

The Revelatory Gifts

(prayer) Isaiah 64:1 rend(tear) the heavens and come down. It's a prayer revivalist have prayed for centuries and is still prayed when seeking revival

In Mark 1 Jesus was baptized in water and when he came up out of the water he sees the heavens part and the HS came like a dove and remained and he heard the Fathers voice say this is my Son in whom I am pleased. Jesus saw something that was actually an answer to Isaiah's prayer. The Spirit of God came down upon Jesus. He did not do one miracle prior to this Holy Spirit encounter. He made a way for every one of us to access the Father through the Holy Spirit. Now Holy Spirit empowers each of us with his presence and with gifts.

A WORD OF WISDOM

Not the word of wisdom but "**A**" **word of wisdom** (Greek translation) a supernatural revelation, by the Holy Spirit, of the will/plan of God for a particular situation and goes beyond natural wisdom. It is the wisdom of God.

Proverbs 4:7 The beginning of wisdom is this: get wisdom. Though it cost you all you have, get understanding

James 1:5 If any of you lacks wisdom let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given to him.

Isaiah 11:2 And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.

In Matthew, we see Jesus being confronted by the Pharisees who are trying to trick Jesus into saying something that will certainly get him into trouble but we see Jesus using wisdom in the moment.

Matt 22:15-22 "Let's ask Him in front of the people if it is lawful to pay taxes to Caesar." Knowing that every Jew hated paying taxes to Caesar, it was a sore spot-it was an irritant. "And if He answers 'Yes, it is lawful,' then He will lose His popular appeal among the people. They will all shun Him. If He says 'No,' then we can report Him to the Roman government because He is leading a tax revolt

and He will be charged by Rome for the crime." They thought they had the perfect question.

We want to know, is it lawful for us to pay taxes to Caesar?" Jesus said, "Got a coin?" They gave Him a coin and He held it up and He said, "Whose image is that on the coin?" They said, "It is Caesar's." He flipped it back to them and said, "Alright, give to Caesar what is Caesar's. And give to God what things are God's." With a word of wisdom Jesus just answered the situation so righteously. It is just the gift of the word of wisdom.

1 Kings 3:16 Solomon the word of wisdom was manifested when 2 women came to him claiming the baby was theirs.

²³ The king said, "This one says, 'My son is alive and your son is dead,' while that one says, 'No! Your son is dead and mine is alive.'"

²⁴ Then the king said, "Bring me a sword." So, they brought a sword for the king. ²⁵ He then gave an order: "Cut the living child in two and give half to one and half to the other."

²⁶ The woman whose son was alive was deeply moved out of love for her son and said to the king, "Please, my lord, give her the living baby! Don't kill him!"

But the other said, "Neither I nor you shall have him. Cut him in two!"

²⁷ Then the king gave his ruling: "Give the living baby to the first woman. Do not kill him; she is his mother."

²⁸ When all Israel heard the verdict the king had given, they held the king in awe, because they saw that he had wisdom from God to administer justice.

Acts 15 – Judaizers went to the gentile church and created a problem. They said that unless they became Jews and became circumcised they could not be saved. So Paul and Barnabas went to the church council (first) to determine what relationship gentiles should have to the Mosaic law. Peter shared how God led him to the Gentiles and that they were saved and filled with HS. Paul and

Barnabas testified of their ministry among the gentiles and finally James spoke and said...

Acts 15:19 "It is my judgment, therefore, that we should not make it difficult for the Gentiles who are turning to God. ²⁰ Instead we should write to them, telling them to abstain from food polluted by idols, from sexual immorality, from the meat of strangled animals and from blood. ²¹ For the law of Moses has been preached in every city from the earliest times and is read in the synagogues on every Sabbath."

The solution James gave was a word of wisdom and the result was the division was stopped.

- The Gift of the word of wisdom enables one to express the Holy Spirit's revelation/answers to either an individual or to a group of people, church, etc., in a way that surpasses any previous "natural ability" to input into the situation. **It carries the mark of the wisdom of God! And God's wisdom is greater than all other wisdom known to man.**

I Cor. 2:6-7, We do, However, speak a message of wisdom among the mature, but NOT the wisdom of the age or the rulers of this age, who are coming to nothing. No, we declare God's wisdom, a mystery that has been hidden and that God destined for our glory before time began.

In the natural, natural knowledge without wisdom can be extremely dangerous. *Knowledge* has allowed us to create nuclear weapons that can destroy mankind. *Wisdom* will prevent us from using those weapons because it will destroy mankind.

There is a difference between a Word of Knowledge and A Word of Wisdom

A Word of Knowledge is the supernatural accumulation of facts. A Word of Wisdom is the proper use of the facts.

It's a supernatural impartation by the Holy Spirit for a particular situation. It is seeing life from God's perspective. It is the wisdom of God. You cannot earn it, study for it or gain it from experience. It is received from God through prayer.

