

## Upwards: Prophecy – October 9th

# Becoming Church: Five Ways



**Reading** Genesis 13:14  
14 The LORD said to Abram ..... “Lift up your eyes from where you are”



**Overview**  
God’s conversation with Abram was a prophetic encounter! God called him to “look up” and see from a different perspective.

The prophetic has the effect upon us of lifting up our eyes or attention and focus from an earthly perspective into a Heavenly one!



When God opens our eyes (we sometimes call this Revelation) we see things that we didn’t see before. Sometimes those things, objects or people take on a whole new perspective when we look up! The need to look upwards symbolises our dependency upon the Holy Spirit to give us understanding, discernment and a bigger picture!



The prophetic or upward should be companion, or makeweight, to all of the other ministries or directions. The “Upward” should always be partnered, for example, with the “Downward”. Prophecy brings revelation to everyone of the four ways!



What is prophecy?  
• Prophecy is incomplete – 1 Cor 13:9  
• Prophecy is ongoing developmental  
The Lord rarely reveals the totality of His heart

to us in a single prophetic word, rather he speaks words that will give us focus for now and the immediate future, look at Abram in Gen13

- Prophecy is provisional and dependent upon obedience. There are no unconditional personal prophecies! Prophecy refers to the possibility, not the inevitability! If our response is poor and full of unbelief or our lifestyle is not on track we may not expect these prophecies to be fulfilled!

As prayer is the voice of man to God  
So Revelation is the voice of God to man

### Questions for personal reflection and discussion

Prophecy is not just a direction it is a gift! Have you received it? Do you want to receive it?

### Feedback and Questions

- If you have anything to share out of all of this – any stories, testimonies, creative works or whatever – please let us know. You may be a huge encouragement to many other people.
- You can submit comments and questions to the church office, via your home group leader, or make a note and put it in the offering boxes. There is a special section on the Church website ([www.opengate.org.uk](http://www.opengate.org.uk)) on the 'Forum' page to discuss any issues relating to the church.