



Empowering People to Change the World

7 Dynamics of a Wholehearted Church Part II

Steve Holt

***God can move mountains in my life
I will build up my faith with God's Holy Word
I will come alive in the power of the Holy Spirit
With Jesus, nothing will be impossible***

- Today I am sharing a prophetic word to us as a church. Because God has spoken this word to Liz and me about this, I'm going to take my time and probably take two weeks.
- The Old Testament speaks of day coming when the Holy Spirit would be poured out in unprecedented measure upon a people called out by God to carry His Kingdom revolution to the nations.
 - Ezekiel is a kind of “charismatic prophet” used by God powerfully during the exile of Israel in Babylon. He says that the Holy Spirit came upon Him and he began to see visions of the future church, the future millennium.
 - In Ezekiel 47 he saw a day coming of a great outpouring of the Spirit coming from the Temple and upon God's people.

Ezekiel 47

- Each of you are the Church—so this prophetic word of the rising tide of the Spirit flowing from the Temple means it will be the rising tide of the Spirit of God upon His People!
- God has given Liz and me this chapter three times in the last year concerning The Road.
- A rising of the water level that begins with the ankles and rises so high that it overwhelms everyone and becomes a mighty river that even flows down to the Dead Sea and purifies it.

- Ezekiel prophecies of a day coming where this Spirit will flow through His people in a new way; unseen in David's day, unseen in the days of the great prophets.
- Remember the flow of the water is from the Temple, not the White House, not Wall Street.
 - Ezekiel is prophesying the coming of the Spirit upon us, His people, the church.
 - Jesus prophecies the same thing.
 - He is at the Feast of Tabernacles, celebrating the divine guidance of God while Israel was wandering in the desert. There is this point in the celebration where the priests bring water to the pool of Siloam in a golden pitcher, symbolizing the water that came from the rock in the wilderness.

John 7:37-39

³⁷ On the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. ³⁸ He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water." ³⁹ But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

Now, turn to **Acts 1**

The 7 Dynamics of a Wholehearted Church/Person

Acts 1:1-8

¹The former account I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach, ² until the day in which He was taken up, after He through the Holy Spirit had given commandments to the apostles

whom He had chosen, ³ to whom He also presented Himself alive after His suffering by many infallible proofs, being seen by them during forty days and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God.

The Holy Spirit Promised

⁴ And being assembled together with them, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, “which,” He said, “you have heard from Me; ⁵ for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.” ⁶ Therefore, when they had come together, they asked Him, saying, “Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” ⁷ And He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has put in His own authority. ⁸ But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

- Even after 3 years with Jesus, being with Jesus all that time, they still did not have what it would take to move in power and impact the world for Christ.
- They still thought that the Kingdom of God was going to be a political, economic, even military take-over that would kick the Romans out of Israel and set up an independent nation.
- Jesus is announcing that a New Age of the Spirit has come! The Temple will not be literal Temple in Jerusalem but that each of us would be His Temple and the Spirit would make us a people who could be filled and empowered by the Holy Spirit.
- Two things are about to happen:
 - **1)** We are the Temple of the Holy Spirit overflowing like a river of His Spirit.
 - **2)** A new people together, united, of One Passion and One Purpose, the Church would overflow with the Spirit and touch not just Jerusalem but the WHOLE World!

God is building a “wholehearted church” that can bring a Kingdom of God revolution on our city. Colorado Springs is our “Jerusalem.”

The foundations of such a movement is best illustrated in the book of Acts.

I’m calling it “The Wholeheart Church” and our vision is a Kingdom Revolution but our mission is an empowered people, building wholehearted disciples.

Acts 1:14

14 These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brothers.

1st Dynamic: Wholehearted in One Accord Prayer

- It all started here! The presence of God! The presence of God through one accord prayer!
- And this commitment to being one accord in prayer and in everything they did continued
- ***Acts 2:1 When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.***
- Constantly mentioned in the first 5 chapters of Acts.
- “one accord” means “being unanimous, having mutual consent, being in agreement, having one mind and purpose.”
- ***Philippians 2:1-4 “Therefore if there is any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and mercy, ² fulfill my joy by being like-minded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind. ³ Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. ⁴ Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others.”***
- Paul’s joy was fulfilled through the unity he found in the church.
- This was the fulfillment of Jesus’s prophecy in **John 17: 20-23**

“I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; ²¹ that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me. ²² And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one: ²³ I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me.

- Nothing unites a church more, a family more, a couple more, than praying together believing God for the same things! Crying out to God together.
- The opportunities for one accord prayer are numerous at The Road:
 - Boiler Room Prayer before each service in the Prayer Room at 9am.
 - Prayer at noon on Tuesday in the Chapel.
 - 24/7 Prayer with our Watchmen on the Wall.
- I am calling for a new night of Worship and Prayer at The Road starting once a month, Wednesday nights at 6:30pm. Our first one will be September 11th.
- I cannot think of a better night to remember our nation, what happened on that day and ignite with power the Wholeheart Advance the next day!
- What a powerful way to begin the Wholeheart Advance but praying in one accord for a great outpouring of the Spirit upon the men at The Road.

