

A PROPHETIC SEMINAR

GROWING IN THE PROPHETIC



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CONTENTS

1. FOUNDATIONS	4
A. What is Prophecy?	4
B. New Covenant vs Old Covenant Prophecy	4
New Covenant Wineskin for Prophecy	4
C. Fore-telling & Forth-telling	5
Fore-telling	5
Forth-telling	5
D. Identity	6
E. Levels in the Prophetic	7
All Can Prophecy	7
Gift of Prophecy	7
Ministry of a Prophet	8
F. Basic Prophetic Protocols	9
Strengthen	10
Encourage	10
Comfort	10
G. Calling Out the Gold	11
H. Activation	12
2. RECEIVING REVELATION	14
A. Communicating with God	14
God is Multi-lingual	14
The Ways God Communicates with Us	15
Tips to Develop Clarity in Communicating with God	17
How do I know if it is God's voice?	18
B. Spiritual Senses	18
Sight	19
Smell	19
Hearing	19
Taste	19
Touch	19
C. Prophetic Triggers	19
What is a prophetic trigger?	20
What do prophetic triggers do?	20

Next Steps	20
Internal Triggers.....	21
External triggers	21
D. Word of Knowledge, Word of Wisdom & Discernment	22
Word of Knowledge	22
Word of Wisdom.....	23
Discernment	23
E. Activation	24
A Gift from Jesus	24
3. EXPRESSING the PROPHETIC	25
A. Revelation Interpretation Activation	25
Revelation.....	25
Interpretation.....	25
Application	26
B. Prophetic Expressions	28
Ways to Express the Prophetic	28
C. Activation	30
Breadcrumb prophecy	30
What Do You See?	31
What's in a name?	31
4. PROCESSING the PROPHETIC	33
A. What to do with your prophetic words... ..	33
What is prophecy?.....	33
Who is ministering to you?	33
How should you respond when receiving prophecy?	33
What's your responsibility after you receive a word?	34
B. Relationship with God	35
C. Capture Weigh Process Activate	35
Capture our Prophetic Words.....	35
Weigh our Prophetic Words.....	36
Process our Prophetic Words	38
Activate our Prophetic Words.....	38
D. Activation	39

1. FOUNDATIONS

A. What is Prophecy?

Prophecy is when individuals share God's messages—His mind and intention —with others. Christians and non-Christians.

Prophecy is seeing something through God's eyes and communicating this to people. He is a living God. He is a living God – He is always communicating. We have the mind of Christ. We can share the same headspace with God. Prophetic ministry often takes the form of giving and receiving prophetic words.

B. New Covenant vs Old Covenant Prophecy

As believers in Jesus Christ, we live in the New Covenant and not the Old Covenant. Correct? AMEN. While we can learn from the Old Testament prophets and their prophetic ministries, we should always prophesy from a New Covenant perspective.

New Covenant Wineskin for Prophecy

Let's have a look at a few differences between the OLD and the NEW covenants to help us establish a New Covenant wineskin for prophecy.

In the OLD COVENANT...	In the NEW COVENANT...
The Old Covenant prophets were selected by God to be His direct mouthpiece. This was the primary way God spoke to His people and to other nations.	All believers have a relationship with God. All believers have the Holy Spirit living within them and have a personal relationship with God. We can all communicate directly with God. Prophecy is one important way that God communicates with us as a community and individually.
God often spoke through one main prophet to the nation in each time period.	God uses a multitude of prophetic voices in His body. No single person with a prophetic gift or calling of a prophet has the whole counsel of God.
The Old Covenant prophets were expected to speak the inspired word of God. God's words were to be obeyed without question. Disobedience brought harsh consequences.	Together we judge the prophetic word itself and not the prophetic person. All prophetic words should be tested and weighed and only then applied to our lives.
The required standard for Old Covenant prophecy was 100% accuracy. Prophets were	There is room to grow into the prophetic ministry. God does not require perfection for

stoned when they gave a wrong prophecy.	Him to speak through us. The guiding principle is to reveal the heart of God.
The Old Covenant prophets were directly accountable to God and no one else.	Prophetic people are accountable to God, to church leaders, and to each other in the family of God.
Many Old Covenant prophets were loners often only appearing to give the Word of the Lord to the people.	There should be no lone-ranger prophetic people. There should be a working together and accountability in gifts and prophetic ministry.
Old Covenant prophecy was often God speaking forth judgement and the consequences for a people who were wilfully disobeying Him despite many warnings.	God can still give warnings through New Covenant prophecy, but His main purpose is to encourage, comfort and build up.
They were to “Love their neighbour and hate their enemy.”	We are to love our neighbour and our enemy. New Covenant prophetic ministry reveals the heart of God to love all people and have a personal relationship with them.
The focus of the Old Covenant is law and judgement.	The focus is love and grace. Prophetic ministry will release the grace of God and bring people into a greater experience of the love of God.
God was primarily revealed as Law-giver and Judge.	God is primarily revealed as Father, Bridegroom and intimate friend. Prophetic ministry brings people closer to God.
In the Old Covenant God would often sovereignly perform what he spoke through the prophets to bring the prophecy to pass.	God invites His children to partner with Him in relationship to bring about the prophetic words given to them.

C. Fore-telling & Forth-telling

Fore-telling

Fore-telling in prophecy is to know something about the future. This the predictive aspect of prophecy. Revealing something before it happens. God reveals something about a person's future through prophecy. Example: Bible scholars confirm there are 100s of prophecies foretelling the life and ministry of Jesus Christ.

Forth-telling

Forth-telling in prophecy is when God reveals something that He intends to cause to happen for a person. In New Covenant prophecy forth-telling is the main kind of prophecy.

Forth-telling prophecy involves the cooperation and participation of the person receiving the prophetic word. It is the desire of our Father to have an intimate relationship with us. He wants us to partner with him, to respond to him. He did not create us as robots, but children of God.

Peter the Rock

And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.

Matthew 16:18

Peter was not yet the rock that Jesus prophesies that he would become. Jesus is forthtelling this about Peter's life and identity. For this to come to pass it will require that Peter cooperate with God and live in his true identity.

D. Identity

"Identity is the fact of being who or what a person or thing is"

"Who does God say that I am?" This is the second most important question we can ask after who is Jesus?

God gives us each unique identities so that we can discover who He wants us to be in every situation. Each believer has an identity with its own distinctive anointing, favour, resources and relationship with God attached to it.

Here are some quotes from well-known contemporary prophets.

"Identity is the practice of that which brings us into harmony with the life that the Father has chosen for us."

Graham Cooke

As his children, we each have an identity, which originates in the heart of our amazing Father.

"On earth we are defined by what we do, but in the Kingdom of heaven we do by how we are defined."

Dano McCollam

"The goal of the gift prophecy is to bring out the best in people"

Kris Vallotton

"Prophetic words that affirm and "call out" our unique identity carry supernatural grace to bring transformation in our lives and to release destiny in us."

