

Prophetic Ministry
BOOT CAMP

Third Edition

Jeremy Caris

**Prophetic
Ministry Boot
Camp**

Third Edition

**Prophetic
Ministry Boot
Camp**

Third Edition

by Jeremy Caris

Copyrights

Any redistribution or reproduction of this book in any form is strictly prohibited, except that you may duplicate limited portions of this book in order to make it accessible for your strictly non-commercial use, including for your church, ministry, or small group as long as the source is clearly notated and as long as less than a full chapter is duplicated.

For more information and resources, visit CarisMinistries.com

Copyright © 2014, Jeremy Caris. All rights reserved. Printed in the United States of America.

First edition, July 2009.

Second edition, May 2010.

Second edition – Revision 1, September 2011.

Second edition – Revision 2, June 2012.

Third edition, December 2014.

Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®, copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Table of Contents

Foundation: Biblical Basis for the Prophetic Ministry of Every Believer.....	1
What Is Prophetic Ministry & What Is It's Purpose?.....	3
Who Can Prophecy?.....	5
God Wants Us To Minister Prophetically.....	8
The Difference Between The Prophet & Prophetic Ministry.....	9
Activities, Offices, & Gifts.....	11
What Are The Prophetic Gifts?.....	13
Explanation Of The Prophetic Gifts.....	14
Internal & External Anointings.....	15
The New Testament Standard.....	17
Overview Of The Process.....	19
Ask, Believe, And Receive.....	22
Receiving: Hearing the Voice of God Anytime, Anywhere.....	31
How It "Looks & Feels".....	33
How It Happens.....	34
The Five Golden Senses.....	35
Left-Brain vs. Right-Brain.....	36
How To Tune In.....	41
Activation: Personal Journaling.....	51
Activation: Looking For Fruit.....	51
Activation: Prophetic Blessing.....	52
Interpreting: Receiving Understanding for Prophetic Revelation.....	55
The Importance Of Good Interpretation.....	57
The Roots Of Good Interpretation.....	57
Understanding Spiritual Metaphors.....	58
The Roots Of Misinterpretation.....	59
Searching It Out vs. Figuring It Out.....	60
Seeing the Big Picture.....	63
What To Do.....	64
Activation: Popcorn Prophecy.....	73
Activation: Practicing Word of Knowledge.....	73
Activation: Word Gifts.....	74
Delivering: Prophetic Etiquette For Any Environment.....	75
Ministering With Wisdom.....	77

Spheres Of Authority.....	81
Express In Order To Bene fit.....	83
Proper Motives.....	84
Appropriate Timing.....	86
Activation: Unknown Individual Prophecy.....	93
Activation: Destiny Purpose Words.....	93
Team Prophecy: Ministering Effectively as Part of a Team.....	95
Facilitating Exchange.....	97
Cooperate vs. Compete.....	98
Quick Clarity.....	98
Quick Con firmation.....	99
The Multiplication Principle.....	100
Corporate Anointing.....	101
Activation: Group Prophecy.....	109
Activation: Hot Potato!.....	109
Activation: Pit Training.....	110
Prophetic Evangelism: Boldly Revealing the Kingdom of God	111
Opening The Door.....	113
One Step Closer.....	113
Watch Your Language!.....	114
Street Smarts.....	115
Just Do It!.....	117
Activation: Crowd Illumination.....	123
Activation: Crowd Word of Knowledge for Healing.....	123
Activation: Stretching For Details.....	124
Important Info About the De finitions of Spiritual Metaphors.....	133
Source of Meanings.....	133

Chapter 1

Foundation: Biblical Basis for the Prophetic
Ministry of Every Believer

What Is Prophetic Ministry & What Is It's Purpose?

Prophetic ministry is primarily *ministry*,² which is done through the use of prophetic gifts. The term “prophetic” is commonly used to refer to ministry which is based on spiritual revelation. It is different from “prophecy” in the sense that it involves a wider focus. Prophecy is only one of the spiritual gifts involved in prophetic ministry.

