

One Voice; One Sound

The purpose for my instituting this study is because I am convinced that we have been quickly ushered into a new season of ministry. This is a very important season as it will be one of manifestation in many ways. However the manner in which these things will happen is going to be through the power of multiplied authority. This type of authority is realized when God's people have "one voice and one sound" and together they embrace and accomplish God's greater plan for their lives and the ministry they have been called to.

In Genesis chapter one when God created man in His own image [verse 26 - 28], we find that God gave him two basic commands. One was for him to be "fruitful and multiply..." [This multiplication was the result of his fruitfulness] and then Adam was told to "take dominion." This word dominion means to "dominate" and if you will look at it in context you find that God gave him this command to dominate every created thing except other men and women.

This was God turning over the authority of the earth to His prized creation – human beings. Just as God gave man the mandate to have authority over the entire earth, in the New Testament Jesus gave us a likewise authority in Matthew 28. This authority was intended to propel us to have dominion in the realm of the Spirit bringing salvation to every person that God initially called to be saved.

God has brought us as part of the Church of the Living God, to a place where He is in the process of accelerating His End Time plan for the earth. However there are many things that are left undone and in order to see Christ exalted in the manner God intended; His people must rise to the place where they are walking in the things God said they were supposed to walk in.

In our generation we have been blessed with the increase of knowledge that the Bible foretold would be released in the End Times. Not only has God raised up some fine ministers of the Gospel in all denominations, He has also made available Bible resources that bring enlightenment to us through books and cd's. However, I'm still not convinced that we as His Church corporately are walking in the power and authority that God intends.

Proverbs tells us to, “Get knowledge and get wisdom, but with all your getting, get understanding.” As I’ve matured in the things of God, I have come to know that understanding often comes to the heart of the Believer as he or she applies the Biblical Truths they have come to know. Through this series of Topical Bible Studies, I believe that understanding will be released on all our lives as we collectively move into God’s greater plan for the Church and our lives individually.

This brings me to foundational scriptures that I believe are essential for each of us to grasp. My hope is that we’ll all see the importance of knowing and applying these to our lives while allowing them to supersede or take the place of what are often personal preferences, traditional beliefs and positive or negative life experiences.

As I mentioned, God is releasing multiplied authority and in our walking in this type of authority, we must find out “How power is increased?” There is no “one” thing that will cause us to walk in this power or authority; but as we allow the Lord to build us and move us to where He wants by hungering and thirsting after righteousness, you will find that God did not hide His wisdom from us. However I’m convinced that it will take much more than a single person gaining understanding and revelation into God’s greater plan. This is where you become vital for the Kingdom of God in this hour.

1. John 13:34 says that we are to be operating under a new commandment which is to *“love one another.”* This is to be the foundation for all other principles and teachings that we will be moving into. What makes this so important is the fact that in the very next verse [verse 35] He said that it’s *“by this”* that all men will know that we are His disciples, if we have love one to another. If what we do will be done with no selfish motives, there will be the multiplied power that God is waiting to release. For too long many people have wanted to be used of God to be seen or to “show” others that they have it “going on.” No longer will God allow this spirit of pride to permeate His Body and allow any glory to be brought to a man. Love is not selfish as it always looks out for the greater good of someone else.
2. Second Timothy 2:14 tells us to *“Study to show yourself approved unto God, a workman that does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the Word of Truth.”* After walking in

love, it is vital for us to be disciples or “*learned one’s*” of Christ, and the only way this will be attained is if you make up your own mind that you are going to be the student of the Word that God wants. It’s through the diligent study of the Word, individually and collectively that we are going to understand what we’re supposed to have in Christ and then walk in that authority as a church. To study on your own often sets your life up for deception and will “short-circuit” if you will God’s greater plan for the city. Make it a point to come to Bible study and just as importantly, set time aside every week to go over the lesson that we will be discussing during class.

3. In John 5:39, we are cautioned to make certain that we see Jesus in the Scriptures. For too long many Christians have increased their knowledge of God and not set their lives up to receive greater revelation because they stopped short of seeing the importance of keeping Christ central. In understanding that God wants them prosperous, healed, delivered, families saved or any other Truth, those principles became the central focus in their learning. Without realizing it many have had itching ears learning only what they thought would be of the greatest benefit to them personally. The NIV says, “*You diligently study the Scriptures because you think that by them you possess eternal life. These are the Scriptures that testify about me, 40 yet you refuse to come to me to have life.*” Although this is specifically referencing eternal life, the principle holds true with healing, deliverance, prosperity or any other promise from God. We cannot search out the Scriptures to get a promise – only. We must search the Scriptures to receive greater revelation of Who Christ is as Healer; Provider; Peace; Righteousness; Deliverer and Savior.

