

Sunday, October 1, 2023
THE CORPORATE ANOINTING

For the last few weeks, we have been studying the five-fold ministry. Today, we're going to be learning about a related topic – important to the operation of the five-fold ministry. It's called, "The Corporate Anointing".

Before we read scripture, let's think about something: The five-fold ministry operates as a corporate anointing. While each aspect of the five-fold ministry has its own ministry and anointed power to fulfill that ministry – all parties work together to fulfill the plan of equipping and maturing the saints. This is a different dynamic than what happens in many churches. In most churches, one individual carries most of the ministry impartation. Capstone has been no different up to this point.

In the presence of the five-fold ministry, each function is involved in the ministry to the church. The apostolic ministers about the clash of kingdoms and the ultimate victory of Jesus and takes the battle to the enemy. The prophetic imparts strength in the midst of the battle. The evangelist carries the salvation of Jesus into the community. The pastor/teacher cares for the flock along the journey and teaches them to become living epistles. To see this process fulfill its God given destiny requires the people of God to use an important key to the kingdom:

Flow with the corporate anointing.

There is a common impediment to this process that must be overcome: *Preference*. The people in the church must go through: **PREFERENCE WITHDRAWAL**.

1 Corinthians 1:10-13 (NKJV)
1 Corinthians 3:1-8 (NKJV)

Here you see the Bible dealing with the issue of preference. Some people preferred to have Paul minister to them while some preferred Apollos. Some wanted Peter to minister and some weren't excited about any of them preferring to skip past the use of the five-fold ministry and relate directly to Christ. The church in Corinth was growing numerically and was full of the operation of spiritual gifts but was in danger of falling into immaturity because of the exaltation of their preferences over the operation of the five-fold ministry.

Now let's look at something that can cause you to grow spiritually. If ignored, you will seem spiritual but will miss much of what God has for you:

Withdraw from your preferences and flow with God's design.

"Pastor, I'm beyond what the evangelist teaches." "Pastor, I don't like the way the pastor speaks," "I don't what the prophet is going to say."

This type of thinking will serve as a barrier to the increase God has for you.

Remember: each part supplies something that is necessary for the fulfillment of God's plan. When people say they don't like someone or something that God provides through the five-fold ministry – that is usually exactly what the listener needs most. If not in behavior, then in attitude. Just because we think we are doing something doesn't mean we are.

1 Corinthians 12:22-25 (NKJV)

timé (from *tiō*, "accord honor, pay respect") – properly, *perceived value; worth* (literally, "price") especially as *perceived honor* – i.e. what has *value* in the eyes of *the beholder*; (figuratively) the *value* (weight, honor) *willingly assigned* to something.

Honoring the Lord includes honoring His ways.

Today's Scriptures:

- 1 Corinthians 1:10-13 (NKJV)
- 1 Corinthians 3:1-8 (NKJV)
- 1 Corinthians 12:22-25 (NKJV)