Provides insight, guidance and counsel.

- Gives insight on how existing knowledge may be best applied in a given situation.
- Compliments the word of knowledge
- When we receive a word of knowledge it is often necessary to seek a word of wisdom to know how to apply the word of knowledge.

Quote from The Harvest by Rick Joyner

"One of the least emphasized but most important gifts of the Spirit is the gift of a word of wisdom. This is the supernatural impartation of the mind of Christ into specific situations. This is a more subtle and less spectacular gift than the word of knowledge or the power gifts, but without it the others may be rendered less effective, or even counterproductive in accomplishing God's purposes."

A WORD OF KNOWLEDGE - A word of knowledge is simply knowing a fact, revealed by the Holy Spirit, of which we had no prior knowledge.

Knowledge is similar to wisdom, but is knowledge not wisdom.

A word of knowledge is:

- A definite conviction, impression or divine knowing.
- A supernatural insight or understanding of circumstances, situations or problems.
- A divine piece of information about the past or present.

- Given to accomplish a specific purpose. *The Lord can show someone the sickness of a person present and when it is spoken out it gives faith to the person needing healing.*

"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. Sometimes when we prophesy, someone can mistakenly think that the prophecy wasn't accurate because it was not something that is currently happening, or has ever happened in that person's life. Pure prophecy is about the **future**. If the prophetic word lacks an element of something that has already taken place, this simply means that the word of knowledge was not part of the delivery.

Often a prophetic word can include both a Word of Knowledge (the past) and a Word of Prophecy (of a future event). The Word of Knowledge can bring credibility to the Word of Prophecy. An example of this is when Jesus spoke to the woman at the well

The woman said to Him, "Sir, give me this water, so I will not be thirsty nor come all the way here to draw." He said to her, "Go, call your husband and come here." The woman answered and said, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You have correctly said, 'I have no husband'; for you have had five husbands, and the one whom you now have is not your husband; this you have said truly." (Right here is the word of knowledge) The woman said to Him, "Sir, I perceive that You are a prophet. "Our fathers worshiped in this mountain, and you people say that in Jerusalem is the place where men ought to worship." Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe Me, an hour is coming when neither in this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. "You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. "But an hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for such people the Father seeks to be His worshipers. "God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth." (Here is the prophecy) The

woman said to Him, "I know that Messiah is coming (He who is called Christ); when that One comes, He will declare all things to us." Jesus said to her, "I who speak to you am He." (John 4:15-26)

The prophetic word causes a come to Jesus meeting immediately, you either believe or don't believe.

Knowledge requires a response from the person it is given to. The word of knowledge should ground people in the love of God. The information given should make them feel connected to God and known by God.

After the woman left Jesus she went into the city and said told everyone, "Come, see a man who told me all the things that I have done; (John 4:29). This statement was not true as Jesus did not tell her "everything" she had done. The impact of the Word of Knowledge was that powerful!!

Ways we receive a word of knowledge

- **Feel It** - A sympathetic pain in some part of the body, a throbbing sensation, a strong emotion such as fear or panic
- **See It** - Mental picture such as a body part, perhaps a heart, foot, etc.
 - A picture of a person with a condition such as a limp
 - A crutch, wheelchair, eyeglasses
 - An unusual item such as a paintbrush, bicycle, etc.
- **Read It** - A person with a word written across his body or above. It may look like a newspaper headline, banner or sign
- **Think It** - You may have a mental impression of a condition
- **Say It** - While talking or praying the Holy Spirit starts speaking and you hear it for the first time
- **Hear it** - Can be the still small voice

How to Deliver a Word of Knowledge

Let's look at some practical ways of operating in the Word of Knowledge effectively. It is important to keep in mind that we are not perfect there are times we may miss it. We do not want to damage people's lives (first do no harm!).

- Model humility

We are human and we may miss it. Even if we feel that we are 100% sure of our word, always be gentle and humble.

- It is ok to be tentative in speaking out the word.

Do not be afraid to admit that you are nervous. Speaking the Word of Knowledge in a strong manner does not make it more anointed.

- Don't let your fear rob the person of their blessing.
- Avoid speaking negative words or words that may bring fear upon a person.

Death and life are in the power of the tongue (Prov 18:21)

The Word of Knowledge when handled properly is of great value, but when handled improperly can bring condemnation and can ~~be~~^{speaking out} a curse upon people.

- Speak in natural tones

Avoid hype and avoid "Christianeese" style of language.

Practice as if you were speaking to someone outside of the Body of Christ. Allow the supernatural power of God to flow from you without scaring people with "spiritual weirdness" or excess.

- Ask the Lord for the right timing to deliver the Word of Knowledge

Psalms 104:27 says; "They all wait for You, to give them their food in due season." God has a due season or a right timing when the people's heart has been properly prepared to receive.

- The Word of Knowledge can come very quickly and vague.