In essence, prophetic ministry is sharing the piece of Jesus Christ from within you which the Holy Spirit illuminates, inspires, or influences you to give at a particular moment for a certain person or group of people.

Strengthen, Encourage, Build Up

Prophetic ministry is speaking God's mind and heart to edify, encourage, and exhort both believers and unbelievers— for strengthening, encouraging, and comforting; for building up, stirring up, and cheering up. It is to hear from God and then speak what we hear so that we might all understand the things freely given to us by God (1 Cor. 2:9-16).

“For one who speaks in a tongue speaks not to men but to God; for no one understands him, but he utters mysteries in the Spirit. ³ On the other hand, the one who prophesies speaks to people for their upbuilding and encouragement and consolation. ⁴ The one who speaks in a tongue builds up himself, but the one who prophesies builds up the church.” 1 Cor. 14:2-4 ESV

KEY CONCEPT #1

Prophetic ministry should always strengthen, encourage, and comfort.

God is in control, and He confirms that to us when He announces new things to us. Prophetic ministry brings clarity to the fact that He is not only in control, but He knows us intimately and passionately.

“The former things I declared of old; they went out from my mouth, and I announced them; then suddenly I did them, and they came to pass. ⁴ Because I know that you are obstinate, and your neck is an iron sinew and your forehead brass, ⁵ I declared them to you from of old, before they came to pass I announced them to you, lest you should say, ‘My idol did them, my carved image and my metal image commanded them.’ ⁶ “You have heard; now see all this; and will you not declare it? From this time forth I announce to you new things, hidden things that you have not known.” Isa. 48:3-6 ESV

Good Stewards Of God's Grace

Like all ministry, the prophetic ministry should be one of serving each other as good stewards of God's grace, and should be an impartation of faith, hope, and love.

*“As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace: ” 1 Pet. 4:10
ESV*

*“And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. ”
1 Cor. 13:10 ESV*

“So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.” 1 Cor. 13:13 ESV

The Expression Of Jesus Christ

Prophetic ministry should release the truth and reality of heaven into the earth by putting Jesus Christ on display. It reveals that we are witnesses of Him by cooperating with Him in the moment, doing the things that He is doing, and expressing the things that He is saying. It testifies of the fact that He is alive and brings glory to Him.

*“... For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.”
Rev. 19:10 ESV*

Prophetic ministry is an expression of life and faith (John 6:63). It allows us to convey a small part of the vast sum of God's thoughts (Psa. 139:17); including the heart of God, the attributes of His nature, and the fruits or character of His Spirit (Gal. 5:22-23). Prophecy is calling those things which are not as though they are (Rom. 4:17; Gen. 1:1-3; Eze. 37).

Original Mandate For Mankind

In the beginning God gave mankind the mandate to be fruitful, multiply, have dominion, and subdue the earth (Gen. 1:28); to extend the rule and reign of His kingdom throughout the earth. Prophetic ministry is one of the powerful ways that we can cooperate with God's original plan for mankind to release the substance and reality of Heaven into the earth.

Who Can Prophecy?

If you can hear God's voice and then express what you hear, then you can prophesy. In other words, you can *all* prophesy (1 Cor. 14:31). Jesus said, “My sheep hear My voice” (John 10:27) and “... it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you” (Mat. 10:20). As Peter and John said, “we cannot but speak of what we have seen and heard” (Acts 4:20).

KEY CONCEPT #2

We can all prophesy.

All Believers Hear God

The first requirement to prophesy is to hear God. The Bible says that He will teach you, remind you all things, guide you, speak to you, and tell you what you need to know.

“But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you.” Joh. 14:26 ESV

“When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come.” Joh. 16:13 ESV

Desiring The Fullness Of The Christ-like Life

To some degree, all believers can prophesy because we can all hear God and speak what we hear. However, we should desire the fullness of all that God intends for us, and becoming a believer is only the first step. In Acts 19:1-6, it seems clear that the Apostles of the early church expected all believers to be baptized in the Holy Spirit. When the Holy Spirit came upon them, “they began speaking in tongues and prophesying”. Also, throughout the Old and New Testaments, we see individuals prophesy after receiving revelation from an angel (Rev. 10:8-11, 22:6).