"Prophecy upgrades identity and empowers us into the next dimension of God's purpose."

Graham Cooke

E. Levels in the Prophetic

Like all gifts of the Holy Spirit, there can be different levels which believers can operate in. All are called to prophesy, to pray, to evangelise, to disciple, etc but not all are called into the 5-fold ministry – Apostle, Teacher, Pastor, Prophet and Evangelist.

The prophetic too has different levels that we can operate from as God enables us.

All Can Prophecy

Follow the way of love and eagerly desire gifts of the Spirit, especially prophecy.

1 Corinthians 14:1 (NIV)

Paul told us to: Follow the way of love and eagerly desire gifts of the Spirit, especially prophecy. This indicates that we all prophesy.

I would like every one of you to speak in tongues, but I would rather have you prophesy.

1 Corinthians 14:5 (NIV)

Therefore, my brothers and sisters, be eager to prophesy ...

1 Corinthians 14:39 (NIV)

The root word for prophetic preaching is “prophesy”.

But the one who prophesies speaks to people for their strengthening, encouraging and comfort.

1 Corinthians 14:3 (NIV)

It is clear from Paul's teaching that there is a level of prophecy available to all believers, that brings 'strengthening, encouraging and comfort' (1 Corinthians 14:3) to the church body.

Permission has been granted by God for all believers to encourage and build up others in this way. Jesus confirmed this when he said, “My sheep hear my voice.” We can hear God's voice for ourselves, and we can hear for others.

Gift of Prophecy

In prophetic ministry people who often prophesy and at a higher level of accuracy than most Christians likely have the gift of prophecy.

But the Lord said to Ananias, “Go! This man is my chosen instrument to proclaim my name to the Gentiles and their kings and to the people of Israel.”

Acts 9:15 (NIV)

When God needed someone to lead Paul in his first steps of faith, he found a disciple who would listen to His voice. Not only that, but God also spoke to Ananias about Paul's significance, it was a prophecy about what was to come, saying 'Go, for he is a chosen vessel of Mine to bear My name before

Gentiles, kings, and the children of Israel' (Acts 9:15, NKJV)

We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith;

Romans 12:6 (NIV)

God still entrusts His words, messages and instructions to individuals today. And if you are a follower of Jesus, then like Ananias, you can live a supernatural life. You can bring powerful changes—whether to one, or to many—because you hear from God.

Philip the evangelist had four unmarried daughters who prophesied (Acts 21:8-9). They have the gift of prophecy like their Dad had the gift of evangelism.

Some individuals have a residing and ongoing gift of prophecy. It is given for the building of the church and will be recognised by the evidence in their lives, just as Philip's daughters were known for their prophetic gifts.

A Christian who has a gift of prophecy will prophesy more frequently, with a greater degree of clarity than most believers. You can start at Level One, all can prophesy and keep practicing your gift of prophesying and arrive at Level 2, a higher level of the prophetic (gift of prophecy).

Press in to hear God's voice and speak on His behalf

If we all do our part in pressing in to be sharper in hearing God's voice speaking on His behalf, the world will turn to the church for help and not the New Age, or Bomoh or Fortune-teller.

We must be INTENTIONAL in moving in the prophetic. It is for the glory of God. It is to show the signs and wonders of God. To reveal Jesus to the world. Let non-believers outside the church hear God's voice through our prophesying. The prodigals must come home. The unbelievers must know that Jesus knows them and is powerful and is willing to save them.

Ministry of a Prophet

And then there are the Prophets. They are part of the 5-fold ministries that God has set up for His church.

So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up.

Ephesians 4:11-12 (NIV)

Prophets train and equip the body in the prophetic and also operate at the highest level in the prophetic with a unique and recognised authority in their sphere of influence.

The PROPHET is given by Jesus as a GIFT to the church

'Whoever welcomes a prophet as a prophet will receive a prophet's reward,'

Matthew 10:41

When you receive this gift (the prophet) from Jesus, you too will be blessed.

Characteristics of prophets

Prophets are called by God personally and often have supernatural encounters with God when God called them into the office of a Prophet. It is a personal commissioning from God Himself. True

Prophets will be recognised by their church and people who know them and prophets are ordained by the local church. The office of the prophet is one of the five ministries given by Jesus to His church.

When God needed a prophet to minister to Paul about the trials he was facing, He did not use any of Philip's daughters, who often prophesy, even though Paul was staying there. God sent a mature prophet from the Jerusalem Church —the prophet Agabus (Acts 21:10-12). Because this was a weighty matter. The office of the prophet is one of the fivefold ministries given by Jesus to His church—not a spiritual gift.



Level 1 – all Christians can prophesy because we are God's sheep and we can hear his voice.

Level 2 – gift of prophesy – Christians who intentionally practiced in hearing God's voice and often prophesying over other people. They are growing in their accuracy of their prophesies.

Level 3 – the highest level of prophecy, ie the Office of a Prophet. Called and commissioned by God. And their local church or ministry where they serve, will clearly see the call and recognised and ordained them to be the Prophet of God. Prophets are a gift from Jesus to His church to train, equip and build the prophetic.

"The prophetic gift is not about being right all the time; it's about being faithful to relay/deliver what God is saying."

Monica Ramirez

F. Basic Prophetic Protocols

But everything should be done in a fitting and orderly way.

1 Corinthians 14:40 (NIV)

Therefore, in the prophetic too, we should have some guidelines.

The Apostle Paul says...

... the one who prophesies speaks to people for their strengthening, encouraging and comfort.

1 Corinthians 14:3 (NIV)

In a New Covenant context, our prophetic words should always be within these boundaries.

Strengthen

... to strongly encourage and build someone up in love. English definition “to strengthen is to become more powerful” God has created mankind in his image, everyone deserves to feel powerful.

Encourage

To put courage into someone, to call them near. When courage comes from God fear must leave!

Comfort

To bring someone into a safe and secure place where their deepest needs can be met Where anxiety, inner turmoil and distress are replaced with peace.

PROPHECY is a love language of God

Prophecy is one of the love languages of God. People should feel loved by Him and know He cares for them when they receive a prophecy. Prophecies are not just words, but an impartation of who God is. It is a granting, a releasing God’s presence to those we are prophesying to.

“People are impressed by the accuracy we have; heaven is impressed with the love we demonstrate.”

Julian Adams

Here are some good guidelines for giving encouraging prophetic words:

DON'T give directive prophetic words

Don't give specific instructional prophetic words e.g. You should resign from your work and start a business now. Avoid giving words about “Dates, mates and places e.g. by July 30th you will marry Mr A.

DON'T Give negative or judgemental words

e.g. “You have so much of doubt and low self-esteem. When you trust God more, He will bless you”.
“I see you have a lot of fear and depression. you need to have more faith in God...”

A word of knowledge is not a prophetic word.

Love and honour is our top priority and so our prophetic words should never be exposing, judgmental, condemning or negative or fearful. A sister told me that she was badly hurt by a negative so call “prophesy”. she became very scared of the prophetic ministry.