Press into the word asking the Lord for more revelation. The more specific the word, the more faith it will build.

- **Do not add your own interpretation or opinion.**

There is a difference between further revelation from the Lord and your own interpretation.

- The word you give may make no sense to you.

Avoid the temptation to modify the word so that the word brings understanding to you.

- Resist the thought that the word you have is not important or it is just you.
- Remember, breath mints are anointed!

PROPHECY- It is a supernatural revelation of the voice of God that brings instruction, exhortation, edification and comfort. Prophecy is a divinely inspired utterance or revelation. All true prophecy is the revelation of Jesus. It is the testimony of what Jesus is saying.

*The Hebrew word **prophecy** means to flow forth or to bubble forth like a fountain.*

The 5 fold gifts are given by Jesus. Pastors, Evangelists, Prophets, Teachers, Apostles. These are given specifically to the church and are actually people given to the church with these gifts.

The 9 gifts given to believers are from the Holy Spirit. We all have access to the 9 gifts of the Holy Spirit **if** we have relationship with Holy Spirit.

Every gift is for every believer when it is needed. When Jesus died and the Holy Spirit was released, ^{at Pentecost} we received the whole package. Some people have a stronger anointing/calling in one gift or another.

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It takes 3 things to have a ministry I Cor.1:1

Calling – gives you your identity, it's who you are not what you do. God chooses your calling.

Gift – gives you your ability, Rom 11:29 says the gifts and callings are irrevocable

Anointing – gives you your purpose (something to do) and can ebb and flow with my relationship with ^{H.S.}~~Jesus~~. The HS is in every believer but the HS is not "on" every believer.

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A Prophet – A gift given by Jesus to the church.

Gift of Prophecy – A gift given by Holy Spirit to Spirit filled believers. It's a gift, it's not an award. You do not do anything to get it except ask for it. Anyone can do this. A prophet is something I am, the gift of prophecy is something I do.

There are 2 separate gifts of prophecy

1. The office of a prophet

- Is a gift given by Christ to the church as a part of the five fold ministry of the church. The office of a prophet can only be given by Jesus, You do not "step into" the gift. You cannot receive it through impartation, only Jesus can give this gift. Sometimes you are gifted and called before you are recognized in the office. Until you have a mantle (of the office) you are not a prophet to anyone but you. A prophet by nature is a leader and he who leads, but has no followers is just taking a walk! A mantle (supernatural ability and grace to operate in a way you couldn't normally operate) is for a ^{Purpose}~~mission~~. A mantle is typically given to you by God and by man and should never be self promoting. God will protect those he promotes, you however can promote yourself out of your protection.

- It can be given to a man or a woman.
- A prophet teaches and equips the body of Christ. They are called specifically to the church to equip and then send out.
- A Prophet will operate in the word of wisdom, knowledge, revelation, predictions, discerning of spirits, visions and confirmations. All of these will be a part of their ministry.

Confirmations are blessings on a life. Speaking over another's life.

Confirming another person in to ministry. Speaking a prophetic utterance over a person helps prevent the demonic attack to destroy the ministry before it even begins.

2. The gift of prophecy - *(1 Cor. 14:1,5) "Make love your aim, and earnestly desire the spiritual gifts, especially that you may prophesy ... so that the church may be edified" (1 Corinthians 14:1, 5).*

Is a gift of the Holy Spirit

We only need to earnestly desire this gift.

We just need to ask for it. Ask daily to flow in this gift. God loves to give good gifts. Paul says to covet earnestly the best gifts. This is the first step to developing the gift of prophecy. You have to really want it. Then release your faith. You cannot prophecy without faith. Rom 12: 6,8 says we prophecy according to the proportion of our faith.

I Cor. 14 says we can ALL prophesy – It is not just for an elite few!! It is for all!!

Having the gift of prophecy is not a sign of spiritual purity. There are many who are not spiritually pure, but prophecy accurately. Use discernment and test the word.

We need integrity to prophesy so we prophesy in love.

Love is not a gift. Love is a way (of life). Part of prophetic training should be building up integrity so we prophesy in love. Prophecy is the easiest gift to abuse. The gifts are not toys they are tools to get the jobs done.

We can say the Lord said this to me or God told you to do that and most people will receive it as if from God. We are to test the prophetic word that was given to make sure it's true.

There is a prophetic river that flows from the throne of God and that river is accessed by faith.

The keys to successful prophetic ministry are:

- **Personal intimate relationship with Jesus in the secret place**

That is the greatest call on our life. We also learn what His voice sounds like in the secret place. We will recognize our Shepherd's voice. You can go to 100 conferences and receive an impartation for an increase in prophecy but no one who lays their hands on you can impart their intimacy with God. If you don't have the intimacy the impartation means nothing. Intimacy is the key.

God reveals spirit to spirit the only way to hear is from His spirit – how do we get there?

