



## Prayer of Blessing

Through each Rooted session, we have the opportunity to pour into and encourage those in our groups. One of the special ways we are able to do this is what Rooted calls the “Prophetic Blessing.” The *concept* is one that we are very excited about and one that we will implement a little differently than Mariners Church encourages.

Instead of referring to it as “prophetic prayer” we have chosen to use the phrase “Prayer of Blessing.” We believe it is best not to make a claim that we know the specific “heart, mind, and will of God” for an individual (p. 112, Facilitators Guide). Claiming you know what God is calling them to or that God has revealed something to you about them (p. 113, Facilitators Guide) could create a sense of superiority over them or lead them toward a dependent relationship with you as a facilitator. Claiming someone has been “set free” from a particular stronghold will not be helpful to them if they have not been (p. 113, Facilitators Guide).

A Prayer of Blessing should speak words of life, hope and encouragement into the heart of the person for whom we are praying. Using scripture during your prayer can be a powerful way to speak hope and biblical truth into their lives. Your Prayer of Blessing for them will be a powerful moment where you affirm their gifts and abilities and celebrate their growth and transformation. Be clear that these are *your* thoughts and highest hopes for them. Claiming you speak for God is unwise and misleading (Deuteronomy 13:1-5; 18:20-22) .

So let’s bless, encourage, and affirm those we are leading. May your prayers over them inspire hope and point them to Jesus.