Three Levels Of Prophetic Operation:

All believers (Joh. 10:27 and Mat, 10:20)

Spirit-filled believers (1 Cor. 12-14)

Angelic-assisted believers (Rev. 10:8-11, 22:6)

Joel's Prophecy Of The Last Days

In Acts chapter 2, Peter spoke under inspiration of the Holy Spirit as he explained why they were speaking in tongues. The Holy Spirit illuminated the prophecy of Joel to his mind.

“But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them: “Men of Judea and all who dwell in

Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and give ear to my words. ¹⁵ For these people are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is only the third hour of the day. ¹⁶ But this is what was uttered through the prophet Joel:

¹⁷ “And in the last days it shall be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams; ¹⁸ even on my male servants and female servants in those days I will pour out my Spirit, and they shall prophesy.

¹⁹ “And I will show wonders in the heavens above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and vapor of smoke; ²⁰ the sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the day of the Lord comes, the great and magnificent day. ²¹ And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.” Act. 2:14-21 ESV

We Are Still In The Last Days

Peter prophesied under inspiration of the Holy Spirit, saying that the last days had begun. He listed the signs of the beginning of the last days, revealing that those signs were being demonstrated among them. He then listed the signs that would mark the end of that age. Those signs have not yet happened. This means that we are still in the last days, in which “your sons and daughters shall prophesy”.

You Don't Have To Be Perfect!

Most of the authoritative scriptures on the prophetic gifts are found in Paul's letters to the Corinthians. This is the same church that Paul rebuked and corrected for various forms of sin, such as quarreling, sexual immorality, and even drunkenness at meetings. Yet instead of discouraging them from operating in the prophetic gifts, he actually encouraged them to earnestly desire to prophesy. The King James Version of the Bible even goes so far as to say, “covet to prophesy” (1

Cor. 14:39).

“Pursue love, and earnestly desire the spiritual gifts, especially that you may prophesy.” 1 Cor. 14:1 ESV

“... I want you all to speak in tongues, but even more to prophesy. ...” 1 Cor. 14:5 ESV

Action Develops Maturity

What does this mean for us? We don't have to be perfect for God to use us. He does want us to mature and grow in character, but that process can only be completed as we actually do the things that God wants us to do. Spiritual maturity is completely impossible without acting on revelation.

“But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. ²³ For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. ²⁴ For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. ²⁵ But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing.” Jam. 1:22-25 ESV

God Wants Us To Minister Prophetically

God wants us to know how to function in the prophetic gifts, and to actually use them. He desires to have a deeply intimate relationship with us out of which He can actively speak to us and through us. He is glorified when we affect the lives of others with the life of His Spirit, which is powerfully at work within us.

“Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers, I do not want you to be uninformed.” 1 Cor. 12:1 ESV

“By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit

and so prove to be my disciples.” Joh. 15:8 ESV

We will soon learn how to effectively minister by using the prophetic gifts, but first we need to understand a few more things that will help us begin from a strong foundation.

The Difference Between The Prophet & Prophetic Ministry

There are distinct differences between the prophetic ministry potential of all believers, Spirit-filled ministry using the prophetic gifts, and the office of prophet. The office of prophet typically goes beyond what is acceptable in even Spirit-filled prophetic ministry. Doing those things that someone in the office of prophet does will not make you a prophet. Rather, being commissioned into prophetic office, which requires favor with God and man, allows you to utilize these additional dimensions.