Don't shame them! The first thing you need to do is to ask the Holy Spirit for more explanation and how to release helpful prophetic solutions. Our God is a God of redemption.

Don't give controlling words

When we are prophesying, we do not need to say "Thus saith the Lord" or "God told me to tell you...." Always use words like "I feel like God wants to encourage you... or "I sense that you..." If you say "God says..." No one dares to say, "maybe not". "I don't think this word is for me..."

DO empower through love

Let your prophetic words empower those you are prophesying over with through love.

DO give people a choice

To receive and act in the word or not.

These protocols we are giving today is for those of us who are practicing to prophesy. We are learning how to hear God better. We are not a prophet. Recognised prophets can correct, give directional words, warnings, etc.

Summary

Here are some tips to follow:

- Be positive
- Be brief
- Be loving
- Be kind
- Be humble
- Be bold in trusting God

G. Calling Out the Gold

Our role is to allow the Holy Spirit to use the prophetic through us to draw out the treasure (gold) in people's lives.

What is the gift, identity, calling that God has deposited in that person we are prophesying to?

Prophecy is all about connecting with Jesus in intimacy and revealing His love for people. If we develop a sharpness in all the gifts of the Holy Spirit just for performance's sake, with no consideration of others, we will be no difference to the psychic or fortune teller who perform for money and name's sake. Prophecy is for the building of God's kingdom; not our own.



All prophesy is not just information, or giving someone a clue as to what to break off, etc. Prophesy is about placing the Lord Jesus on His throne in a particular situation. It is to release His nature to occupy that situation on earth. We are not information giver; we are bringing the substance of the eternal to earth now.

Or do you show contempt for the riches of his kindness, forbearance and patience, not realizing that God's kindness is intended to lead you to repentance?

Romans 2:4 (NIV)

This foundation of God's goodness should also be the foundation for prophetic ministry. Instead of calling out people's sins, we should remind them that God is good that He wants to set them up and not pull them down.

It is easy to find sins, problems in peoples' lives. But it takes God's perspective, his eyes to see the goodness He has planted inside of them. God wants to save people, not condemn them!

For example, the story of the Samaritan woman at the well (John 4). Jesus could have easily condemned her, but instead He gave her a future and a hope! Through His kindness, she is transformed and invites her whole village to believe in this Jesus, who gave her the word of knowledge and moved in the prophetic.

You can read about the story of Gideon in Judges 15. This is your homework. Study what was going on with Gideon and what did God call him? It says the angel of the Lord came to him. Therefore, everything this angel is saying to Gideon is what God is saying to him. Find out how Gideon from behaving as a coward to becoming the Mighty Warrior, God has called him to be.

How does Heaven see you? What are you known as in heaven? You will be surprised that your heavenly name is much greater than what you are called on earth or known for.

H. Activation

Give out paper and pen to everyone. Tell them that I have chosen one specific person to receive a prophetic word to. Pray for them to receive a prophetic word. Try not to guess. You don't need to know who this person is. God already knows.

Take one minute to ask God to give you a prophetic word. It can be an impression, a vision or a thought. DO NOT OVERTHINK! Just write down the first thing that comes to you. We have prayed and ask God; we now trust that God is speaking to us. Allow free flow of heavenly messages come to them.

Stop after 1 ½ minutes.

Tell them that this special person whom the prophetic word is for is THEM.

2. RECEIVING REVELATION

A. Communicating with God

God communicates with us in many different ways.

To communicate really means sharing or exchanging information, news, or ideas. With God, we are listening to his heartbeat. He invites us into a dialogue, a conversation with him. We are always free to ask him questions or for clarification.

God is Multi-lingual

Of course, God speaks all languages. He created them all.

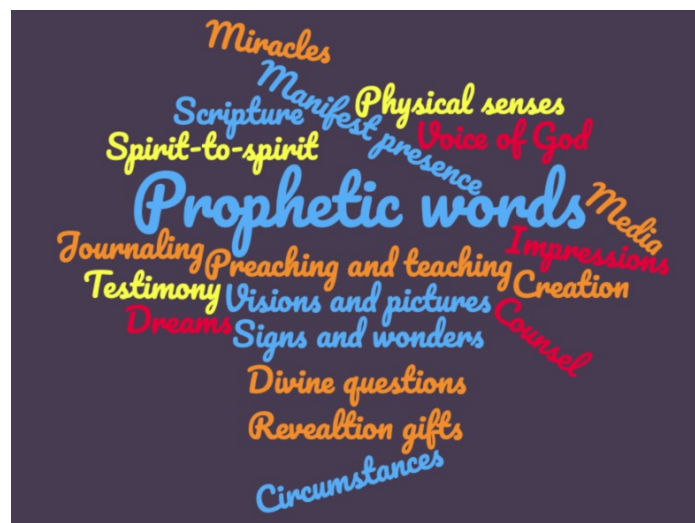
I encourage you to be hungry enough to keep learning from the Holy Spirit's languages. Go through the Bible for yourself and search out the many ways that God communicates with people.

Time spent with God will tune us to the ways he expresses himself to us. Do you want to know how God feels about someone? Do you want to know his views about the current situation? Spend time with Him. Stop talking and just listen!

...his feet were like burnished bronze, refined in a furnace, and his voice was like the roar of many waters.

Revelation 1:15 (ESV)

John tried to describe the voice of Jesus to us. Sometimes the Lord speaks loudly, sometimes softly. Will explore today some of His ways of sharing His desires with us. Remember, once He starts to reveal something to us, He also expects us to dialogue with Him. Father God longs for relationship with us, not use us like robots.



God loves to CONNECT with us - have a heart relationship with each one of

The Ways God Communicates with Us

God Speaks through His Word

Jesus is the Word and very often He will speak to us through The Bible while we are reading it.

All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

2 Timothy 3:16-17 (NIV)

Dave & I often ask God for a scripture for friends' or family members' birthday. Sometimes the scripture becomes the inspiration for a prophetic word. Many times, we have heard back from them that God has been emphasising the same scripture to them.

God speaks through His Voice

God trained the little Samuel to hear his audible voice. We can read that in 1 Samuel chapter 3:7-9. God called him by name three times. One thing that old Eli taught Samuel right was to respond to the voice of God. God speaks, we must respond.

God can speak audibly or in our inner being. You might feel as if you have heard Him saying something to you on the inside.

Christians get confused whenever this question is asked "What is God saying to you?". Often, hearing God does not only limit to us hearing through your natural or spiritual ears. Hearing God speak also means seeing and feeling. Therefore, if I ask you "what is God saying to you?", I mean what are you feeling, seeing and hearing from God?

God speaks through visions & pictures

A vision happens when you see a picture, a mental image, a full moving picture. The key is to dedicate our imagination to God.

The Bible is full of these kinds of experiences.

"In a vision he has seen a man named Ananias come and place his hands on him to restore his sight."

