

REVIVE CHURCH-THE APOSTOLIC MINISTRY

5-FOLD MINISTRY

We need more Apostolic, Kingdom minded churches that are focused on releasing people into their destiny in Christ. It is not just about our needs being met, it is also about us being empowered to be the world's answer. the Apostolic church views each member as essential in that everyone is instrumental in fulfilling everything Jesus taught. The church is to be a place where the people of God are fully equipped to bring the ministry of Jesus and advance His Kingdom and church leadership job is to do the equipping. We look at growing the two fold calling that is both priestly and kingly.

God's model and wineskin is one that equips and edifies. When Jesus walked upon this earth He had the Spirit without measure (**John 3:34**). He was Apostle, Prophet, Evangelist, Pastor and teacher. When He ascended to heaven He released Himself in such a way that the body would actually have to work together to experience His fullness. **This means honor is essential as we recognize the different giftings released by Christ for church leadership and function which includes Apostle, Prophet, Pastor, Evangelist and Teacher. These 5 are meant to build up each individual within the church.** When we operate from a kingdom paradigm we have no limitations of Christ's reach through us because it's not just about our personal expression but our connection to the larger body.

The purpose of all of the gifts that have been released are to move forward His Kingdom, they are for Jesus glory. When we learn to operate with His gifts we are empowered to do what the world cannot imitate. His Gifts are good because our Father is good! They are meant to equip, build up and promote unity.

Three sets of gifts

The gifts of the Father or motivational gifts are given in Romans 12. Everyone on planet earth whether they are saved or not have a certain set of gifts that were given to them by the Father that were meant to be surrendered fully to Jesus. These were also purposed to draw you to God.

1 Corinthians 12 are the gifts or Manifestations of the Holy Spirit and they are purposed for every believer to bring edification to His body, to build up the church. These manifestations of the Holy Spirit must be partnered with the Fruit of the Holy Spirit in Galatians 5. (Picture of the dove- 9 main feathers on each wing representing gifts of the Spirit on one wing and fruit of the Spirit on the other wing. Both wings are essential.

Ephesians 4 are the gifts of Jesus to lead His church. **Apostle, Prophet, Evangelist, Pastor and teacher are leadership roles that God enables and equips to bring full equipping to His body.** (Representing 5 main tail feathers that guide the dove.) *The tail feathers of a dove are like the rudder of a ship—they assist in balance and direction in flight, just as the fivefold ministry gifts in the church bring balance to the body of Christ.*

Ephesians 4:7-16 (NKJV) 7 But to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ's gift. 8 Therefore He says: "When He ascended on high, He led captivity captive, And gave

gifts to men." 9 (Now this, "He ascended"--what does it mean but that He also first descended into the lower parts of the earth? 10 He who descended is also the One who ascended far above all the heavens, that He might fill all things.) 11 And He Himself gave some [to be] apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, 12 for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, 13 till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; 14 that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, 15 but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head--Christ-- 16 from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.

When Jesus Christ ascended on high, (5 fold is often referred to as ascension gifts) He broke down His fullness of ministry into smaller measures in such a way that it would require dependency on one another to fully minister in His power. We need all five of these Christ given Appointments in operation to enter into His full plan for the church. This is the high mark of the church.

1Corinthians 12:28- And God has placed in the church first of all apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, of helping, of guidance, and of different kinds of tongues.

Paul Lays out an order of priority that is meant to empower the church, it is a funnel if you will of how God will pour out heaven into our lives.

- In the church God has placed 1st of all apostles-*1st means first in rank, influence, honor, chief, principal.*

So how important is the word first? It is the same Greek word that is used in Matthew 6:33- *But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.*

It's important, God has a priority in doing things. We must put the first things first, have His priorities: In doing so we can expect Him to fully establish us as a wineskin that will be able to contain His measure.

.When we accept the Importance of diversity through the 5 fold mandate that is upon Christ church we can truly see things through God's eyes!

