged.”

# Discerning the Voice of God:

- ✦ Third, if we're going to grow in the prophetic, we need to understand how God uses us to advance his purposes through prophecy.
- ✦ He uses us to reveal himself to inquirers.
- ✦ He uses us to minister to His followers, and encourage, strengthen and comfort them in their relationship with God.

# Discerning the Voice of God:

- ✦ Fourth, if we're going to grow in the prophetic, we need to remove the barriers that keep us from growth. Five barriers:
- ✦ (1) We are hindered when we filter what God is saying. Test. (alone; prayer time)
- ✦ (2) We are hindered from hearing because our lives are too busy and our souls are too noisy. Be still. (10 min)
- ✦ (3) We are hindered by other voices. (freedom)

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✦ Fourth, if we're going to grow in the prophetic, we need to remove the barriers that keep us from growth. Five barriers:

✦ (4) We are hindered by our desires. (C.S. Lewis - bent)

✦ (5) We are hindered by saying more than we should.