Acts 9:12 (NIV)

While Ananias was praying, Jesus spoke to him in a vision about Saul. A word of knowledge was mingled with prophesy in this passage of scripture (Acts 9). The current situation and the future of what Saul will become was told to Ananias.

By the time Ananias came to Saul, he confidently addressed him as "Brother Saul" because Jesus had told him heaven's plan for Saul. Prophecies from the Lord will give us courage to do what He asks of us.

God speaks through impressions

I believe this is the number-one way most people hear from God. An impression is having God download something to you. God “impresses” something on us. We call it the inner knowing.

How many times, have you felt an impression and just know that you know that something was about to happen? Or that you have a check in your heart about a stranger? That was God speaking to your feeling.

Most people have experienced the phenomenon of suddenly thinking about someone they have not seen or heard from FOR years. You have a “feeling” that you will see this person again. then "by chance" encountering that person later that same day or week.

Pay attention to people who drop into your mind or memory out of the blue. That could be God telling you that you are about to see them again, pray for them or give them a prophetic word. Ask God what this person needs to hear from Him.

What many people think are coincidences are prophetic impressions from God. What would happen if you began recognising the impressions you receive as being from God? He would begin using you to speak to people that He wants to touch.

I often receive impressions – a strong sense of a need to pray for someone. It could be before a meeting, or a ministry time. This is what we call prophetic intercession.

God Speaks through Dreams

Dreams are one of the languages that God uses to communicate with us. When we are asleep, we are not distracted. The Lord can speak to us however and whatever long He likes. For God speaks again and again, though people do not recognise it.

*For God speaks again and again,
though people do not recognise it.
He speaks in dreams, in visions of the night,
when deep sleep falls on people
as they lie in their beds.
He whispers in their ears ...*

Job 33:14-16a (NLT)

Throughout the Bible we read about dreams God gave to direct someone’s path, to give them warnings, to show them what was about to happen, and God has used the gift of interpreting dreams to open doors of favour for Joseph and Daniel.



In Genesis alone, there are 21 dreams recorded. God even spoke to King Abimelech warning him not to touch Sarah, Abraham's wife. God spoke to Pharaoh in a dream too. God gave him two dreams about the coming famine. These are not followers of God. God can speak to whoever he likes. Everyone dreams!

God is the revealer of mysteries

Daniel interpreted Nebuchadnezzar's dream.

In Daniel 2 we read about King Nebuchadnezzar who had a dream that frightened him. But he would not tell his wise men and magicians what the dream was but demanded that they must interpret his dream. When they could not tell him about his dream or what it meant, he killed them. Daniel heard about this and asked his best friends to pray and asked God for help.

In verse 19 of Daniel chapter 2, we read "19 During the night the mystery was revealed to Daniel in a vision. "It simply means Daniel had a dream about the King's dream. God unveil everything to Daniel in a dream. He knew what Nebuchadnezzar dreamed about and what it means. What was the result?

Vs 47 The king said to Daniel, "Surely your God is the God of gods and the Lord of kings and a revealer of mysteries, for you were able to reveal this mystery."

LET OUR GOD BE EXALTED THROUGH US!

Tips to Develop Clarity in Communicating with God

We will communicate with those we have relationship with. If we want to recognise God's voice faster and clearer, we must spend time with him. I know my husband, Dave so well, that when he speaks on the phone or in another room, I can recognise that he is speaking. I don't need to see his face to know that it was his voice. We must "know" our God in such a way that when He whispers, we can hear Him without doubt.

Spend Time to Wait on God ...

Select a special time and space in your home to spend time alone with God. It can be your room, a special chair you like. Find out if morning or other time better for you to focus on God that you are not easily distracted. Put your phone away. Here 's what I 've learned through it all: Don't give up; don't be impatient; be entwined as one with the Lord. Be brave and courageous, and never lose hope. Yes, keep on waiting—for he will never disappoint you!

It takes courage and determination to wait till we hear from God.

The only way a vine like (morning glory) can climb upwards is when it is entwined with a structure or fence next to it. In the same way, the only way to go upward spiritually is to lean on God, entwine and wrap us around God. Grow in love toward others ...

Grow in Love Towards Others

The spiritual gifts are given so we can effectively minister God's grace to people. As we grow in love for others, we are positioning ourselves to receive prophetic revelation from the Lord. God is always moved by compassion for people.

How many times have you heard this “where they are people, there will be trouble”? how about we change to saying, “where people are, there are blessings”?

Ask for God’s love for those you are ministering to. ...

“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind”; and ‘Love your neighbour as yourself.’” ...

Luke 10:27 (NIV)

We cannot minister to people we don’t love. As a matter of fact, I would say “Don’t prophesy over someone you are angry with! We will be influenced by the way we feel and see this person. Our prophetic words might be contaminated by our anger. It is very challenging to see good things happening for the people we dislike. Become a lover of the Word ...

Become a Lover of the Word of God

The Bible is our most sure word of prophecy. If we love God's Word and feed our soul on it, we will know God’s nature better and learn to prophesy with authority and accuracy.

How do I know if it is God’s voice?

Questions to ask ...

When a thought, an impression, a vision, a dream, an audible voice, etc. comes to you, ask these questions:

- Does it reflect who Jesus is?
- Does it bring people closer to Jesus?
- Do they line up with the word of God?
- When in doubt check with your spiritual leaders. Don’t be a loner.

B. Spiritual Senses

Learn to pay attention to how you receive from God.

Our advice is no matter which area you are currently moving in, try practicing seeing, sensing and hearing in the Spirit. Ask the Holy Spirit to grow you in the areas that you have not moved in before or are weak in. This will really help you to grow in this area of receiving revelation.

We all have both natural and spiritual senses

Sight

Sight (pictures / visions) e.g. seeing words over people. Christians who move in healing might see names of sicknesses in words form over people who need healing.

Smell

Smell e.g. fragrances, wine – a few times, Dave & I have smelled wine during offering time and communion in church. It was not because we used wine. It was supernatural and was showing us that the presence of Jesus was there. He was pleased with His people.

Hearing

Hearing (inner voice, audible voice) – one time when driving and crying and complaining about how difficult life was, I suddenly heard a very clear voice inside me asking if it was as painful as what Jesus went through on the cross. That stops my crying and complaining, and I seemed to have grace to face challenges from then onwards.

Taste

e.g. sweet / bitter – Ezekiel was given a scroll by the Lord to eat. It tasted sweet like honey in his mouth. Ezekiel 3

Touch

Touch / feeling (sensations such as hot or cold in your body). The first time my mother attended the church, she felt the hand of Jesus massaging her leg which was injured. She felt strength in her leg after that touch from God. I would often feel the fire of God on my hand whenever I pray for people.

C. Prophetic Triggers

Definition: Trigger

One of the dictionaries definitions of a trigger is: “an event or situation that causes something to start”

In the context of the prophetic this is very helpful. The starter gun in a race causes the race to start. In the same way a prophetic trigger starts of a prophetic word.