Three Levels Of Prophetic Ministry:

“My sheep hear My voice” (Joh. 10:27)

Intentional Spirit-filled gifting (Act. 19:6)

Five-fold office mandate (Eph. 4:11)

PROPHETIC MINISTRY

is generally limited to these aspects:

OFFICE OF PROPHET

*typically **adds** these dimensions:*

Edify, Encourage, and Exhort	Correct, Judge, Discipline, and Direct
Makes you a member of the Body, indispensable and needed (1 Cor. 12:12-26)	Makes you a joint of the Body, holding things together (Eph. 4:11-16)
Typically ministers to individuals and a local body (limited sphere of authority)	Also ministers to a region, nation, or more (greater sphere of authority)
Ministers the prophetic word	Tends to become a prophetic word, modeling it through their lives
Speaks what is acceptable to the Lord	Speaks the acceptable year of the Lord; decrees times and seasons
Strengthens foundations and establishes the vision as a witness (2 Cor. 13:1)	Lays foundations and casts vision along with apostles (Eph. 2:19-22)
Builds up the body by doing the work of the ministry, being matured and perfected through “doing”	Equips the body to do the work of the ministry, maturing and perfecting the saints
Operates in spiritual gifts and callings, acting in agreement with God	Releases spiritual gifts and callings, acting in agreement with God
Proclaims good news as ambassadors and citizens of the Kingdom of God	Identifies, raises up, anoints, commissions, and guides key leaders

Activities, Offices, & Gifts

The Lord our God is one God (Deu. 6:4), but He has chosen to reveal Himself to us in three distinct persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (Mat. 28:19). He has also chosen to give all mankind gifts from birth and to make others available to some upon surrender to Jesus Christ. He manifests his power through us when we are baptized in His Spirit. These manifestations are what most believers commonly refer to as “the gifts”. Before we investigate the gifts of the Spirit, it is beneficial to understand the gifts of the Father and of the Son.

Activities

Ministry activities (also called motivational gifts or natural abilities) are gifts of the Father. These are given to all mankind from birth and are known as: perceiving, serving, teaching, exhorting, giving, organization, and mercy.

*“and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone.” 1 Cor. 12:6
ESV*

*“Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; ⁷ if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; ⁸ the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.” Rom. 12:6-8
ESV*

Offices

Ministry offices are gifts of Jesus Christ. When Jesus ascended to Heaven after triumphing over death and the grave, He divided His personal ministry into five roles. These are known as the five-fold ministry offices of apostle, prophet, evangelist, pastor, and teacher.

“and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord;”

1 Cor. 12:5 ESV

“And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers,” Eph. 4:11 ESV

Gifts

Ministry “gifts” (also called manifestations, enablements, or empowerments) are gifts of the Holy Spirit. These are what most believers are referring to most of the time when they mention “the gifts”. There are nine gifts of the Spirit: word of wisdom, word of knowledge, prophecy, discerning of spirits, tongues, interpretation of tongues, faith, healing, and miracles.

“Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit;” 1 Cor. 12:4 ESV

“For to one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, ⁹ to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, ¹⁰ to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the ability to distinguish between spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues.” 1 Cor. 12:8-10 ESV

The Holy Spirit Is The Gift

There is a wide range of teaching on the gifts of the Spirit, but it is my personal conviction that the Holy Spirit is the gift. When He works through you, His power will be made evident through you in nine particular ways which we commonly refer to as the gifts of the Spirit.

“To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.” 1 Cor. 12:7 ESV

“All these [gifts] are empowered by one and the same Spirit, who apportions to each one individually as he

wills.” 1 Cor. 12:11 ESV

Not only does He distribute the gifts to each one as He wills (1 Cor. 12:11), but He *does* will to distribute them according to his grace and the need at hand. The real issue has more to do with learning to function as the new creation which we are in Christ, instead of a merely human way (2 Cor. 5:17, 1 Cor. 3:1-3).

What Are The Prophetic Gifts?

The prophetic gifts are manifestations of the working of the Holy Spirit, and are always in agreement with the heart, substance, or essence of scripture. The gifts most commonly associated with prophetic ministry are word of knowledge, word of wisdom, and prophecy. Discerning of spirits and various kinds of tongues along with the interpretation are prophetic in nature as well.

Revelatory Gifts

The word of knowledge, word of wisdom, and discerning of spirits are gifts of revelation. These gifts are concerned with *receiving* the truth of “as it is in Heaven”.

