

Aretha Clark
Masters of Divinity
Alliance Theological Seminary
Dr. Walborn
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My Philosophy of Ministry

To me preaching the word of God is serious, I know ministry is more than preaching, but for the preaching and teaching ministry, it is very serious for me to not be a hypocrite. I have seen many pulpit preachers that preached the word of God, but did not live the word of God. I do not want to be that person. I thank God that I have been sitting under a Pastor that has been teaching that we 1. Need to know God for ourselves and 2. We need to be mature Christians, we need to have the image of Christ. For over the past 20 years, I have been building my character, so that when I preach and teach the word of God, so that I can live what I preach and teach. My former Pastor (when I was living in Memphis, TN), taught me ministry skills, which I have been using since 1997. I am like the author, “for me ministry has to be personal”,¹ I believe that as children of God that we all have been called to reconcile others to Christ, which is the ministry of reconciliation and go make disciples (2 Corinthians 5:18-19; Mark 28:19). I too like the author developed this principle too, “I will give as much as I can to one who chooses to have it”. I like helping people that really need help, if I’m sensing from God the person will not have an ear to hear the word that I am giving, then I will not minister to that person, I only want to minister to people that God is drawing, they are hungry. The other principle that I live by, just like the author, “I would lead people toward truth but let them discover it”, I too believe this is

¹ Robert Clinton. *The Making of a Leader: Recognizing the Lessons and Stages of Leadership Development*. NavPress pp.156

the best way an individual can learn, I learned by discovering.² I believe I have a purpose and I am ready to fulfill it.

Statement of Faith

I believe the Bible is the inspired Word of God and is our infallible guide in matters pertaining to conduct and doctrine (2 Timothy 3:15-17). I believe in the one true God who has revealed and manifested Himself in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit (1 John 5:7; Matthew 28:19). I believe that it is impossible to come to God the Father by any other means than through, the Lord Jesus Christ and His shed blood (John 14:6; Acts 4:12). I believe that through Adam's fall, sin came into the world, and man's first steps to the Conversion experience are repentance and belief in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior (Romans 5:12-15; Mark 1:15). I believe that an individual cannot be saved unless you are drawn to God (John 6:44). I believe in water baptism by immersion in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost (Matthew 28:19; Acts 8:36-39). I believe in the baptism of the Holy Spirit as a separate and distinct experience from the Conversion experience. I believe that it is a necessary, vital experience for empowerment and service. (Acts 1:8; Luke 24:49; Acts 8:12, 15-17). I believe in the doctrine of sanctification as a definite, progressive work of grace, beginning at the time of the Conversion experience and continuing until the consummation of salvation at Christ's return (Hebrews 12:14; 1 Thessalonians 5:23; 1 Corinthians 1:30; 2 Corinthians 3:18; Philippians 3:12-14). I believe that speaking in tongues is an evidence that accompanies the baptism with the Holy Ghost (Acts 2:4; Acts 10:44-46; Acts 19:1-6). I believe the fruit of the Holy Spirit is part of the New Birth/Regeneration of a believer and an evidence that accompanies the baptism of the Holy Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23, Colossians 3:12). I believe it

² Robert Clinton. *The Making of a Leader: Recognizing the Lessons and Stages of Leadership Development*. NavPress pp.156

is essential that every believer lay a foundation of Biblical Truth and experience upon which he builds his life (Hebrews 6:12; John 8:47). I believe the title of my earnings is holy unto God (Malachi 3:8; Hebrews 7:4-10). I believe the nine Gifts of the Holy Spirit should be and must be operative in the church to enjoy the fullness of God (1 Corinthians 12:11). I believe in the doctrine of the laying on of hands for confirmation, ordination, impartation, and ministry of healing to the sick (Acts 13:1-3; 1 Timothy 4:14; Hebrews 6:2; Mark 16:18; Acts 8:17). I believe that Healing is a part of the atoning work of Jesus Christ and that it belongs to every believer today (spiritually, mentally, physically, financially) (Isaiah 53:5; Matthew 8:17; 1 Peter 2:24). I believe that Jesus continues to bestow all five of the Ministry Gifts (Apostle, Prophet, Evangelist, Pastor, and Teacher) to His body. They are operative today for the perfecting of the saints to do the work of the ministry and I believe my ministry operates this way (1 Corinthians 12:28; Ephesians 4:7-12). I believe that Apostles, or the apostolic anointing is present and operative in the earth today to prepare and send forth believers to fulfill the Great Commission (1 Corinthians 12:28; Ephesians 4:11-13; Matthew 28:19-20). I believe in Women in Ministry; that God's ministry and spiritual gifts are given without regard to ethnicity, social class or gender...He gave gifts Apostle, Prophet, Pastor, Evangelist and Teacher to men (Greek: Anthropos; human being) (Ephesians 4:1-12; Galatians 3:26-28). I believe there were women Apostles, The Apostle Paul praised a woman Apostle (Romans 16:7). I believe in the imminent Return of Jesus Christ and bodily rapture, or resurrection, of the church (Acts 1:11; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17). I believe in a Heaven and Hell; those who physically die in Christ will immediately go to be with Him. Those who die without Christ will be eternally lost (Luke 16:19-31; Matthew 5:22; 10:28; 2 Corinthians 5:6-9).³ This was

³ <http://worldovercomers.org> retrieved 3/31/21

retrieved from a ministry that I was fellowshiping with, I believe the same way and needed a statement of faith that was already established.