What is a prophetic trigger?

- Something that causes or starts the prophetic process.
- Something that gives the initial impetus to the prophetic.
- Something that captures our focus or attention that God is communicating with us

What do prophetic triggers do?

- Encourage us to take a step of faith to receive more revelation
- Come with the ability to step into a prophetic moment.
- Come with an anointing to begin the prophetic flow.

Next Steps

The prophetic trigger is just the start of the process although at times it can be the core of the revelation we receive.

Here are some steps we can take to cooperate with what God is doing when we sense a prophetic trigger. Of course this will depend on the context etc.

Ask the Holy Spirit

Ask the Holy Spirit questions like:

- Holy Spirit what are you doing / saying here?
- What does this mean?
- What does this mean to me? My experience e.g. scientist context...
- What is its function? e.g. clock gears (mesh together, one part causes another part to move)
What is its function?
- Who this is for?
- Write it down and come back to it later. Do some research
- Do some research online (history, meaning, other aspects)

Samuel turned to leave, Saul caught hold of the hem of his robe, and it tore. Samuel said to him, "The LORD has torn the kingdom of Israel from you today and has given it to one of your neighbours—to one better than you. He who is the Glory of Israel does not lie or change his mind; for he is not a human being, that he should change his mind."

1 Samuel 15: 27-29

We don't know whether Samuel already had the word for Saul, but the tearing of Saul's garment prompted Samuel to release the word at that moment. It was also a powerful prophetic picture of what had decided to do.

The next day as they were leaving Bethany, Jesus was hungry. Seeing in the distance a fig tree in leaf, he went to find out if it had any fruit. When he reached it, he found nothing but leaves, because it was not the season for figs. Then he said to the tree, "May no one ever eat fruit from you again." And his disciples heard him say it.

Mark 11:12-13

There are two general types of triggers:

- ## Internal Triggers

- Thoughts e.g. a highlighted thought
- Inner voice
- Impressions
- Colours we see
- Heightened awareness or sense e.g. anticipation of stepping into a God moment
- Questions e.g. a question that remains with you. What does this mean?
- Memories
- Inner prompting
- Dreams
- Inner stirring
- Pictures e.g. words or symbols over people:
- Discerning atmospheres e.g. a sudden manifest presence of God
- Emotions e.g. a sudden emotion that is not your own

Something that happens outside of us. Often perceived with our natural senses.



Word of Knowledge & Prophecy

People often confuse the word of knowledge with the gift of prophecy.

The word of knowledge describes something that took place in the past, a current circumstance, or a fact about someone's life. Prophecy is God speaking into the present and the future of a person – what is going to happen.

Prophecy is God speaking into the present and the future of a person – what is going to happen. Prophecy and word of knowledge can work together but should be treated differently. A word of knowledge is either right or wrong. They can give immediate feedback to the giver

Prophecy needs to be judged and then received and acted upon by the person receiving the prophetic word.

Word of Wisdom

The word of wisdom is the full intelligence of God that includes, practical applications, and the thoughts of God.

Word of wisdom is the supernatural wisdom of God into a specific situation – often where all human solutions have failed.

Word of Wisdom & Prophecy

Prophecy is normally broader, bringing encouragement and calling a person into their God given identity and destiny. As with all the gifts of the Holy Spirit there can be overlap as the gifts work together.

Discernment

... to another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits ...

The word "discern" means "to distinguish."

Many people have been taught that discerning of spirits is the ability to determine when someone has a demonic problem. This is an aspect of this gift, but it is not the full expression of discerning of spirits.

It also means to identify spiritual gifts and callings, or function like a word of knowledge in healing, identify angelic activity, the state of someone's heart, or the specific purpose of the Lord's presence in a meeting.

Discerning of Spirits and Prophecy

We first discern what God is doing and prophesy what He is saying. When our discernment is showing us something negative about that person, we need to remember that we should not use the prophetic to bring condemnation but restoration.

What is God's heart for the person?

We should take what God has revealed to us and ask Him to show His heart to us for the person.

E. Activation

A Gift from Jesus

Every gift God freely gives us is good and perfect, streaming down from the Father of lights, who shines from the heavens with no hidden shadow or darkness and is never subject to change.

James 1:17 (TPT)

Close your eyes, relax and focus your heart on the Lord.

Imagine Jesus is giving you a gift box.

What is the gift inside the gift box?

How is the Holy Spirit communicating with you?

A picture in your mind of the gift, a thought, impression, a voice speaking in your mind.

Maybe you see or sense a word.

Don't analyse too much. Allow the Holy Spirit to bubble up within you.

What is the purpose of this gift? Write down your thoughts.

Write down your thoughts.

Is there anything else God wants to say to you about this gift and its purpose?

Write down these thoughts as well

3. EXPRESSING the PROPHETIC

A. Revelation Interpretation Activation

There are three parts to receiving and delivering a prophetic word

- Revelation
- Interpretation
- Activation

Let's look at each of these as they are each important.

Let's look at Revelation first.

Revelation

We have already spent some time on this: This is the first step in receiving and giving a prophetic word. Revelation Something that is uncovered, revealed or shown to us by the Holy Spirit. ****Revelation**** simply means something that is uncovered, revealed or shown to us by the Holy Spirit.

We have already looked at the many ways we can receive revelation from God (Communicating with God / spiritual senses / prophetic triggers)

"The goal of revelation is so simple: See what God sees, hear what God hears, and speak what God speaks so we can all love the way God loves. Revelation is given to us so we can carry a piece of God's heart from eternity into the world."

Sean Boltz

Next is interpretation.

Interpretation

What does interpretation mean in the context of the prophetic?

Interpretation is asking:

- What does the revelation mean?
- How do we understand what we are receiving?
- What is God saying through the revelation?

This is a big topic, but here are some brief tips to help you interpret the revelation God gives to you for people.

Word of God

Use the Word of God to help you interpret the revelation (hide God's word in your heart so you ready).

Learn about symbols and metaphors in Scripture. The interpretation must be consistent with the Word of God.

Ask the Holy Spirit questions ...

Learn to have conversations with the Holy Spirit. What does this mean. Holy Spirit?

Experience and relationship with God

How do you know something is from God comes from your relationship with Him and your experience of what He is like.

What would He want to say through this revelation?

The interpretation must be consistent with who we know God to be. Would he say this? Practice and learn with others

Interpret the revelation together

Application

Lastly, we have application. There are two parts to application. The first is “how to deliver what God is giving us to share?” We can also call this prophetic expression.

Again, this is a big topic...