Expression Gifts

Prophecy, tongues, and interpretation of tongues are gifts of communication. These gifts are concerned with *expressing* the truth of “as it is in Heaven”.

Power Gifts

The three remaining gifts are known as the power gifts: miracles, healing, and the gift of faith. We should not limit the Holy Spirit by only allowing Him to manifest the life of Jesus through us in the form of revelatory gifts and expression gifts. In fact, the prophetic gifts often help create an opportunity to operate in the power gifts.

Explanation Of The Prophetic Gifts

Word Of Knowledge

Word of knowledge is the supernatural revelation of a fact that is already true in the present or past, and possibly known by others, but not naturally known by the person receiving the word of knowledge.

Word Of Wisdom

Word of wisdom is the supernatural revelation of wise advice, direction, or knowledge for future action. Wisdom itself is always future oriented. The word of wisdom is wisdom from God about how to approach or handle some current or future situation, whether previously known or unknown. It is understanding for future action, or the application of knowledge which can be independent of a “word of knowledge”. It is often demonstrated in applying scriptures, insight, guidance, or counsel.

“But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere.” Jam. 3:17 ESV

Prophecy

Prophecy is speaking ahead of time, or foretelling, what God is planning to do and preparing the way for it to come. It is an inspired utterance concerning God's plans and purposes. Prophecy is future potential which is being made known and available.

Discerning Of Spirits

Discerning of spirits is not discernment in general, but rather discerning of *spirits*. This includes the type, name, function, purpose, and/or assignment of spirits (whether good or bad), which are commissioned, present, working or operating, in authority, controlling, influencing, etc. It is distinguishing the motivating spirit behind certain words or deeds; whether human, demonic, or divine.

Speaking In Various Kinds Of Tongues

Speaking in various kinds of tongues is the supernatural ability to speak in languages of men and/or of angels that the speaker does not know in the natural. The gift of tongues along with the gift of interpretation of tongues can manifest word of knowledge, word of wisdom, prophecy, and interpretation.

Interpretation Of Tongues

Interpretation of tongues is the supernatural ability to know the message being conveyed by various kinds of tongues that the interpreter does not comprehend in the natural. It is not normally a word for word translation, but rather it is same message being conveyed.

Internal & External Anointings

Experience will teach you that there is a difference between ministering from the anointing that flows from within you and the anointing that comes upon you from outside of your being.

Internal Anointing

Most of the time, most people minister out of the anointing that is within them. The anointing is the person of the Holy Spirit Himself working in and through you. This is the “internal” anointing that comes from within you and abides in you.

“But the anointing that you received from him abides in you, and you have no need that anyone should teach you. But as his anointing teaches you about everything, and is true, and is no lie—just as it has taught you, abide in him.” 1 Joh. 2:27 ESV

The Kingdom of God is within you because God's own Spirit is within you.

“Nor will people say, Look! Here [it is]! or, See, [it is] there! For behold, the kingdom of God is within you [in

*your hearts] and among you [surrounding you].” Luk.
17:21 AMP*

External Anointing

The anointing that comes upon you from outside of your own being is what I would refer to as an external anointing. Throughout the Old Testament, it is evident that this external anointing is at times the Holy Spirit, and at other times the influence of angels. Angels are often commissioned to aid you in ministry.

For instance, there is a spirit of prophecy, a spirit of knowledge, a spirit of wisdom, and a spirit of revelation (or understanding). While these can refer to the Holy Spirit, they could also refer to messenger angels that have been assigned to you for a specific task, such as prophetic ministry or for your calling. In other words, spirits are often angels.

Regardless of the perspective you take, there is an “external” anointing that can come upon you from outside of your own being.

“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.” Isa. 11:2 ESV

“that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him,” Eph. 1:17 ESV

Spiritual revelation that comes to you through an external anointing has a much stronger sense of feeling and clarity than the internal anointing typically does. A vision or other revelation that is delivered to you through an external anointing is often much more vivid and intense. However, sensing or perceiving through an internal anointing is just as legitimate as sensing things delivered through an external anointing, even though it may not seem as vivid or intense.