- **Time with Him**

Time with Him helps us to become rooted and grounded in love. We first have to be rooted and grounded in love and rooted and grounded in intimacy and then we will not go off course.

- **Be a safe place**

God so trusts his prophets that he says in Amos 3:7 that He will not do anything unless he reveals His secrets to the prophets first.

As we are in the secret place with Jesus we are becoming more like him, as we are being transformed into His image we become that safe place the Father can trust with His secrets.

- **How much value we place on the gift**

How much do we earnestly desire the gift. When you contend for the gift you place a demand on the anointing of the gift.

- **Learn your gift**

The gifts are learned. Holy Spirit released the gifts but we have to go after it and learn. Prophetic training helps us tune our ears to hear. God is always speaking. We do not practice so that the Holy Spirit can improve His gifts, but we practice to improve our ability to flow with what the Holy Spirit is doing.

Prophecy changed from the OT to the NT

We have the HS now to correct us to convict us of sin. In the OT the Spirit of God was not poured out on every person. They had the law and prophets that would bring the judgment of God down on them. We do not operate under the law.

We are in a period of grace, a time of the HS living in man. At the last day God will judge man. We are prophets of grace not of judgment. We are called to bring the best out in people.

In the NT the church moved by the prophetic word. Jesus lived from a prophetic realm, constant direction from the Father. He only did what He saw the Father doing. He only said what the Father said. Jesus did everything as a man and demonstrated that we can do these things when we are in right relationship with the Father.

Characteristics of False Prophets (Acts 16:16-18)

1. They operate from a spirit of divination.

Just because someone gives a true prophecy does not mean it's from God. Acts 16: The girl that was harassing Paul and Luke saying "these men are bond servants of the most high god who are proclaiming to you the way of salvation". She was telling the truth under the spirit of divination. That person is a false prophet. A psychic can be accurate but it is not from God.

2. They knowingly deceive people.

4. They knowingly use signs and wonders to deceive people. (Mark 13:22)

5. They use flattery, seduction and manipulation (Jezebel spirit)
6. Another type of false prophet is someone who started out right, but allowed compromise and sin into their lives and has fallen away from God. They can still operate in the prophetic gift: ...for the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. (Rom 11:29)

Matt. 7:22 “Lord, Lord did we not prophecy in your name and cast out demons in your name and do many mighty works in your name? The Lord says depart from me. I never knew you, you who practice lawlessness.”

*Sometime they are in sheep's clothing but are actually wolves. They can look like sheep and even do the things sheep do for God's kingdom, but they are wolves. They did do all those things. A false prophet is not someone who can't do these things. Jesus is not concerned about the gift, he is concerned about the heart. Jesus says you will know them by their fruit. He doesn't mean your ability to do something or the end result of what you have done. That kind of fruit doesn't qualify us before God. Jesus is saying **I am looking for someone who does the will of my Father.** He means one who hears and carries out what God tells them to do. Jesus is telling us you can do the work of God and not know God. He's looking for the fruit of obedience.*

False Prophets with issues of the Heart:

1. They have a wounded heart. Usually they have been wounded by authority.
2. They lose accountability to the scripture and place themselves above the Word of God and no one can teach them anything. This person is lawless. They are an enemy of the sheep
3. Their heart is closed to new revelation and unwilling to allow people to test their prophecy. One of the signs of a FP is you can't tell them anything, you can't correct

them, you can't lead them. They think they are being persecuted if you try to correct them and will cite OT prophets and how they were persecuted too.

4. They seek to promote themselves and their own personal agendas.

They are not motivated by love but are motivated by the need to be noticed.

5. They prophesy for personal gain, either wealth or influence. They prophesy what people want to hear for personal gain.

6. Draw people to themselves instead of Jesus.

*A false prophet has power and will lead people to themselves instead of to God. They make him or herself the answer, instead of leading them to God. Some people have a desire to be needed so badly that they lead people to themselves through their ministry instead of leading them to God. A false prophet wants **to be** the answer instead of leading you **to** the answer.*

*We do not want to create a culture where people **have** to come to us to hear from God. That is making us the answer. We want to teach so that they know where to go for their answers. We are never to mislead people we are to lead them to Christ.*

7. FP tend to be hyper-spiritual. You will think they are the most spiritual person you know. They will say things like God told me to wear this outfit today and I was going to meet you today and I will meet so and so later because God told me. You end up feeling like wow if I want to hear anything from God I need to go to this person cause he has a direct line to God! They will also believe they are more "spiritual" than the pastor and everyone else.

8. FP tend to not see themselves as one of us. It's them and us mentality

9. FP will use fear to motivate people. Fear involves judgment and punishment. God wants people to be motivated from the heart.

10. They do not walk consistently in the Fruits of the Spirit, which are love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Somewhere along the line one of those will be way out of whack. A true prophet will demonstrate the character of the Holy Spirit

False prophets need to be dealt with quickly by the Pastor with the intention of reconciliation and restoration. If that doesn't happen, they will be asked to leave to protect the flock. Remember Jesus calls them lawless. Lawlessness operates out side of the boundaries and does not recognize authority.

