



**DISCOVERING
YOUR DESTINY
#4**


A STUDY IN EPHESIANS.

Apostles:

- Father's heart
- Strong spiritual encounter with Jesus
- Heart to plant churches
- Great patience / perseverance
- Supernatural signs
- All gifting has been given by Jesus
- Difference between moving in the gifts, and the office of apostle, prophet, pastor, teacher or evangelist.

1. WHEN GOD SPEAKS

- When we first believed – responded to a call.
- Once we are born again, we begin to recognise the good Shepherd's voice.



2 Timothy 3:16-17 *All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.*

2. GOD SPEAKS THROUGH “NOW” PROPHECY

1 Corinthians 14:1 *Follow the way of love and eagerly desire spiritual gifts, especially the gift of prophecy.*

- Prophecy is testimony of Jesus’ heart for His people.
- Prophecy speaks generally into a person’s life or situation
- Word of knowledge is more specific information given by Holy Spirit.

1 Corinthians 14:3; 8 *but everyone who prophesies speaks to men for their strengthening, encouragement and comfort...if the trumpet does not sound a clear call, who will get ready for battle?*

Acts 15:32 *Judas and Silas, who themselves were prophets, said much to encourage and strengthen the believers.*

3. HOW DO PROPHETS OPERATE?

- OT examples:

2 Chronicles 9:29 *As for the other events of Solomon's reign, from beginning to end, are they not written in the records of Nathan the prophet, in the prophecy of Ahijah the Shilonite, and in the visions of Iddo the seer concerning Jeroboam son of Nebat?*

Jeremiah 1:11-14 *The word of the Lord came to me: 'What do you see, Jeremiah?' 'I see the branch of an almond tree,' I replied.*

The Lord said to me, 'You have seen correctly, for I am watching to see that my word is fulfilled.'

The word of the Lord came to me again: 'What do you see?'

'I see a boiling pot, tilting away from the north,' I answered.

The Lord said to me, 'From the north disaster will be poured out on all who live in the land....'

4. CATCHING THE WIND

Ezekiel 3:1-4 *And he said to me, 'Son of man, eat what is before you, eat this scroll; then go and speak to the house of Israel.' So I opened my mouth, and he gave me the scroll to eat.*

Then he said to me, 'Son of man, eat this scroll I am giving you and fill your stomach with it.' So I ate it, and it tasted as sweet as honey in my mouth. He then said to me" 'Son of man, go now to the house of Israel and speak my words to them...'

Ephesians 4:11-16 *So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to **equip** his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be **built up** until we all reach **unity in the faith** and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become **mature**, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.*

*Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming. Instead, speaking the truth in love, **we will grow** to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ. From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and **builds itself up** in love, as **each part does its work**.*