

Things I Learned from John Wimber

I. ALL ARE CALLED TO FUNCTION IN THE GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT

- A. We desire to strengthen our corporate spiritual culture so that all prophesy and function in the gifts of the Spirit. In order to grow in the prophetic or supernatural ministry, we must demystify the process and approach it in a supernaturally natural way by understanding the weak human components that are involved. We are to actively participate with the Spirit in ministry. Every born again believer is called to be on “Jesus’ ministry team” for their entire Christian life.

³¹ *You can all prophesy. (1 Cor. 14:31)*

⁷ *The manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one... (1 Cor. 12:7)*

- B. When ministering, the Spirit gives us impressions that require faith in context to our weakness. God loves the human design and communicates prophetic impressions through it such as:
- 1) Mental pictures: recurring impressions or pictures in our minds
 - 2) Emotional stirrings: feeling various emotions like joy, sadness, or a burden
 - 3) Sympathetic pains: feeling an unusual pain in a part of our bodies
 - 4) Physical sensations: experiencing the Spirit’s presence (energy, heat, wind, etc.)

- C. Jesus modeled the life of faith by doing what He saw the Father do. Thus, He prayed to see it. We must be intentional about receiving the Spirit’s prophetic impressions. Many do not receive prophetic impressions because they do not ask for them (Jas. 4:2; Eph. 1:17; Col. 1:9).

¹⁹ *The Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do...the Son also does...*

²⁰ *The Father loves the Son, and shows Him all things that He does. (Jn. 5:19-20)*

- D. Most prophecy is “human words reporting something that God brings to mind” (W. Grudem). The Spirit conveys to our mind thoughts that we imperfectly communicate with our words. Prophecy is a mixture of God’s ideas and man’s imperfect words, combining divine inspiration with human process. All prophetic words must always honor the written Word of God.

- E. There are natural human components in a healing service that make way for the Spirit’s activity. The Spirit will move more: if we linger, build faith (teach on healing), have points of focus (words of knowledge), take risks, and give testimonies. Ask for words of knowledge for healing (physical or emotional), ministry callings (impartation), or special needs in people’s lives.

- F. Our confession: The Spirit of the Lord is upon me anointing me to speak out the good things of God’s heart that release healing and liberty to those who are sick or in captivity.

¹ *The Spirit of the Lord God is upon Me, because the Lord has anointed Me to preach good tidings...He sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to captives... (Isa. 61:1)*

- G. Pray for an increase of the spirit of boldness or faith.

¹⁹ *...That utterance may be given to me, that I may open my mouth boldly... (Eph. 6:19)*

II. CALLED TO LEARN FROM JOHN WIMBER

- A. In January 1984, Bob Jones told me that God was going to connect us with a movement based about 35 miles southeast of Los Angeles which had a banner in the spirit over them called ***“compassion and worship.”*** He was referring to the Vineyard Ministries in Anaheim, California under John Wimber (1934–1997). The Lord called the ***“prophetic and intercession”*** of Kansas City to cross-pollinate with the “compassion and worship” of the Vineyard Ministries.
- B. In October 1987, Bob prophesied to me that John Wimber would call me in January, 1988. In January, John did call and invited me to speak to his staff. On June 5, 1988, Bob prophesied that John would call to open three large doors to me. It was to be a ***“Holy Spirit seminary season”*** that would last three years. Bob said this was a warning and not a promise because I did not know how to “go out and come in” before the Lord and the people in context to a million people.

III. THINGS I LEARNED FROM JOHN WIMBER: BE SUPERNATURALLY NATURAL

- A. ***Dial down emotionally:*** John emphasized John 5:19 in his healing model. We quiet our soul to “listen” or discern the impressions of the Spirit when praying for people. ***Agreement*** with the Spirit is the key instead of trying to “shout down the power” and stirring yourself up with fervor.
¹⁹ The Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do... (Jn. 5:19)
- B. ***Linger:*** The Spirit shows what He wants to do as we wait. Talk less, give words of knowledge briefly, and do not speak too much afterwards.
- C. ***Speak out the impressions:*** We must give expression to the impressions the Spirit gives us. ***Principle:*** the demonstration of the Spirit’s power usually follows the declaration of God’s will. John said often that faith is spelled R-I-S-K by speaking out our impressions knowing that the Spirit will give more if we do this. Do not be preoccupied with the fear of missing it.
- D. ***Persevere:*** John spoke on healing on Sundays for nearly two years without seeing one healing. We value God’s power even when it is released in small measures. Do not stop praying for the sick when little seems to be happening. Stay with it.
- E. ***Weakness:*** We pray for people regardless of how we feel. The Spirit releases more healing when the church prays for the church. It is worth the time and effort to lay hands on the sick.
- F. ***Interact:*** Stand before the person to see what the Spirit does and ask them how they are doing.
- G. ***Humility:*** Do not draw undue attention to ourselves and avoid being melodramatic when praying for people. Many are quickly intoxicated with pride by ministering with a little power. Thus, they begin to draw attention to themselves (2 Cor. 12:7). ***Set your heart to avoid this.***
⁷ lest I should be exalted above measure by the abundance of the revelations, a thorn in the flesh was given to me, a messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I be exalted...(2 Cor. 12:7)