The New Testament Standard

Old covenant principles are understood within the new covenant model as exemplified only in Jesus Christ. Everything under the law was a shadow of a greater truth. The full reality and fulfillment that those things point to is perfectly seen in Jesus Christ alone.

“Therefore let no one pass judgment on you in questions of food and drink, or with regard to a festival or a new moon or a Sabbath. ¹⁷ These are a shadow of the things to come, but the substance belongs to Christ.” Col. 2:16-17 ESV

“For since the law has but a shadow of the good things to come instead of the true form of these realities, it can never, by the same sacrifices that are continually offered every year, make perfect those who draw near.” Heb. 10:1 ESV

Jesus Christ Is Our Only Perfect Example

Even though God has spoken to us in many ways and through many people, only Jesus Christ perfectly reveals God to us. He is God and He is our primary means of knowing and understanding God.

“Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, ² but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. ³ He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. ...” Heb. 1:1-3 ESV

Old Covenant Prophets & Character Flaws

While there is much we can learn from prophets in the old covenant, we should never imitate their character flaws. Only Jesus exhibited perfect character. We should strive to imitate Him alone.

God held old covenant prophets to the very strict standard of the law of Moses. If they failed to represent His message as required, then God was obligated to punish them severely. But, we are not under that covenant any longer. Jesus enacted a new covenant of grace toward us by his own blood. We enter into that covenant relationship with Him by faith.

“Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. ² Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God.” Rom. 5:1-2 ESV

A New Covenant Of Grace By Faith

We are not living under the same covenant that the prophets of old were. Therefore, we should operate under the guidelines of this new covenant. Since we are receiving the grace of God which we access by faith, we should also extend the grace of God toward others by that same faith. By doing so, God will work in their lives by the power of His Spirit. We allow room for Him to work according to His own design in this new covenant.

Judging New Covenant Prophetic Words

One of the major differences we notice as it relates to prophetic ministry is in the area of judging prophetic words. Several scriptures summarize some of the most important principles:

“Let two or three prophets speak, and let the others weigh what is said.” 1 Cor. 14:29 ESV

“Do not despise prophecies, ²¹ but test everything; hold fast what is good.” 1 The. 5:20-21 ESV

Retain What is Good

Under the old covenant, when a prophetic word was given and found to be wrong, they were judged severely. Of course, they persecuted and killed accurate prophets as well.

Paul implies that under the new covenant there is room for error, and that it is up to those hearing or receiving the word to weigh what is being said. With the possibility of error comes the possibility for some to despise prophecy all together. However, Paul encourages us to retain what is good after testing the prophetic word.

Overview Of The Process

We are not going to automatically know how to do it effectively unless we actually start doing it. As we practice, we will make mistakes. That's okay, because we all learn by doing and we have the liberty to give one another grace to develop and mature under the new covenant.

KEY CONCEPT #3

It's okay to practice; we learn and develop skilled ability by doing.

Practice Makes Perfect

It's okay to practice so that you may learn, which helps us grow in ability. There is no other way to learn to minister prophetically. God gives us the gift or ability, but we have to learn how to use it. We learn and grow by deliberately trying to apply knowledge until we develop a skill. Then we intentionally practice that skill until it becomes a part of our lifestyle.

“But solid food is for the mature, for those who have their powers of discernment trained by constant practice to distinguish good from evil.” Heb. 5:14 ESV

“Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.” Rom. 12:2 ESV

“Practice these things, immerse yourself in them, so that all may see your progress.” 1 Tim. 4:15 ESV

It's Okay To Stumble

God's grace allows us to fall while learning to walk. It's okay to stumble or miss it while trying to edify, exhort, and encourage others. Even if we “miss it”, we can't mess it up too bad if we are striving to strengthen, encourage, and build up.