4. First Corinthians 1:10 is clear that we must all speak the same thing and this is even more important in the hour of the Church that we’re in. In order for us to “speak the same thing,” we must be hearing the same thing and believing God not only for the same thing, but in the same manner having the same confession with our faith built up and every doubt and fear put to rest. The dynamics of this Truth is revealed in Genesis 11:1 where God got involved when men in their wickedness were going to accomplish a seemingly impossible feat. It says, “*Now the whole earth had one language and one speech.*”² *And it came to pass, as they journeyed from the east, that they found a plain in the land of Shinar, and they dwelt there.*³ *Then they said to one another, “Come, let us make bricks and bake them thoroughly.” They had brick for stone, and they had asphalt for mortar.*⁴ *And they said, “Come, let us build ourselves a city, and a tower whose top is*

in the heavens; let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be scattered abroad over the face of the whole earth.”

⁵ *But the LORD came down to see the city and the tower which the sons of men had built.*
⁶ *And the LORD said, “Indeed the people are one and they all have one language, and this is what they begin to do; now nothing that they propose to do will be withheld from them.* ⁷ *Come, let Us go down and there confuse their language, that they may not understand one another’s speech.”* ⁸ *So the LORD scattered them abroad from there over the face of all the earth, and they ceased building the city.* ⁹ *Therefore its name is called Babel, because there the LORD confused the language of all the earth; and from there the LORD scattered them abroad over the face of all the earth.”* This in itself shows the power we can have as a ministry if we can get on one accord having “one voice and one sound.” Nothing will be impossible for us at this point. Yet the enemy knows this as well and he does everything within his power to see to it that we are fragmented and given over to schism and factions. This is why we’re told in Ephesians 4:2 to “*Strive to keep the unity of the Spirit in a bond of peace.*” It takes work, but the power we will experience will definitely be worth it.

5. Ephesians 4 also reveals a dynamic Truth that is often missed when we make reference to the importance of the five fold ministry of the Apostle, prophet, evangelist, pastor and teacher. Notice that it says in verse 13 that these ministerial gifts were given in part to bring us to a place where 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...*”

This lets you see that God wants us to be unified in the faith AND unified **in the knowledge of the Son of God...** This second part is what’s burning in my heart as our church must become unified in this fashion and the only way it will happen is we all have to be hearing the same thing in this critical season we’re in.

6. We must be like the Berean church in the Book of Acts who were studious and did not just take what was being preached as what God said. It says in 17:11, “*These were more fair-minded than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so. 12 Therefore many of them believed, and also not a few of the Greeks, prominent women as well as*

men.” The KJV translates the word readiness as “readiness of mind” meaning “willingly.” A willing, studious, and obedient heart will help us move into what God has ordained in a much faster manner. It’s time for the manifestation of the things that we have been “believing, trusting and hoping for.” I HAVE SAID BEFORE THAT A TIME HAS TO COME WHEN OUR FAITH MUST BECOME SIGHT – THE TIME IS AT HAND!

As you study these lessons and come together to mutually increase in our knowledge of Christ so we stay on one accord, I encourage you to filter your answers through the “knowledge of the Word of God” that you currently have inside of you - first. Do not allow your experiences, tradition or upbringing [imagination and high things] to have precedence over what God said. Once you acknowledge what God desires, according to Second Corinthians 10:5, your responsibility becomes bringing every Godly thought into the captivity of Christ.

Once we cast down those imaginations and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, it says we’re to “bring into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ” which is done through God’s Word. This means if your experience, tradition and knowledge contradict the Word of God, you are to pull down those thoughts, and bring the very Truth of the Word of God that you may struggle with into the realm of God’s obedience.

This is what is going to release God’s greater anointing that will usher in God’s delivering power; His healing power; His saving power and the manifestation of His ability to bring financial and material increase in spite of adverse economic times in our country.

Let’s show ourselves approved unto God.....