

## “SPEAKING THE HARD TRUTH”

### 1 CORINTHIANS 14:1-5

*Miscommunication can be dangerous. The Apostle Paul seeks to clear up any confusion in the area of spiritual gifts, especially pertaining to two of these gifts, one of which he seems to elevate above the other.*

### THE PROMINENCE OF PROPHECY

#### ① P \_\_\_\_\_ in Command (14:1)

“Especially” highlights this gift. But it can also be translated as “\_\_\_\_\_,” which moves it into a category all by itself.

#### ② P \_\_\_\_\_ to Man (14:2-3)

Three key impacts:

1. Edification → It builds \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Exhortation → It moves \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Encouragement → It reaches \_\_\_\_\_.

#### ③ P \_\_\_\_\_ for Church (14:4)

Consider the destructive forces within:

1. The \_\_\_\_\_ seeker
2. The \_\_\_\_\_ exploder
3. The \_\_\_\_\_ evaluator
4. The \_\_\_\_\_ pusher

5. The \_\_\_\_\_ gossip

6. The \_\_\_\_\_ shopper

7. The \_\_\_\_\_ grabber

8. The \_\_\_\_\_ player

9. The \_\_\_\_\_ dreamer

10. The \_\_\_\_\_ influencer

The church prospers when theological convictions and doctrinal mandates are promoted instead of the latest methodologies and most pragmatic philosophies.

#### ④ P \_\_\_\_\_ of Paul (14:5)

Prophecy, unlike tongues, can stand on its own merit as it breathes out to man the edification needed for the church to be fortified.

Paul’s greatest concerns for the church was her own \_\_\_\_\_ (14:3,4,5).

### CONCLUSION

This gifted group of “forthtelling” prophets is what we need as they call God’s people to live in obedience to the revealed scriptures. They sound the warning, but are you \_\_\_\_\_ for them?

Heed the spiritual insight and instruction of others when God brings them across your path. It’s His grace to you as He seeks to grab your present attention and adjust your future direction. Yes, we all need men and women who will speak forth the hard truth in love!