Three Actions Of Prophetic Ministry

There are three parts to prophetic ministry: receiving, interpreting, delivering. Each of those are actions. This means that we must do something. Obviously, we are intimately involved in the process of prophetic ministry.

Three Actions Of Prophetic Ministry:

Receiving

Interpreting

Delivering

Receiving Requires Action

Faith that doesn't blossom into action will prove to be ineffective and will eventually deteriorate. Faith is incomplete without action in agreement with the heavenly reality it sees. In other words, physical action finishes faith.

*“So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.
18 But someone will say, “You have faith and I have works.” Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.” Jam. 2:17-18
ESV*

KEY CONCEPT #4

Receiving requires action in agreement with faith.

Act by faith, in agreement with truth, as if you have what you asked for.

“But what does it say? “The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim);⁹ because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.¹⁰ For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved.” Rom. 10:8-10 ESV

Heart-Believing + Physical Action = Manifestation

Believing from your heart combined with physical action completes living faith and results with the manifestation of what you believe for. It's cooperating with Heaven, seeing what God has promised, and then acting on it. Isaiah prophesied how that Jesus Christ would put action to faith and see the will of the Lord prosper.

*“Yet it was the will of the Lord to crush him; he has put him to grief; when his soul makes an offering for guilt, he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days; the will of the Lord shall prosper in his hand.” Isa. 53:10
ESV*

Jesus Intentionally Cooperated

How did the will of the Lord prosper in his hand? What's the significance of the it being in his hand? It's the fact that even Jesus had the responsibility to deliberately cooperate with the will of the Father. His decision to take action in agreement with the prophetic word caused it to come to pass.

“Agree with God, and be at peace; thereby good will come to you.” Job 22:21 ESV

Confirmation Comes After Delivery

You will never learn how accurately you hear until you deliver the word. You often will not get confirmation until after you are obedient.

This demands faith, which God will never remove from the equation because anything that is not of faith is sin (Romans 14:23).

“But Moses said to God, “Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the children of Israel out of Egypt?”¹² He said, “But I will be with you, and this shall be the sign for you, that I have sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain.” Exo. 3:11-12 ESV (emphasis added)

*“Jeremiah said, “The word of the Lord came to me:⁷ Behold, Hanamel the son of Shallum your uncle will come to you and say, ‘Buy my field that is at Anathoth, for the right of redemption by purchase is yours.’⁸ Then Hanamel my cousin came to me in the court of the guard, in accordance with the word of the Lord, and said to me, ‘Buy my field that is at Anathoth in the land of Benjamin, for the right of possession and redemption is yours; buy it for yourself.’ **Then I knew** that this was the word of the Lord.” Jer. 32:6-8 ESV*

You Must Deliver To Learn

We all want to wait until we are sure of what we feel before we deliver it, but we will never be one-hundred percent sure until after we simply act and obey. We must be “doers” of the Word, not people who hear but never act.

Ask, Believe, And Receive

There is a three step process to receiving all the things that are freely given to us in Jesus. Ask for what you really want, in agreement with the established will of God.

Then, sincerely believe that God is doing for you what He has always done for everyone that has ever believed in Him. How much you really believe is the limiting measure of what you can receive. The more you *believe* you can access, the more you *will* access.

“Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. ⁸ For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. ⁹ Or which one of you, if his son asks him for bread, will give him a stone? ¹⁰ Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a serpent? ¹¹ If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask him!” Mat. 7:7-11 ESV

“But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind.” Jam. 1:6 ESV

Next, you must receive what you ask and believe for by taking action that is in agreement with your faith. Continue acting in agreement until you see the reality made manifest in your personal experience (Jam. 1:2-25; Jam. 2:14-26; 1 Tim. 4:14; 2 Tim 1:6).

Side Note

Remember that it's okay to try as long as you don't stop trying before you get what you ask and believe for. It's alright to practice. If you don't practice, then you will never become skilled.

Three Actions Taken To Receive Anything:

Asking
Believing
Receiving

Truth, Grace, and Faith

There are three stages in the process of receiving all the things that are freely given to us in Christ.

