

Quick Hits #7 / 21 August 2022
Order of Service - Part 2

The Lord has a plan and purpose in mind for each service here at Firestorm NW. He manifests Himself wonderfully when He is allowed to move freely without interference from us. We have often affirmed that there is a unique move of His spirit and a particular track that He has us on (i.e., relationship, intimacy, restoration). This move is part of our identity as a church for this area.

Prior to each service, service leaders prepare and pray into the service each week. That preparation is with the understanding that ultimately, the order of service is at the discretion of the Holy Spirit. We all can agree that when the Lord does His craft, we look back on a service and marvel at the way He brought everything together.

Each week and with each service, the Holy Spirit brings us closer to where He wants us! You may not feel every movement and know everything that is going on around you, but there is a lot of activity in the spirit. Leading and being a part of a church service like ours is truly an art, not a science. When we perceive and approach this concept correctly, we understand that this is really a ministry of the Holy Spirit and not something that we try to work up ourselves and then try to carry out.

With the above said, we all have our parts to contribute. These are some reminders regarding our order of service.

Scriptural Basis

1. *What is the outcome then, brothers and sisters? When you assemble, each one has a psalm, has a teaching, has a revelation, has a tongue, has an interpretation. All things are to be done for edification. 1 Cor 14:26 (NASB) **Comment: We come prepared and ready.***
2. *Therefore, my brothers and sisters, earnestly desire to prophesy, and do not forbid speaking in tongues. But all things must be done properly and in an orderly way. 1st Corinthians 14:39-40 (NASB) **Comment: This was mentioned because of the Corinthians stepped on each other during service.***
3. *As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen. 1 Peter 4:10-11 (KJV) **Comment: Everybody has a part in the local and universal body of Christ.***
4. *Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all. But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal. For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues: But all these worketh that one and the self-same Spirit,*

dividing to every man severally as he will. 1 Cor 12:4-11 (KJV) **Comment: The Holy Spirit distributes to different ones so all can profit.**

5. *Now you are Christ's body, and individually parts of it. And God has appointed in the church, first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, **administrations (kybernēsis)**, and various kinds of tongues.* 1 Cor 12:27-28 (NASB)

kybernēsis is someone who steers (guides) a ship; (figuratively) the divine calling which empowers someone to lead in affairs relating to the Church. (Strong's 2941 - *kybernēsis* only occurs in 1 Cor 12:28.) Source: Bible Hub

Points to Ponder

1. If we want to see the Holy Spirit move in power, we have to learn to flow with Him.

We have to do the things that help us get into the flow. Pray into the service before it starts. It's a great way to sense what the Holy Spirit is doing. Ask the Holy Spirit if there is anything that He would like to bring through you. When service starts, engage in worship and tune into the flow.

- Watch to see if a theme develops.
- Try to be sensitive to directional shifts and changes. The Holy Spirit can and will do that.
- Try to sense what's happening in the spirit and see with the eyes of your heart.

2. If we want the Holy Spirit to move without our interference, we have to recognize His presence, His movements, atmospheres, and pivotal moments.

Similar to the first point, our sensitivity to the spirit needs to be continually developed and practiced. We have to also pay attention to developing themes, when the HS shifts, changes, break-ins and breakthroughs. Was there a prophetic word released? Is follow up needed to it? Is a pause or quiet moment needed? Is there an action that needs to happen? How is the service leader affected by things? How are the people affected?

- Be cognizant of worship time and the time it takes to deliver something between songs. Lengthy testimonies can stop the song service and create a shift.
- After a prophetic word is given, especially when the release is like a Holy Spirit "break-in", let there be a moment of pause. Don't be quick to offer something that shifts the atmosphere or changes the direction of the service.

3. If we want the Holy Spirit to move in power, we have to respect who the service leaders are and what they have to do.

Leading a church service is a ministry that carries a heavy weight and is a responsibility that carries due honor and respect. It isn't a casual ministry with little or no responsibilities. Service leaders who take it seriously, know the impact of this ministry. They take the time to pray into the service, prepare for it, and become ready to flow with the Holy Spirit.