Three Basics of Prophecy

- **Revelation – information we received from God we could not have known unless God revealed it to us.**
- **Interpretation – this is the understanding that God gives about the revelation we have received. What is God saying or what does this mean?**
- **Delivery and Application – When and how to share this information. How the information should be implemented (many times the application is not our job, it is up to the person receiving it to determine what he or she is supposed to do).**

How to get the revelation (information)

How do we recognize His voice? All thoughts are not our thoughts.

Since the Holy Spirit ^{is} ~~are~~ living inside of us and there is going to be evidence of His presence. While some thoughts are *completely* ours, there are some that are supernatural. Some come from our mind; others come from the spirit world. Remember that **God is always speaking**. Unless we learn to distinguish His thoughts from ours we will just group all thoughts together thinking they are our thoughts. Let's look at the three sources of thoughts or voices and learn how to distinguish the source.

1. **Our thoughts** – these are analytical and cognitive.

An example would be when we wake up in the morning we mentally plan our day, making mental notes of appointments, work schedules, house cleaning, seeing friends, etc. We live this way out of our reasoning process. The thoughts are limited by our own knowledge, wisdom, understanding and abilities.

2. **Holy Spirit thoughts** – since these are not our thoughts, they are spontaneous. *They flow from the river of the Holy Spirit who lives inside of us. Jesus said that out of our heart will flow rivers of living water. These spontaneous thoughts come from that river. All believers have these thoughts. As we grow in the prophetic we simply learn to “tune” into this flow. Have you ever wondered about a random thought that is not related to anything you are thinking of at the time, and it springs forth to the top of your mind? These thoughts are often gentle and “light” upon our mind. They speak of His character; Edifier, Comforter, Teacher, Counselor, Healer and Giver of Life.*

1. **Thoughts from the enemy** – since these are not our thoughts, they are spontaneous. They are destructive, evil and perverted. *You can recognize these thoughts because they line up with the character of Satan. He is a Liar, Destroyer, Thief, Murderer, and Accuser. Do not accept guilt for evil thoughts, they are only temptations from the enemy. Sin becomes a reality when we open the door of our heart to those thoughts.*

When the prophetic comes there seems to be a general theme “Love, encouragement, waiting on him ect.

****Some of what we get is incomplete prophecy, especially when we start out exercising the gift. When I get a prophecy I usually get the first sentence. If I wait till I hear more I usually don’t get anymore. I have to open my mouth in faith***

and trust Him to fill it. Without faith it is impossible to please God (and I'm still working in this)

How to receive a Word of Prophecy

Prophecy can be ineffective if we do nothing about it. We won't remember the word if we don't act on it. We must act on the prophecy to activate it.

- **Pray over the word.** Tell Him we receive the word that was given. If there is instruction in the word receive it. A true prophecy will activate what has been spoken if it has been received in faith. It is the ability to do what you couldn't do before, but the prophecy ***has to be mixed with faith*** for it to come to pass.

**Also, God does not ALWAYS prophecy something you already knew. That's not Biblical. I think we have taught that out of fear. Fear of what might be said. Sometimes He will give a word about something we might never pray for. Something He may have been trying to talk to us about for years and so He will use a prophetic declaration to get our attention.*

The Prophetic Word Often Comes as a Seed

(Matt 13:18-23) *"Hear then the parable of the sower. "When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is the one on whom seed was sown beside the road. "The one on whom seed was sown on the rocky places, this is the man who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet he has no firm root in himself, but is only temporary, and when affliction or persecution arises because of the word, immediately he falls away. "And the one on whom seed was sown among the thorns, this is the man who hears the word, and the worry of the world and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful. "And the one on whom seed was sown on the good soil, this*

is the man who hears the word and understands it; who indeed bears fruit and brings forth, some a hundredfold, some sixty, and some thirty."

1. Seeds Beside the Road – Speaks of when we do not take time to properly receive, mediate and test the word to understand it for your lives.

2. Seeds Sown on Rocky Places – Speaks of when we allow the attacks by the enemy, which are meant to stop the release of God plans and purposes to lives, to be successful.

3. Seeds Sown Among the Thorns - Speaks of when we allow the temptations and worries of this world to choke out our pursuit of God's purposes for our lives.

4. Seeds Sown on Good Soil – Speaks of when God's plan and purposes in our life are allowed to grow into maturity and become fruitful.

Seeds sown are the prophetic words spoken from the heart of God and are the "Word of the Kingdom" as described in Matt 13 v.18. Words from the Lord are precious and God does use people to deliver those words to us. Just because they are spoken to us from someone else, even a friend does not make them less important than if an angel or the Lord Himself spoke them to us. We should never be so busy that we just "put the word on the shelf" and move on without processing what the Lord is saying.