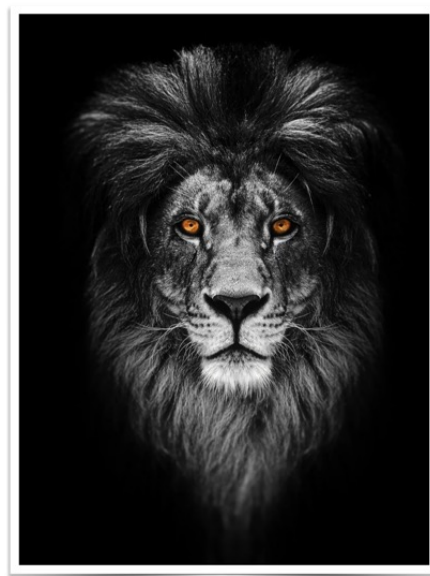
Here are some brief tips to help you deliver the prophetic words you receive

For me, for prayer or for others...

Is what I am receiving a prophetic word for others or something personally for me or to pray about?

Be bold and intentional

When you sense the word is for someone else the be bold and intentional. The righteous are as bold as a lion.



Wait for an appropriate opportunity and give the word. As long as it is encouraging and carries God's heart you will be OK.

When God stops speaking so should we...

When God stops speaking, so should we. If we do, that would be when we tend to add our own words to what God is saying.

What is the best way to give the prophetic word?

What is the best way to give the word that flows with what God is doing around me? How can I be sensitive to others? Sometimes we need to write down the words and send it later or give to the person another time.

Decide whether to share pictures you receive...

When you are receiving prophetic pictures ask the Holy Spirit for an interpretation and whether or not sharing the picture itself will be helpful for the person. For example, you see your friend in a red car speeding down the road with a big smile on her face. Without asking God for interpretation of what the car represents for her and why red colour, you said this to her : "I believe that God is going to give you a red car. You will be very happy driving it and it is a fast car."

Tone & demeanor

God uses our unique personality, our experiences and the love and anointing we carry in order to deliver the words we receive in a unique way. Our demeanor should match that of the Holy Spirit's. The tone of voice in which we say something to a person communicates just as much as the words themselves. We are communicating the TONE of the Lord

For example: If Father is wanting to communicate "comfort", speak gently and loving and not loudly or in a tone that expresses displeasure.

Use normal language

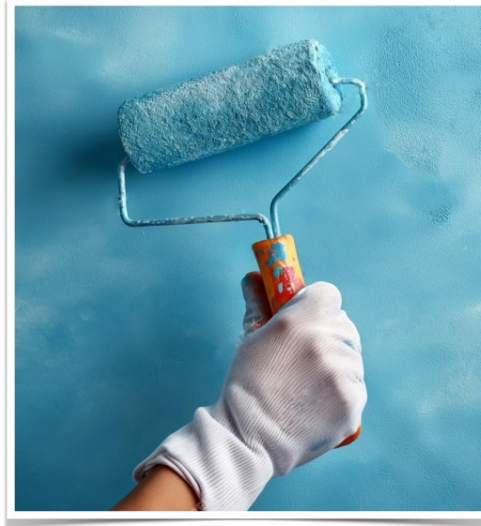
When giving prophetic words - be natural and be yourself. Use natural language. No need to say "Thus saith the Lord! Thou shouldst know the will of Thy God". I am exaggerating. I don't know if Chinese Bible has words that are so old that our Gen Z will scratch their heads when they hear them.

You can, "I sense the Lord is saying to you..."

Applying the prophetic word

What should the person do with what God is saying? How do they apply it.

This is something normally best left to person to decide.



Sometimes the Holy Spirit will give use something to share about how the person can apply the word. Make sure we are not directional (especially when we don't have a relationship with the person). Deliver what God gives you to deliver...

Later we will be looking at how to process prophetic words in our life. You can use this to help others as well.

B. Prophetic Expressions

Prophetic expressions are the ways we deliver the prophecies from God.

Some forms of prophetic expression can be written, audible, acted out, drawn, etc.

A word sent at the right time can be powerful. There were moments when missionary work was very tough for me and Dave. We felt like giving up and leave the mission field. But then we would receive an email from a friend telling us that God has put us on their hearts to pray. That sustained us and have kept us going for many years out there. Do not underestimate the power of your words.

Ways to Express the Prophetic

Here are some ways to express the prophetic. There are many more, but this is just a selection:

Cards

A word presented with beauty & care communicates something – some of you have the spirit of encouragement over you. Release that from what you can created with cards. Take time to do something beautiful and enjoy creating that for the person God might put in your heart. We used to draw simple arts on pieces of paper and carry them with us. We are not artist, but we want to be obedient to the Lord. You might have words like “God loves you”. “You are blessed!” “It is going to be ok.” When you come across someone in the supermarket, in the post office, or at your workplace and God reminds you this piece of paper that you have drawn, then it is time to take it out of your bag and give it to that person.

Giving

Meets a specific need at just the right time That powerfully taught us the love and generosity of Father God. We were not doing any ministry. We were on holiday. The whole trip was fully paid by another friend. Your giving of gifts or money can be prophetic delivering the message that God is their Jehovah Jireh. Or simply that God appreciates them. God is happy with them. God likes them

Writing

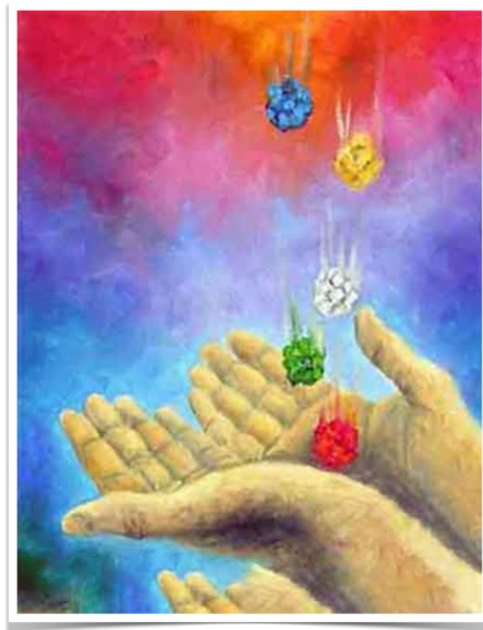
- Poetry
- Short story
- Blog

Digital delivery

WhatsApp, email etc.

Art

For example: paintings or drawings.



Scriptures

Using Scriptures to send a prophetic word to someone. The scripture is a prophetic word sent at the right time.

Intercession

Prophetic intercession is all about focusing on what God is doing. It is not rising from what we see and know about what the devil is doing or how bad the news is telling us. It is receiving supernatural intelligence from the Most High God. He is higher than the principality or territorial spirits.

From the perspectives of God, we then pray and declare into being what He is doing and what He is

wanting to do.

Prophetic acts

Our prophetic intercession might accompany some actions. You can read about God instructing Joshua to point his spear towards the city of Ai. God told him that He would give Joshua the city of Ai.

Or Jesus taking a handful of mud and spit on it and put it over the blindman's eyes and prayed for healing. Why do that? It was a prophetic action. Jesus told us that He will only do what He sees the Father do. He was being led by the Father and the Holy Spirit (John 9:19).

