Prophetic Ministry

with Bruce Collins

Introducing the lecturer

Bruce Collins is based in the Roxeth Team Ministry (Church of England) in Harrow, West London, where he was Team Rector for 13 years. He is on the leadership team of New Wine, which is an organisation committed to spreading renewal among Churches of all denominations. He oversees the New-Wine International Networks, and has particular responsibility for developing networks of leaders for training, support and encouragement.

Since 1995 he has spoken at conferences and Churches in different parts of the United Kingdom, Scandinavia, Ireland, Holland, South Africa, New Zealand and Australia, Canada, the USA, Singapore, Hong Kong and Kenya. Under his oversight, more and more leaders from around the national and international networks of New Wine are now helping with the growing number of invitations.

He is particularly committed to helping Church leaders to train and equip the people they lead in different aspects of the ministry passed on by the Lord Jesus to His Church, such as healing ministry, deliverance and prophecy. He has had considerable experience in helping many Christians to learn how to rely on the gifts and power of the Holy Spirit to become more effective in leading others to committed Christian faith.

He holds a B.Sc. Chemical Engineering degree from Natal University, a postgraduate diploma in Business Administration form Edinburgh University, and a Dip.H.E. in Theology from Oak Hill Theological College in London.

He is the author of Prophesy!¹

¹ Prophesy! Kingsway Publishers, Eastbourne, 2000. We use the text of this publication with his personal permission, and acknowledge all rights.
Introducing the course

This course is placed, in our curriculum, in the same track as *Natural Evangelism* by J. John and *Prophetic Evangelism* by Mark Stibbe. It is part of the wider section on Practical Theology whose focus is to equip ministry in the local church, and then from the local church in missions and church planting.

It is ideally suited. There are a number of reasons.

1. Bruce Collins is one of the senior leaders of New-Wine. He truly understands the value system that is common to both New-Wine and the Vineyard. As you read the text you will notice his indebtedness to both John Wimber and David Pytches. He therefore approaches the subject from within this value system.

2. The material is sound biblical teaching, but more than that. It comes from an extensive and fruitful ministry of actually equipping Christians to minister in prophecy. Bruce is into both theology and impartation. He is someone who listens to the Holy Spirit and role models that to others. This is praxis, in the best understanding of the term.

3. The subject matter is accessible and simple to follow. The material would be an easy home group project and can as easily be taught in a school of ministry.

Course instructions

This course can be used in different ways.²

- You can complete the course on your own as an individual student.

- A bible study small group can work through the material. This in turn can be done in two ways. If you have an obvious leader this person can prepare each section and lead the study, always making sure that maximum participation takes place from the group. Alternatively a different person in the group can be made responsible for each session. The course can be worked through over a minimum of 6 sessions. The questions for discussion at the end of each section are included for this purpose.

- A lecturer in a local church or school of ministry can lecture the course live. In this case both lecturer and students should have the course material at

² A free download from our Web Site, the Mentor’s Manual, gives more information on a range of mentoring models, [http://www.vineyardbi.org/church](http://www.vineyardbi.org/church)
hand. Advantages of group registration will be outlined in the VBI registration procedure.

**Completing the assignment**

You will have received a file attachment with the assignment along with the course material. You are encouraged to work through the whole course and then do the assignment. If you attempt to answer certain questions earlier on, you may get them wrong.
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This book is dedicated
to two Davids.

To David Parker,
for teaching me much of what I have
learnt about prophecy.

To David Pytches,
for providing me with so many opportunities
to teach this to others.
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Foreword

Bruce Collins is a church leader experienced in renewal, with a proven prophetic gift himself. This excellent book is one of the clearest and most practical on the subject I have seen, and I hope as many people as possible will read it.

Paul the Apostle wrote to the Corinthian church urging the Christians there to pursue prophecy as a really useful gift for building up the church. In 1 Corinthians 14 he tells them twice to ‘be eager to prophesy’.

Too many of us have not got a clue what prophecy is, how and when to use it, and how to test it. Bruce takes it all in his stride and spells these things out for us in a most helpful way.

I warmly commend this very practical handbook, not only for all would-be prophets, but for any Christian who wants to grow in hearing the Lord more clearly.

I also commend it to church leaders. Use it in your home groups or other settings as a practical course to sow prophecy into your church!

David Pytches
Acknowledgements

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My bishop, Graham Dow, the Bishop of Willesden, who has been a wonderful source of encouragement to me in my ministry as it has developed in recent years.

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My wife Siân, sons Tom and Matthew, and daughter Kate, without whose love, encouragement, prayer – and forbearance of my regular absence on trips – I could not do the work I do.

Bruce Collins, May 2000