An Apostolic Church body has the mindset that will release an apostolic people. We cannot move from the Apostolic longing that found its sole purpose in the person of Jesus Christ and a longing for His fullness.

Ephesians 2: *19 Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people and also members of his household, 20 built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. 21 In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. 22 And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.*

We are members of God's household-members, we belong, we are part of! We are related by blood (Jesus Blood)! Without His foundation we will be destroyed with a little storm! With His foundation nothing can take us out!

God's household rests on the foundation of the Apostles and Prophets with Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone! This design allows the body of Christ (us) to be built up into a holy temple in which God dwells!

5 fold church is balanced, healthy, looks through the 5 lenses

Elder ship is another topic. 5 fold, and governing elders are different roles within the church. Elder ship is the governing function and 5 fold could be apart of elders if they Biblically qualify but they don't have to.

Apostles-set the church in order so that all of the gifts can operate. They also establish individual believers in their place of ministry. Fathers that pour into sons and daughters. **Brings revelation of God's plan, they govern, plum line**

Prophets-reveal God's heart and mind to His people, providing vision and direction. They must stay rooted in the word of God and long for all to hear His voice. **brings revelation of God's voice, prophets guide**

Evangelists-brings revelation of God's mission to save souls. we desperately need their voice inside compelling the church to fulfill the great commission to empty hell and fill heaven.

"They will keep asking the eternal questions are you born again, where will you spend all of eternity."

Pastors-Shepherds of God's sheep. They provide comfort, care and protection. **brings revelation of the love of God into the body, they guard**

Teachers-Provide understanding, instruction and training. They enable God's people to grow and fulfill their call. **the teacher brings revelation of His Word, they ground**

How does five fold ministry work-this is a fun illustration taken from a book called the Apostolic Church arising.

Picture a 🍼 baby. New Believer

- Babies are **birthed through evangelism.** The gifting of evangelist was meant to birth babies into the kingdom. The evangelist lives to see babies birthed. **These babies are now baby Christians.** They are born again when they believe and receive Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord but they are still babies. The evangelist is excited about the birth but is ready to move on to the next potential birth of a baby. The evangelist stokes the flame of others to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ alive in the church. **They are always unsettled sitting around when there is a world going to hell.** The evangelist hands babies off to Pastors.
- **These new babies need to come under the care of a pastor.** Someone who will provide, nurture, comfort and protect. *These moms and dad willing to love these baby Christians who teach them how to walk, eat on their own and love them unconditionally in their immaturity.* New Christians need

cared for (Unfortunately the church often gets stuck here) . God has more for them and this is why we need the prophet.

- **The Prophet will look at the baby and tell them their destiny.** They will speak beyond the comfort and let them know the call of God is on your life. They will speak to the individuals destiny and the baby Christian will get vision, stirrings, giftings released. **When the prophetic is functioning in power people both gain vision and are motivated to move beyond.** However if Prophets are all that you have in a church people wont understand how to do what they are called to do so the prophet hands the baby off to the teacher.
- **The teacher gets out the Bible,** opens it up and says yes you do have a call from God but you need to understand some things. The teacher begins to teach and train and grow this baby up in maturity and discipleship and their love for the word is released into this babies life.
- **The Apostle sets the process in order and makes sure all of these gifts are functioning together.** The Apostolic cares about the full development of each and every person and watches carefully as baby mature and grows up in the faith because they are ready to launch this mature and growing Jesus follower into ministry and calling.

Home group questions

- Discuss your understanding of fivefold ministry.
- Discuss the function of each and importance of each (Apostle, Prophet, Evangelists, Pastor, Teacher)
- What does it mean to be an Apostolic church.
- What is your part in equipping, discipling and pastoring new believers?
- Discuss the following verse *Ephesians 4:13- till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;*
 - Discuss the purpose of 5 fold ministry related to this verse.
 - God desires our full maturity.
 - The Church is meant to bring revelation of Jesus to the world!