Songs & Music

Song content / lyrics

Anointing on the song (e.g. Breakthrough) eg The Lord bless you by Kari Jobe & Cody. Part of the lyrics say, "May His favor be upon you, and a thousand generations, and your family and your children, and their children, and their children." This is the heart of the Father for us; not covid. He did not send Covid to the world.

Songs can be an expression of God's heart and new revelation for the season.

Example: Good, good Father (prophetic declaration for the season)

C. Activation

Breadcrumb prophecy

Taken from an English saying "Trails of breadcrumbs" which means connected bits of information. Breadcrumbs from heaven is like asking God step by step for connected prophetic information.

Take one minute to ask God these questions and write down your answers for your partner.

Breadcrumb #1: Which Fruit? Which fruit do you "see?" If you are unsure if you are seeing something, just pick any fruit.

Breadcrumb #2: Describe it. What color, shape or texture is it? Take a moment to write down whatever details you see, big or small.

For example, if you see an apple, is it red, yellow, green or a mixture? Write down the details.

When you have finished please look up at me, so I know if most people have written down their answers.

Breadcrumb #3: Look inside. I want you to imagine yourself cutting the fruit in half. What does it look like on the inside (color, texture etc.)? Again, note as many details as you can and write them down.

Breadcrumb #4: Location. Where is it? It can be anywhere. Give yourself a moment. Ask the question, "Where is it?" and wait. Be expectant, God will show you!

It can be fruit in their hand, on a plate, fruit bowl, a children's picture book, mid-air, on the tree, and even the grocery store! If you're not sure, close your eyes again. Wait. What do you see? What is the FIRST thing that comes to mind? Describe or write down every detail that you see.

Now using this information that God just gave you, connect them together and make a sentence or

two as a prophecy for your partner.

Begin your prophetic word by saying something like this “I sense that God is saying to you.... or I feel like God is saying that you are like and durian. People will smell God’s presence even before they come close you.

What Do You See?

Look the following pictures:



What is the Holy Spirit highlighting to you?

Ask for a prophetic word from what you are seeing.

Write down what God is saying to then about the meaning.

Ask the Lord who to share this with.

What’s in a name?

Names carry a lot of meaning. The Holy Spirit can use them to trigger a prophetic word for someone.

- **Meaning of a name** - David (beloved of God). e.g. God is bringing you into a new season where you will experience His deep and intimate love.
- **Sounds similar:** e.g. Lee Siew Qian (Lee - The Lord will lead you to green pastures where you will experience supernatural peace and provision).
- **Famous or Bible characters** e.g. Caleb - O sense you taking new territory for the Lord.

STEP 1

Find a partner (someone you don't know well)

STEP 2

Share your name and meaning.

Share your name (Chinese and English) and any meaning you know with each other.

STEP 3

Ask the Lord for a prophetic encouragement based on their name.

Use the meaning / sounds like or a Bible meaning

(keep it short and encouraging)

STEP 4

Share the word with the other person.

Remember to use: I sense the Lord is saying to you...

4. PROCESSING the PROPHETIC

A. What to do with your prophetic words...

What to do with your prophetic words...

What is prophecy?

Broadly and simply, prophecy means "truth from God spoken through another person". The Bible is a unique revelation from God unlike any other. No accurate prophetic word will contradict what God is communicating in the Bible and no prophecy will ever judge the Bible or be considered God's word in the way the Bible is. The Bible stands alone and is greater than any prophetic word and is properly used to judge them.

In 1 Corinthians 14 we see that prophecy is for strengthening, encouragement, comfort, and edification of the believer and to help unbelievers encounter God. It might be about the future, but many times it isn't. You may receive a "word of knowledge" which is information you already know but encourages your faith in the moment that God knows you and is speaking to you.

All Christians can hear from the Holy Spirit. In prophecy we hear from the Holy Spirit for another person. According to John 14-16 we may be reminded of what Jesus said, given new information, sometimes it is information we know but it's what the Spirit is currently hearing in heaven, and sometimes the information is about the future.

Who is ministering to you?

The apostle Paul urged everyone in the Corinthian church to "follow the way of love and eagerly desire spiritual gifts, especially the gift of prophecy" (1 Cor. 14:1). As with all of God's gifts, some people are more gifted than others, but all Christians have gifts like prophecy and become better and better at using them. This is likely the situation of the person who prophesies to you - they may not be a prophet but are growing in the gift of prophecy. Every believer can prophesy, but no one may appoint himself or herself a prophet. The role or office of "prophet" is different than a believer who is simply ministering in the gift of prophecy. Prophets are formally empowered in the church if it recognizes the character, gifts and call on their life. They are then accountable to that church for their ministry. Even the best prophets are not completely accurate all the time and humbly admit it. Prophetic teams seek to grow in their humility, reliance on God, and realize, that just like all the gifts of the Spirit, we don't practice them perfectly.

How should you respond when receiving prophecy?

If the prophecy is just plain wrong or your spirit is deeply troubled, you should feel the freedom to explain your concern right there in moment, as it is not wise to pretend a word is right or helpful when it is not. The person prophesying may just be wrong. Some words take a long time to come to pass and feel wrong right up until they are correct. However, if it becomes apparent it was an incorrect

word, you have the option to let the one who prophesied know, as this feedback may be helpful to them.

What's your responsibility after you receive a word?

You are a participant in prophecy - it is not "one-way" communication.

Prophetic culture is successful because it involves two powerful people who hear from God. The one who gives "the word" and the one who gets the word. You are responsible to judge the prophecy and decide how accurate it is and what sort of weight to give it. Does it follow the instruction of 1 Corinthians in that it is edifying, encouraging and/or comforting? Do you experience strength from the Lord in hearing and recalling it? If not, all or part of it might be an incorrect word that you should dismiss.

Prophetic words must be judged, as they may be all correct, partially correct or all wrong.

Don't easily dismiss prophetic words because they are big, or you can't reason how God will do something. Discernment is not merely a matter of taste or previous experience. Accurate prophecies are often outside our box and /or comfort zone. But at least twice, the New Testament church was commanded to receive and then evaluate the prophecies given to them. "Do not put out the Spirit's fire; do not treat prophecies with contempt. Test everything. Hold on to the good. Avoid every kind of evil." (1Thess. 5:19-22). "Two or three prophets should speak, and the others should weigh carefully what is said" (1 Cor. 14:29).

We suggest you discern them with Scripture, your spirit (the inner part of you that was dead but became alive when you were saved), your faith, discussions with God, your reasoning (which is growing more like God's reasoning), what God has previously told you, and the input of your leaders, family, and friends. Relying solely or too heavily on prophecy to make significant decisions is a mistake. They are a part of the information you need but not all you need. All the ways God leads us are equally important and supernatural. They should not take a backseat to prophecy.

Prophecy has an emotional dimension to it too, so it is good to let the emotions settle a bit before you come to any conclusions. Some Christians have unwisely chosen career, ministry, or marriage when they don't love it and have no respect or vision for it simply because they believe "God said so". Test the word you are given.