Mission

Aretha G. Clark Ministries is an Ephesians 4:12-16 ministry; I believe you will be prepared to know God for yourself (John 17:3; Philippians 3:10; Romans 12:2; 2 Peter 3:18); to know the God-ordained, predestined purpose and the Christ-centered ministry to which God has called you to; that all believers are called to the ministry of reconciliation and to go make disciples (2 Corinthians 5:18-19; Mark 28:19). You will know God for yourself and love Him through praise, worship, prayer, prophecy, the ministry of the Word of God, and a personal encounter with Him. You will know God for yourself through embracing others, both believers and unbelievers, through connection in small disciple groups and the ministry of helps, and evangelism. You will know God for yourself through equipping so that you will know what God has for your life, as a sent one, through small disciple group participation, leadership opportunities, ministry training, and release into your calling.

My core ministry values

Know God for myself (Proverbs 8:17; Jeremiah 31:33-34); Know Christ as Savior ;
 Learn to hear God's voice; learn how to pray and find answers; Have an encounter with God;
 Receive God's power for my life. Be mature and grow spiritually through God's word. Find
 God's purpose and destiny for my life. Learn how to turn my life around. Learn how to be
 delivered from bondages, generational patterns, past hurt and pain. Learn how and why God
 created me. Learn how to find connection, security, support, and a sense of belonging. Find
 healing and deliverance. Find financial freedom and learn how to receive God's provision.
 Recognize my ministry, spiritual gifts, and passion. Learn how to win my family, friends, and

loved ones to Christ. Learn how to successfully pray for my loved ones. Learn how to have a successful marriage. Find healing and restoration for my marriage. Help my daughter grow in the Lord. Know what the Bible teaches and recognize truth. Learn how to apply the Word of God to my life. Learn how I can do the ministry of Jesus. Learn how to share my faith with others. Learn how to reach out to the lost, hurting, wounded, and bound. Learn how to biblically counsel others. Find people to mentor/become a spiritual mentor. Become equipped for ministry and equip others. Learn how to do ministry beyond the church walls. Learn how to do ministry in the workplace. Learn how to start or plant a church.

My non-negotiables

This is what I cannot live or do without: knowing God for myself and my purpose (Romans 8:28; Proverbs 8:17; Jeremiah 31:33-34). I believe everyone needs to know God for themselves and know their purpose, without knowing God and your purpose, and individual will be lost and wandering, because they will have no plan or expectations for their future. I have to be led by the Holy Spirit, I cannot go anywhere or do anything without God's presence within me and on me; I believe it is for service. I need the power of God the anointing to do God's work. (Acts 1:8; Luke 24:49; Acts 8:12, 15-17). Every child of God, whether in ministry or not, need to be led by the Holy Spirit and have His power working through us. I need to live my life through prayer, praise, worship, so that I am able to hear from God (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18). I rely on God's leading and ask if my plans are lining up with His will (Hebrews 13:20-21; Romans 12:1-2; Ephesians 5:17; 1 John 2:17; 1 John 4:6-7). Every believer need to make sure that they are in the will of God, we are to know the will of God for our lives, Proverbs 14:12 says there is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death. We as believers need to know the right way and that can only come from

God. I have to seek God daily (Jeremiah 29:13; Matthew 6:33; Romans 8:14; Proverbs 8:17). This scripture tells us to seek the Kingdom of God and His righteousness and all these things will be added unto you. I believe when a believer seek God (know that God is creator and ruler of mankind and creation), and His right way of doing, I believe that God will add what you need to your life. I need God to guide me (Psalm 25:4-5, 9; Psalm 37:23-24; Deuteronomy 1:29-33; Proverbs 20:24) I need the wisdom of God (James 1:5; Proverbs 11:3; Proverbs 14:15) I need a mentor that will give spiritual guidance (Proverbs 16:3). By all means I have to trust in God and I believe that all believers need to be the same way (Proverbs 19:21). I have learned that we do not know everything and there are other people who know more than I do, everyone need a Godly Spiritual Leader that can speak into our lives and give guidance. Being wise is knowing that we do not have all the answers and going to someone that do know the answers to our questions.

My strengths and weakness'

As far as leadership characteristics, strengths and weakness' I do not know what they are, I have not been a leader over anything. I have taught others in small discipleship groups, in classes that churches have established, but I was not a leader.

Conclusion

This is my philosophy of ministry, it is not much this is only the beginning for future fulltime ministry. My core beliefs, my mission, statement of faith, my core values my non-negotiables and my strengths and weakness'. My information could not make this paper 10 pages.

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