We are to examine everything carefully and hold fast to what is good.

If there is a confirmation spoken over your life, don't loose it!

We do not judge the office (when a prophet speaks over you) you judge the prophecy.

Please understand that when we prophesy it should be judged, if not we can give permission to people to use prophecy to manipulate.

How to deliver a prophetic word

When God gives you a word, you are going to start to feel something. It's a quickening of the spirit.

- Wait for the timing

The prophetic spoken out at the right time will have the most impact. Wait for the Holy Spirit to show you.

- Avoid criticism at all cost

Even if God shows us hate or unforgiveness in a person, we do not prophecy judgment. If God shows us sexual sin in someone we do not call that out, we prophecy purity over someone. We do not prophecy negative words. Do not use your discernment as permission to criticize.

- Pray for the solution

Be solution oriented. You don't have to deny the issue, but pray for the opposite spirit to come into the situation. Don't sow accusation.

- Ask for wisdom

Handle the secret things of God with great wisdom

- Drop your personal issues at the door and minister to the Lord.

Come with no agenda at all. Remember we are doing this for Him and His glory.

There is a difference between a "word of encouragement" and a prophecy.

I know that prophecy is supposed to exhort and encourage. It's good to be encouraging to people even if it's not a prophecy but let's not make everything that's encouraging into a prophecy, that's not Biblical. Let's not stretch the Bible to mean something it doesn't say. A prophecy is a word about the future and will be encouraging.

Also -Listening to a prophetic word on the internet does not make it a prophetic word for someone else or for yourself. It may encourage you or give you information you didn't have before, but unless you have a prophetic person

standing in front of you or praying in private specifically for you, do not claim it as a word from the Lord specifically for you or someone else.

Overcoming Rejection and Fear

(2 Tim 1:7) For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and love and sound mind.

Everyone experiences a level of fear and rejection to some extent in their lives.

Rejection is usually the initial step. There is always a maturing process in prophetic ministry and we will make mistakes.

The growth of our character is just as, if not more important, than growth in our prophetic gift. The prophetic words, we speak may not be heard or understood by some and even be rejected.

We all are or have been “wounded soldiers” at some point. It is best to deal with our wounds quickly and completely. Ask God heal those wounds, He will carry our burdens and then we must let them go. We all are like Jacob, walking with a limp, but when we let that limp become a compassion for others our limp will become powerful! As we seek the Lord He will send healing for our wounds.

Rejection that is not healed may disguise itself as “discernment”, but in reality it will turn into suspicion, which can turn into fear, which can turn into isolation, bitterness, anger and so on. We manifest fear because we do not want to experience rejection again. We must guard our heart and strive to walk in love. Perfect love casts out fear

Operating in the (anointing of) Spirit of Prophecy

The Spirit of Prophecy is often a beginner’s stage in the prophetic. Mark Virkler defines it as, “Not being able to personally capture the prophetic flow unless you have been led into it by another.” It is an anointing that enables men and woman

who do not operate in the Gift of Prophecy or the Office of the Prophet to speak forth under the inspiration of God. This anointing is usually released in meetings where there is a powerful presence of the Lord and almost anyone could pick up on the mind of the Lord and prophesy. People find it easier to receive visions, prophesy of edification, exhortation and comfort, which always lead people to Jesus.

Operating in the (anointing of) Gift of Prophecy –

The Gift of Prophecy is when a person has personally developed to be able to flow in the prophetic even when the Spirit of Prophecy is not present. This person has learned how to stand still before God, even in a group of people and “stir up the gift” that is within them. Growing in the operation of the Gift of Prophecy is available to all who seek it. Second Timothy 1:6 says this gift can be imparted through the laying on of hands. *“For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of hands.”*

We stir the gifts up in each other and create an atmosphere of faith, a prophetic atmosphere. Part of that is a culture of risk. The greatest hindrance to prophecy is fear and creating a culture of risk will dispel fear. We will also be accountable to each other. When people succeed we will celebrate them, when they fail we will correct and learn from the mistakes. It’s ok to make mistakes.

Correction is done in love.

Operating in the Office of the Prophet

First someone who operates in the office of a prophet will have a supernatural experience from God, a dream, a vision, an experience that calls the prophet into the office. This will be a personal experience just like many Pastors and Evangelists experience.

The Prophet is basically developed when you are recognized by leaders in the Body of Christ as having a mature prophetic ministry.

In *Luke 2:32* Jesus grew “in favor” with God and men. A person who operates in the Office of a Prophet will often operate in the prophetic realm of foretelling and confirmation of ministries within the Body of Christ. Jesus sets people into this office. The Office of the Prophet is designed to function in a higher realm of ministry than the Gift of Prophecy. The Office of the Prophets is part of the five-fold ministry gifts intended to build up, encourage, and comfort the Church, but also to give guidance, instruction and can bring correction.