We don't prophesy perfectly or receive prophecy perfectly.

God is communicating truth through imperfect people to imperfect people! Those receiving the prophecy might misunderstand the word because they ignore the context and/or just grab what they want to hear. Or they may want a specific answer, so they twist the prophecy to make it fit. They may come with an agenda and expect God to address it. Often, God is answering questions or saying things He knows to be key, but aren't the things we are interested in. He knows our hearts but will often bring up the things that are on His heart rather than ours!

Sometimes prophetic words require our participation or contain conditions required for their fulfillment.

It is a dance with the Lord. You partner with God to see things come to pass without taking over. Conditions may be in your control or out of your control. For example, a promise from the Lord might

require you to forgive someone - that's in your control. Other times the condition is out of your hands, and it is important that you do not strive to make it happen. You must trust God with the outcome. Talk to Him about the word and let Him bring it to pass in His own way and time. If the word is not from Him, or outside your control, it won't do any good to worry about it. Sometimes, we are given information that, without being exact, leads us to exercise faith in each direction. Prophecy always reveals the love and leadership of God in our lives and spurs us to partner with Him in faith.

Review the recording of the prophecy.

We recommend that, if possible, you record the prophecy, so that you can listen to it again later. We also recommend that you transcribe the word as you can get more insight when reading it. Value it and hold it before the Lord.

B. Relationship with God

God is always more interested in our relationship with Him as son & daughters than He is with merely imparting information. A prophetic word is NOT just a method God uses to deliver instructions us – a divine messaging system.

A prophetic word is the powerful and personal heart and voice of God communicating impart to us. It comes with the fullness of His heart, love and passionate desire to know Him and be known.

Prophetic processing is part of a life process of knowing God and walking together with Him into our destiny. Have you ever received a prophetic word but didn't know what to do with it? We need to ask the question, "What part to you need to play in bringing this prophetic word to pass?"

C. Capture Weigh Process Activate

Receiving a prophetic word has four parts:

- Capture
- Weigh
- Process
- Activate

Capture our Prophetic Words

The first step in receiving a prophetic word is to CAPTURE it.

Timothy, my son, I am giving you this command in keeping with the prophecies once made about you, so that by recalling them you may fight the battle well...

1 Timothy 1:18 (NIV)

How was Timothy to recall his prophetic words and apply them (fight the battle well)? By capturing them. We do this by writing them down, memorising them. Storing them in our hearts.

When we receive a prophetic word there can be an immediate encouragement & blessing. It is always wonderful to experience God using someone else to speak to us personally, but that is just the first step. There is so much more available from God in a prophetic word for us.

The more effort you put into capturing your prophetic words the more you will benefit from them. The more we value the words from God, the more effort we will put in to capturing the prophetic words.



This will give the Holy Spirit more to work with as we process and apply the words.

Let's get practical. How do we capture our prophetic words well?

- RECORD them...
- TYPE or WRITE them out KEEP them where you can find them...
- RECORD them (iPhones are a tool for the Kingdom!)
- TYPE them out (or ask the person giving them to recall what they can and send it to you).
- KEEP your words together in a place where you can get to them easily. Phone / laptop / journal process

Weigh our Prophetic Words

I believe this “recalling involves - discovering what our prophetic words mean and what God is saying about us and what is available to us. Two or three prophets should speak, and the others should weigh carefully what is said.

Do not treat prophecies with contempt but 1 Thessalonians 5:19-22 hold on to what is good, reject every kind of evil.

1 Thessalonians 5:19-22 (NIV)

Two or three prophets should speak, and the others should weigh carefully what is said. Do not treat prophecies with contempt but test them all; hold on to what is good, reject every kind of evil.

1 Corinthians 14:29 (NIV)

“**Weigh**” Greek: diakrino

It means to determine, try, decide, to separate, make a distinction. We should accept the parts of a prophetic word that are from the Lord and reject the parts that are not.



We use the term flushing. Accept whatever is from God, flush what is not!

Weighing Questions

Ask yourself these kinds of questions as you weigh the prophetic words you receive.

Is it consistent with the revelation of the Word of God? If not FLUSH IT!

Is it in line with God's nature and character - who we know Him to be through our relationship with him. Would my good, loving father say this to me? Even correction or realignment should have the embrace of the Father attached to the word. Does it strengthen us, build us up and give comfort?

Does it strengthen us, build us up and give comfort? (1 Corinthians 14:3).

Does the word pass the "love test" If a word exposes us, brings up failure or is dishonouring or embarrassing this means it is not wrapped in love (even if parts are true). God's words will always have the ring of His amazing love. Does it call out the gold in your life or expose the dirt?

Answering these questions WELL will help us decide which words or aspects of words are truly the heart of the Father for us. Does it call out the gold in your life or expose the dirt. If it is exposing the dirt and leaves you feeling condemned, then flush it.

Does it resonate with my spirit and bring hope? Some future words may be harder to receive, but should still have a hope aspect that we identify with?

Does it confirm or build on my known God-given identity?

Does the word line up with other significant prophetic words that I received? (principle of the testimony of two or more witnesses)?

Once we have weighed our words through this kind process, we can confidently place our weight (trust) on them as God's words.

They can become steppingstones into our destiny in God.



Process our Prophetic Words

What do we do with the prophetic words we have captured?

Timothy, my son, I am giving you this command in keeping with the prophecies once made about you, so that by recalling them you may fight the battle well...

1 Timothy 1:18 (NIV)

We can neglect our prophetic words simply because we don't know what to do with them and they remain "on the shelf" What is available to us?

God's Promises

God loves to make promises. He is the promise keeper. Prophetic words come with God's promises. God's promises are usually conditional in some way. That is, there are things we need to do to see them fulfilled in our lives. God loves us to be a part of the AMEN to His promises. What do I need to do?

Question to ask: What do I need to do to position myself to see this promise fulfilled?

Activate our Prophetic Words

Finally, the last part of receiving our prophetic words is to "activate" them Timothy, my son, I am giving you this command in keeping with the prophecies once made about you, so that by recalling them you may fight the battle well...

Timothy, my son, I am giving you this command in keeping with the prophecies once made about you, so that by recalling them you may fight the battle well...

1 Timothy 1:18 (NIV)

I believe in this context, "fight the battle well" involved Timothy applying the prophetic words had received to his life.

Timothy needed to live out his prophetic words. They needed to be activated in his life so he could become the person God designed Him to be.

God may very well be waiting for you to move in response to His voice. Do your part and he will do His. Dare to dream big. Dream a God-sized dream based on who God says you are and what you can do share your words with someone who believes in you...

Spend time praying through your words and promises. Declare them over yourself.

D. Activation

Find a trusted friend who is also a believer.

- Share your prophetic words with one another.
- Look for promises and ways God is speaking to your identity.
- Weigh the words together.
- Process the words. What is God saying to you?
- What practical step could they take?
- Pray and declare the word over the other person