Acts 2:1-4

When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all [a]with one accord in one place. ² And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. ³ Then there appeared to them [b]divided tongues, as of

fire, and one sat upon each of them. ⁴ And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

2nd Dynamic: Wholehearted Empowerment with the Holy Spirit

- Jesus knew of his 120 disciples that they did not have what it takes to live the Christian life. Jesus's teaching alone is not enough; being with Jesus 24/7 for three years was not enough; memorizing and knowing the Scriptures was not enough.
- They needed power. The word in Acts 1:8 is "dunamis;" the word we derive Dynamite from.
- This was the rivers of living water that Jesus had prophesied.
- Are you full of fear? Full of anxiety? Full of doubts? Get filled with the Spirit.
- ***Ephesians 5:18-20 And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹ speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord, ²⁰ giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,***

Acts 2:5-42

3rd Dynamic: Wholehearted in Preaching the Word of God

- Immediately after being filled with the Spirit, they wholeheartedly committed themselves to the Doctrine, to the Word of God.
- The Word was now preached with results—lives being changed and transformed.
- Because they believed in God's Word, because they built the church on God's Word, Paul could say to Timothy in **2Timothy 3:15-17**
"from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

16 All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, 17 that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

- The Word of God equips you for every good work!
- **Hebrews 4:12** *For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.*
 - The only way to grow in faith is through God's Word. We do not just read God's Word, we allow God's Word to read us.
 - The word "powerful" is energies.
 - Two edged: compassion and conviction.
- **Mahatma Gandhi:** "You Christians look after a document containing enough dynamite to blow all of civilization apart, turn the world upside down, and bring peace to a battle torn planet. But you treat it like its nothing more than a piece of literature."
 - In your hands you have the most powerful document ever given to man.

Acts 2:42b in the breaking of bread, and in prayers.

Acts 2:46 So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart,

4th Dynamic: Wholehearted Relationships with other Disciples

- They were in the homes of the people, hanging out, having meals together.
- We are starting small groups at The Road.

Vs. 42c

PP: 5th Dynamic: Wholehearted in Taking Communion Together

- Jesus told His disciples to remember his life, death, and resurrection through Communion

1Corinthians 11:23-26

For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you: that the Lord Jesus on the same night in which He was betrayed took bread; ²⁴ and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, "Take, eat; this is My body which is broken for you; do this in remembrance of Me." ²⁵ In the same manner He also took the cup after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me." ²⁶ For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death till He comes.

Acts 2:46-47

⁴⁶ So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, ⁴⁷ praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.

Luke 24:50-53

⁵⁰ And He led them out as far as Bethany, and He lifted up His hands and blessed them. ⁵¹ Now it came to pass, while He blessed them, that He was parted from them and carried up into heaven. ⁵² And they worshiped Him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, ⁵³ and were continually in the temple praising and blessing God. Amen.

6th Dynamic: Wholehearted Praise and Worship

- They were constantly worshipping the Lord!
- **Acts 16:25-26**

25 But at midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them.

26 Suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were loosed.

- Praise and worship does 3 things:
 - 1) Praise and Worship brings the Presence of God.
 - 2) Praise and Worship brings Joy and Confidence.
 - 3) Praise and Worship brings God's Power.
- In 2 Chronicles 20, Jehoshaphat is full of fear, surrounded by all the armies of Israel and he tells the people we are going to just worship and praise the Lord.
- We are starting an All Church Worship Night this Wednesday September 11th 7pm in the Chapel.

Acts 2:43-45

43 Then fear came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles. 44 Now all who believed were together, and had all things in common, 45 and [o]sold their possessions and goods, and divided[p] them among all, as anyone had need.

PP: 7th Dynamic: Wholehearted Extravagant Giving

- One of the most powerful Kingdom Principles I've ever learned!
- Honestly the Church should be the wealthiest, most robust giving, generous institution in the World! I really mean that! We should be a place where entrepreneurs flock to learn how to build kingdom wealth.
- I call it the "Malachi Miracle."

- **Malachi 3: 7-12**

***Return to Me, and I will return to you,”
Says the Lord of hosts.***

***“But you said,
‘In what way shall we return?’***

⁸ “Will a man rob God?

Yet you have robbed Me!

But you say,

‘In what way have we robbed You?’

In tithes and offerings.

⁹ You are cursed with a curse,

For you have robbed Me,

Even this whole nation.

¹⁰ Bring all the tithes into the storehouse,

That there may be food in My house,

And try Me now in this,”

Says the Lord of hosts,

“If I will not open for you the windows of heaven

And pour out for you such blessing

That there will not be room enough to receive it.

- ***¹¹ “And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes,
So that he will not destroy the fruit of your ground,
Nor shall the vine fail to bear fruit for you in the field,”***

Says the Lord of hosts;

¹² “And all nations will call you blessed,

For you will be a delightful land,”

Says the Lord of hosts.