



## THE REDEEMED CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF GOD

**MARCH 12, 2017**

### **Living Faith Chapel, Calgary (Solution Center)**

#### **WORD FOR THE WEEK**

##### THE GIFT OF PROPHECY

*Text: (1 Corinthians 12:7-11)*

We thank the Almighty God for His mercies and loving kindness towards us and for the grace He has given us to assemble before His presence once again. He has given us many gifts, including His unending grace and the gift of the Holy Spirit which comes in varieties. This special gift defines our theme for the Month of March 2017.

The spiritual gift of prophecy is an extraordinary and unique gift. Paul says in *1 Corinthians 14:1* that we should “**Pursue love, and earnestly desire the spiritual gifts, especially that we may prophesy.**” This gift is a blessing to the church and should not be quenched or despised (*1 Thessalonians 5:20*). Those who have the gift of prophecy differ from the Old Testament prophets who spoke the authoritative Word of God directly. Their words were recorded as scriptures as they proclaimed, “**Thus says The Lord,**” whereas the messages from those with the spiritual gift of prophecy must be tested (*1 Corinthians 14:29-33; 1 Thessalonians 5:20-21; 1 John 4:1-3*). In the New Testament, the Apostles, not the prophets, took over the role of scriptural proclamation from the Old Testament prophets.

##### The Gift of Prophecy Defined:

The gift of prophecy is the ability to receive a divinely inspired message and deliver it to others in the church. These messages can take the form of exhortation, correction, disclosure of secret sins, prediction of future events, comfort, inspiration, or other revelations given to equip and edify the body of Christ (*1 Corinthians 14:3-4, 24-25*). Again, they do not constitute the authoritative Word of God, but are the human interpretation of the revelation that was received. They are spoken in human words through a human mind which is why they must be tested against the Scriptures (*1 Thessalonians 5:20-21*). Prophecy is men speaking forth the word of God through the anointing of the Holy Spirit. Peter tells us: “**For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.**” (*2 Peter 1:21*)

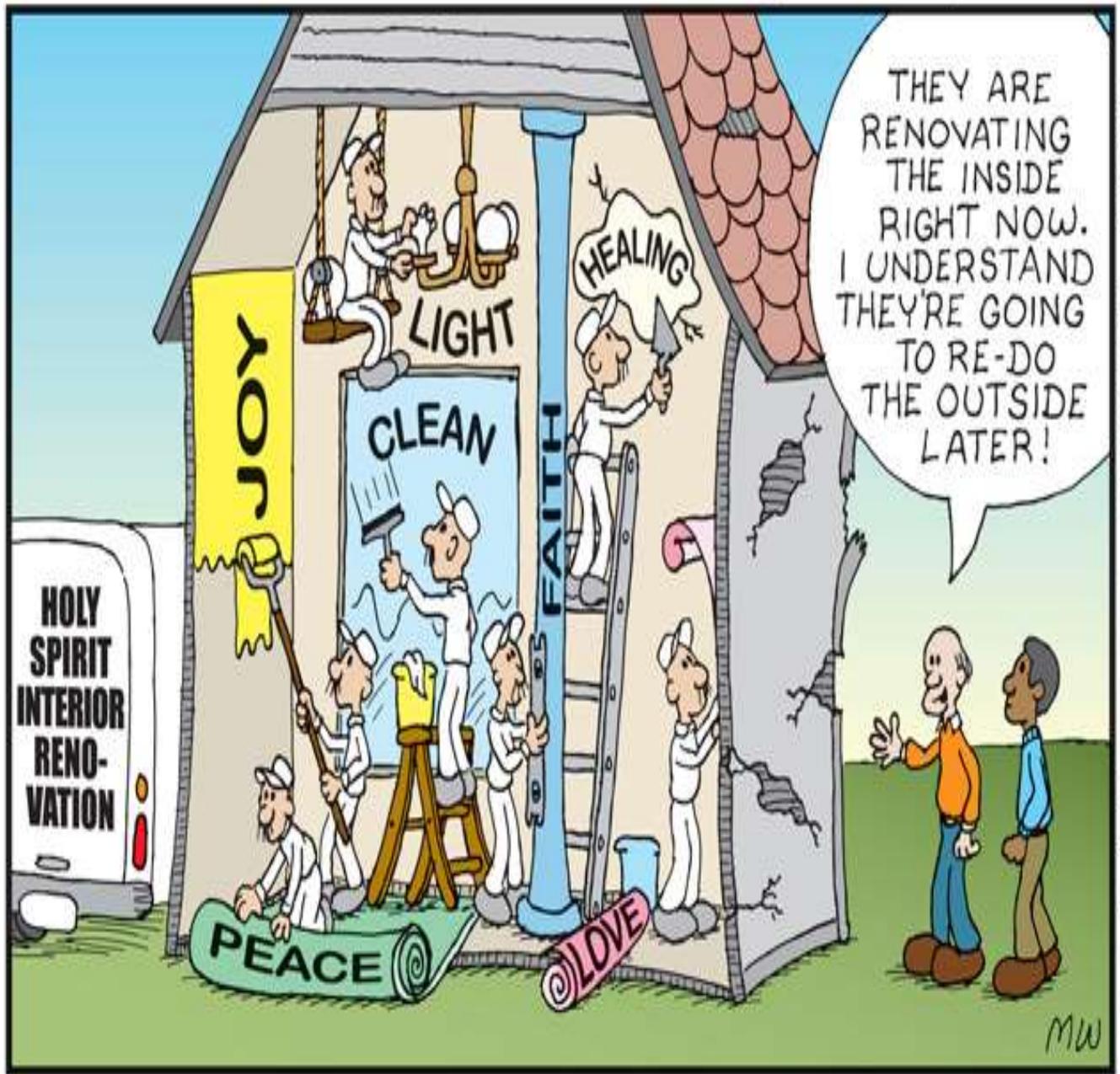
The Holy Spirit gives the gift of prophecy to some believers to make God's heart known and to edify the church. This gift is for the benefit of both believers and unbelievers and is a sign that God is truly among His church (*1 Corinthians 14:22-25*). Those with this gift are sensitive to both the prompting of the Holy Spirit and the needs of the church body. They should be humble and continually study the Scriptures in order to test these revelations before speaking them. When they do speak, they should allow and even expect others to weigh what is said against the Scriptures and interpret the message accordingly. In this way the church may be continually built up together in unity (*1 Corinthians 14:4, 26*). See also *Romans 12:6, 1 Corinthians 12:10, 14:1-5, Ephesians 4:11-12, 1 Peter 4:10-11*.

Jesus said in *John 14: 16-17*, “**And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you forever; Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it sees him not, neither know him: but you know him; for he dwells with you, and shall be in you.**”

Apart from discussing His wonderful gift of prophesy, we shall also take some time during the service today to examine who the Holy Spirit (the giver of all spiritual gifts) is. He is not a wind, a dove or fire as some suggest. Then who is this awesome personality? May the Almighty fill your heart with the Holy Spirit as you pray and meditate on these words!

# RENOVATION

A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day.

- 2 CORINTHIANS 4:16 NIV

NOTE: If you have been blessed by our Word for the Week or inspired in any way by them, please let us know by sending an email to The Pastor at [pastor@rccglfc.org](mailto:pastor@rccglfc.org)