- Don't hold dishonor or disrespect in your heart. (Psalm 62:4)
- Don't let the enemy rig your mind and emotions as a booby trap.
- The Holy Spirit is giving us an alert to take care of ourselves in a way that we don't get offended easily and then overthrown by our emotions.

4. If you have something to contribute, take it to the service leaders.

Go to the side and give a quick brief to them as to what you have. Sometimes they'll ask you and sometimes they'll just pass the mic and trust that you'll do just fine. Wait for the appropriate time. It's not a free-for-all. Avoid rushing up to the microphone to take it as doing so puts a pressure on the service leader to yield the microphone to avoid awkward moments. As always, let the service leader "quarterback" the service. They have their spiritual equipment operating too.

5. We need to shift our mindsets about getting better to "meet the moment."

We're not talking about polished work of the flesh, but we do need to think about when and how we present and how effective we really are...or are not. For many, if not most of us, we have moved past the fear of holding a mic in front of people. This is a good thing and we all could have something to say, but because of that, we need to move into a place where we need to be more **tactical** and **strategic**. This consideration needs to be part of what you're going to do, what you're going to say, when to say it, and when to stop. Prior to asking for mic time, consider the following:

- The theme and atmosphere of the service.
- The timing of what you're going to bring.
- The Holy Spirit's leading and anointing.
- The length of time it will take to deliver your contribution.

We're not looking to make professional presenters of everyone, but we should be looking to being as effective as possible. Knowing what and when to speak is crucial.

A lot of speaking bits and having many different subjects brought during a service does not necessarily translate to accomplishing the work that the Holy Spirit wants to do. Many things can be said and they can be marvelous in themselves, but that does not mean we automatically get a full connection with the Holy Spirit's transformational power. We have to have spiritual sensitivity to what He wants to do.

We want our contributions to fit the theme of the service and be brought at the right time for maximum benefit to those that need to hear or receive what you have.

6. Don't take it personal if your "play" isn't called.

The service may have shifted or another priority occurred. Or simply, the Holy Spirit may have something else in mind. If you have to "park" your contribution, don't sweat it. Other opportunities will happen and if what you're holding is very important, the Holy Spirit has a way of getting it released or the action accomplished.

- If this happens to you and get upset with this, you may need to talk things out. That's OK.

7. Holding a word, a song, or a prophecy is not quenching the spirit.

This is especially true if there is the Spirit of God is working mightily at the same time that you are holding something. Again, **timing** is a critical component to maximize the impact of delivering a word, a song, an exhortation, or other ministry. Sometimes, you won't get the chance to release what you're holding. If the window of opportunity closes and you don't get to share, and if what you're holding is important, again, the Holy Spirit has a way of getting it released through other ways and means.

8. By the way, many of you have a calling...or a call that is being resurrected. What are you doing with the precious time you have available?

This is something the Lord dropped in while I was preparing this Quick Hit. What are you doing to prepare for the things God has put into your heart and what will you do "with your one wild and precious life?" (Ref: Mary Oliver.) Are you training and getting sharp?

Last Comments

Again, we have to remember that leading and being a part of a church service like ours is truly an art form, not a science...and it's certainly not a manufactured program where we expect the same things week after week. The Holy Spirit has bestowed a marvelous grace on us to be able to do what He wants us to do and to take us where He chooses.

We are also a church that contains many capable, skilled, and spiritually-sensitive people. Many get activated during our services and want to contribute. So many get activated that the service leader can wind up feeling like a referee to maintain the order of service due to all those who want to speak and contribute.

Our challenge is to stay sensitive to the Holy Spirit's leading and direction and allow Him to tap any one of us to bring something in the right timing and context. Yes, we'll make mistakes along the way, but there will be grace to learn and to grow. There are two other Quick Hits which deal with our church services and they are available on the Firestorm website. They are:

- Quick Hits #1 - Order of Service (24 October 2021)
- Quick Hits #6 - 10 Tips for Leading a Service (5 June 2022)

Questions? Give me a call or walk up to discuss.
Don Davis (253-245-6247)