To be a prophet is a calling. To minister in prophecy is a gift.

When a person ministers in the gift of prophecy, the gift is the ability to prophecy. The words themselves are the gift. When a person is a prophet, they themselves are the gift. The book of Ephesians says, “Christ gave gifts to men.” The gifts that He gave are other men (or women), a prophet is a gift to the church.

A Prophet's Reward

(Matt 10:41) *He who receives a prophet in the name of a prophet shall receive a prophet's reward.*

Receiving a prophet is more than just listening to the word that is given. Receiving involves placing a value on the prophetic word and making room for that word in your life. The reward comes when we receive the prophetic word we receive the anointing to see that word manifest.

But what is the reward for the prophet giving the word? Evangelists often have instant reward, when they give an altar call to see sinners come forward to receive Jesus. A person giving a prophetic word may not always see that word come to pass. Our reward must not be in the fruits of the word that we give. Our reward is that we are the ones God speaks to, we are Friends of God who receive revelation. Our reward must always be His presence.

- Prophecy will never contradict the written Word
- Follow the presence of the Lord. A good time to end the prophetic word is when HE is finished speaking
- A single word of destiny blessing can be more powerful than a 15 minute prophecy
- Perform a “heart check” on yourself before giving a prophetic word
- Your gift will make room for you, do not seek to establish yourself with your gift
- Never try to control or manipulate anyone with the prophetic gift
- Do not try to be the Holy Spirit to anyone
- Practice, practice, practice your gift to expand your faith
- Overcome The fear of deception
- Smile when you prophesy, God is in a good mood
- Make decrees with authority
- Breath mints are anointed. Knock them over with the gift, not your breath
- Use normal language, avoid King James English and Christianese. The words “Thus saith the Lord” are not necessary
- Learn to become naturally supernatural
- What God reveals, HE wants to heal
- Search out people with a mature prophetic gift, and hang around them
- Saturate yourselves with the prophetic experiences of others
- Submit to authority in a personal mentoring relationship
- Allow your prophetic words to be examined and tested, without taking offense
- Always be humble
- Do not allow pet doctrines to influence the prophetic word
- Prophetic evangelism is powerful. The power of Life and death are in your tongue. Choose Life
- Become a “friend of God”. Intimacy is your highest call and purpose.

- Spend time in the secret place, where the deep parts of you call out for the deep parts of God
- Set your mind on Heavenly things
- Stir up the gift within you. Holy desperation lays hold of revelation
- Ask and expect God encounters in the supernatural
- Learn to see with the eyes of your heart
- An inaccurate prophetic word does not make that person a false prophet
- Allow your mistakes and failures to be learning experiences.
- You will make mistakes, but God is bigger than your mistakes
- Clean up your own messes
- If a word involves direction, have someone in authority involved in the application of the word
- Prophecy can be a potential word and a conditional word
- Strengthen, encourage and comfort
- Invest in your prophetic education
- Fear is a demonic spirit, defeat it in the Name of Jesus
- Resist condemnation. The enemy is an accuser
- Resist the fear of making mistakes
- Depend completely upon the Holy Spirit

From 2000 to 2010, Reinhard Bonnke's ministry had about 60 million decisions for Christ. One day Reinhard thanked God for choosing him to bring in the mighty harvest of souls. The Lord told Reinhard that he was not His first choice for this job. God has asked others before Reinhard but they would not respond to His call. God calls many to become His friends, to draw near and to hear His voice. Sadly few are willing die to themselves and say "YES".

God is calling us to live in revival, to be revival in all it's fullness, operating in the gifts of Jesus and of the Holy Spirit! We are to live a supernatural life, we are supernatural beings Let's live that way!

We need the Prophetic and the Prophetic Need to be Pastored (and/or taught)

Most Pastors would agree with this statement, however many prophetic people would only agree with the first part. Because they hear the voice of God, the prophetic may come to believe that no one should disagree with them. At times, in their immaturity, it becomes almost a “heady” thing. Pride is especially dangerous in the prophetic because it can lead to spiritual deception.

In Romans 11, Paul warned the gentiles against arrogance, that they could as easily be grafted out as the Jews has been. John the Baptist warned against thinking that being children of Abraham would suffice (Matthew 3:9).

Who will shepherd the prophetic and keep them from arrogance? Who is called to bring them to maturity? Most people get in touch with a prophetic calling long before they have the character to handle it.

Shepherd the Prophetic

Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the church of God, which He bought with His own blood.
Acts 20:28

Now it's up to you. Be on your toes - both for your selves and for your congregation of sheep. The Holy Spirit has put you in charge of these people – God's people they are – to guard and protect them. God Himself thought they were worth dying for. Acts 20:28
(The Message)

Caring for the Prophetic

1. Provide an outlet for them

People with a prophetic gifting have a need to share what they've seen or heard. Give opportunity in an environment that is safe for them and for those hearing the word. Giving them an outlet helps contain “parking lot” prophecies that have wounded some.

