

ICDF NEWSLETTER - AUGUST 2017

**CDF SURINAME INTERNATIONAL ARTS & WORSHIP CONFERENCE
“Releasing the Prophetic on the Earth through the Arts”**

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The Christian Dance Fellowship Suriname held its first International Arts and Worship Conference from June 29th- July 1st 2017 in Paramaribo, Suriname. Our main speakers were pastors Dean Slater and Jaymee Pleasant-Slater from the USA. Dance Minister Romelton Siland from Guyana; and visitors from the Netherlands also joined us.

The theme of the conference was:

“Releasing The Prophetic On the Earth Through The Arts”

The Scripture supporting this theme was:

1 SAMUEL 10:5-7: “After that you will come to the hill of God where the garrison (a fortified place/a safe place) of the Philistines is; and when you come there to the city, you will meet a group of prophets coming down from the high place [of worship] with harp, tambourine, flute, and lyre before them, and they will be prophesying. Then the Spirit of the Lord will come upon you mightily, and you will prophesy with them, and you will be changed into another man. When these signs come to you, do for yourself whatever the situation requires, for God is with you.”

Encounter with the Worshipers

Saul was anointed by Samuel to be a great King over the nation of Israel. This WORD-of-GOD was not activated within Saul, until he encountered the worshipers that were prophesying (worshiping) and he gained his own revelation, and began to join in with them.

The Ascending of the Mountain

Pastor Dean Slater from Atlanta from Georgia shared with us the meaning of the ascending of the mountain.

The Prophets/Worshipers are the change (or activation agents) for God’s Word but they first must prepare and gather together as one. The Singers, Musicians, Drama (Spoken Word), Artists, and Dance (as well as other artists) gathered with their gifts and worshiped God in a high place set apart from the hustle and bustle of their busy cities. The worshipers had their instruments, their voices, and their beings all set in motion to prophesy (Song of the Lord, Music of the Lord, Dance of the Lord) they were all participating, practicing and preparing.

The Descending of the Mountain

Pastor Jaymee Pleasant-Slater shared with us the meaning of ascending of the mountain.

In the second part of verse 5, Saul is told that when he comes to the Garrison at Gibeah (A safe place, as fortress, or a place of activation). The Prophets/Worshippers were coming down from the mountain in worship and prophesying. They did not wait until they came into the garrison to start. Why was this important? Because they carried the Spirit of the Lord down the mountain with them, their worship and their prophecy. The Prophetic rides in on the music/song/dance/etc (through the Arts), and presents itself to the people. We cannot wait until we come in contact with the people to start the activation or the presentation of the Spirit.

Workshops and Teachings

Dance minister Romelton Siland led some amazing workshops on drama, dance and acting. Through these workshops the theme of the conference was re-enacted and the attendees were being prepared for the things the Lord had in store for them at the end conference. Noel Filemon, the National Coordinator of the Christian Dance Fellowship Suriname, led some movement to Scripture with the participants which prepared them to open up themselves for the new things the Lord wants to do through the arts on the earth. He also gave a lecture on “The Arts, The Imagination and The Christian Story”. Pastors Dean Slater and Jamyee Pleasant led some amazing workshop on how to use props to create an atmosphere of worship. In a very practical way God’s creativity was demonstrated on how dancers, musicians, poets, the spoken word, acting, drama, song, etc can flow together.

Life changing

When Saul began to prophecy with the worshipers he was changed. This change activated him to walk in his anointing as king. Verse 7 of 1 Samuel 10 tells us that when these things are shown (or manifest themselves) we are to go and do whatever the situations require of us because God is with us. In other words, go and use your gifts and watch what God will do in the midst of His people.

Even as Saul was changed, at the end of the conference we could see that lives were really changed and touched by the Holy Spirit. We saw lives restored, the broken hearted healed and others physically healed. Some of the attendees experienced a new freedom to express themselves through the arts. There were also others who came to a new Biblical understanding of the arts.

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