If no outlet is provided, a prophet becomes like a can of shaken up Coke – explosive and messy!

2. Make sure they know prophetic protocol

Church leaders clearly establish and communicate what people should do when they receive a prophetic word.

3. Provide fathering

Even though you have ten thousand guardians in Christ, you do not have many fathers, for in Christ Jesus I became your father through the gospel. I Corinthians 4:15

In this scripture Paul recognizes the need for spiritual fathers and mothers. Even in the world people recognize the need for mentors – ones who will teach and counsel- ones who provide training by way of example.

Questions to ask when looking for mentoring: Do I have freedom to make mistakes? Is the love present? Is the motive for mentoring pure and not self-serving?

In II Corinthians 6:18, God declares that we are His family. When a family is functioning, as it should, the father and mother nurture, train, correct, and most of all love their children. In the church, we are called to do the same thing for those in our spiritual family.

Pastors and appointed leaders must help prophets discern between Holy Spirit inspired revelation and their own teachings or opinions. Prophets not pastored could destroy their ministry and the church. Church leaders provide spiritual fathering by bringing concerns for correction and compliments for encouragement.

4. Use Godly leadership to encourage and correct

It is a disservice to prophetic people if leadership doesn't respond to them. Either affirmation or adjustment is needed (while learning). If they missed it, they need to know and if they hit the mark, they need affirmation. If you are not sure about the prophetic word, they need to know that!

Remember that correction and adjustment should always be shared in love. No coach would cut a great athlete from a team because they had a bad game. No, they would encourage them to work on the basics the fundamentals. Correction is very rarely given publically, only in certain situations. Additionally, it helps those with prophetic gifting to know they have an open door to leaders to share and receive feedback.

5. Check YOUR motive

Because of the nature of the prophetic ministry, it can easily lead to smugness, conceit, or spiritual pride. REMEMBER that except for availability and obedience, prophecy has little to do with the vessel!

Make sure you DO NOT have an agenda!

Another problem area can be performance mentality. As with any ministry, the proper motivation should always be to serve – not perform. The only pressure of ministry should be to follow the Holy Spirit. The gifts are to bless the body, not to

exalt the vessel. The gifts should build up the church, not develop the ministry of the messenger.

So it is with you. Since you are eager to have spiritual gifts, try to excel in gifts that build up the church. I Corinthians 14:12

The greatest among you will be your servant. Matthew 23:11

Be Aware of Character

In his book, *Growing In the Prophetic*, Mike Bickle reminds us, "The fact that power and revelation flow through prophetic ministers is not necessarily a sign that God is pleased with other areas of their lives."

Paul addressed this in Romans 11:29 when he expressed that, "God's gifts and His call is irrevocable." While at this time he was referring to the Israelites, we would do well to remember this truth.

Seemingly anointed ministry is not a sign that a person has a Christ-like character. The more powerful a ministry, the greater the temptation is to become proud or to think too highly of oneself. People with valid gifts of the Holy Spirit can still be carnal – just look at the Corinthians church. Sometimes prophetic ministers develop certain styles of ministry or a methodology. The style does not produce power or anointing. They don't "have to" do it that way. The person of the Holy Spirit is the key and following His leading is the only way.

For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the measure of faith God has given you. Romans 12:3.

Powerfully moving in the realm of prophetic gifting is *not* an excuse to be lacking in Godly character. A Pastor or leader will look beyond the flash of what is happening in ministry and look for the fruit of the spirit in the vessel. Paul gives us very clear guidelines to follow in Galatians 5.

So I say, live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of sinful nature. for the sinful nature desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the sinful nature. They are in conflict with each other, so that you do not do what you want. But if you are lead by the Spirit, you are not under the law. The acts of sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions and envy; drunkenness, orgies and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Against such things there is no law. Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature with its passions and desires. Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit. Let us not become conceited, provoking and envying each other. Galatians 5:16-26

Anointing does not mean 100% doctrinal accuracy. It is important for prophetic people to commit to and submit to church leadership. It is important for prophets to have gifted teachers/mentors around them. Prophets tend to venture outside of their calling if separated from church accountability.

Five Crucial Elements in Pastor – Prophet Relationships

1. The Prophet submits to the Pastor/Elders
2. God speaks to the Prophet
3. The Prophet speaks to the Pastor/Elders
4. The Pastor/Elders judges, evaluates, strategizes and executes
5. The Prophet ***submits*** to the Pastor/Elders

The greatest difficulty prophetic people have is just delivering the prophetic word to the leadership and leaving it for them to execute. The temptation is for the prophetic person to try and bring it to pass.

Expect Prophecy to Happen!

Ask for it! Pray it in! Be encouraged in it! Value it!

Have greater confidence to step out and walk in the gifting the Lord has given you!