First, we are presented truth which the Holy Spirit illuminates to the

hungry. We receive all spiritual things the same way we receive salvation. We hear the truth and promises of God. God's grace gives us unearned favor to receive what we have not earned.

When faith rises in our hearts, we believe. We believe God's word from deep within our spirit, not just agree with it mentally. Then we confess with our mouth and take action in agreement with our faith.

“So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.” Rom. 10:17 ESV

“But what does it say? “The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); ⁹ because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved.” Rom. 10:8-10 ESV

*“What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him?”
Jam. 2:14 ESV*

Three Stages In The Process Of Receiving Anything:

Realizing truth

Receiving grace

Acting in faith

Summary Review

1. **Prophetic ministry is primarily ministry.**
2. The purpose of the prophetic ministry of all believers is to **strengthen, encourage, and comfort**; to **serve each other as good stewards of God's grace**; and to **impart faith, hope, and love**.
3. If you can hear God's voice and then express what you hear, then **you can minister prophetically**.
4. God wants you to mature and grow in character, but **growing into maturity can only be accomplished as you take action**.
5. The **Holy Spirit is the gift**, and He will especially manifest through you in nine particular ways which we refer to as the gifts of the Spirit.
6. **Most of the time, most people minister out of the anointing that is within them**, an internal anointing, which is more subtle but just as legitimate and effective as the external anointing which comes upon you from outside of your being.
7. We should judge prophetic ministry under the New Covenant and **retain that which is good without despising prophesy because of errors or immaturity**.
8. Even **spiritual abilities are developed through practice**. Practice develops skilled ability to use what we've been given.

Key Concepts

Key Concept #1

Prophetic ministry should always strengthen, encourage, and comfort.

Key Concept #2

We can all prophesy.

Key Concept #3

It's okay to practice; we learn and develop skilled ability by doing.

Key Concept #4

Receiving requires action in agreement with faith.

Principles

Three Levels Of Prophetic Operation

1. All believers (Joh. 10:27 and Mat, 10:20)
2. Spirit-filled believers (1 Cor. 12-14)
3. Angelic-assisted believers (Rev. 10:8-11, 22:6)

Three Levels Of Prophetic Ministry

1. “My sheep hear My voice” (Joh. 10:27)
2. Intentional Spirit-filled gifting (Act. 19:6)
3. Five-fold office mandate (Eph. 4:11)

Three Actions Of Prophetic Ministry

1. Receiving
2. Interpreting
3. Delivering

Three Actions Taken To Receive Anything

1. Asking
2. Believing
3. Receiving

Three Stages In The Process Of Receiving Anything

1. Realizing truth
2. Receiving grace
3. Acting in faith

Chapter 2

Receiving: Hearing the Voice of God Anytime,
Anywhere

How It "Looks & Feels"

Imagine yourself being at home in your favorite chair with a cup of hot coffee and a cinnamon bun, as a helicopter flies just over the top of your house. Feel the comfort of being there, and the hot cup in your hand. Smell the coffee and cinnamon bun. Look at the inside of your house or peer out the window at the helicopter flying by. Listen to the sound of the helicopter and the neighbor's dog barking at it.

Imagination Is Where We Perceive

The way we experience those things in our imagination is what it typically looks and feels like to receive prophetic revelation.¹ When we say that we have received prophetic revelation, what we are saying is that we have perceived spiritual communication.

Your mind, will, and emotions will perceive things from both the physical and spiritual realms. You must practice in order to learn the difference between your own human imagination, God speaking, and the enemy speaking. You will only learn to distinguish between them through practice, having trained yourself by “doing” (Heb. 5:14).

God Speaks In Spirit

God is Spirit, so He usually “speaks” to you in the form of spiritual communication. Spiritual communication is transferred into your perception through your mind, will, and emotions. Therefore, when God speaks to you it sounds like you thinking.

Spiritual communication is perceived in many different ways, such as through dreams, vision, voice, sounds, smells, tastes, spontaneous ideas, illumination, inspiration (including inspired utterance and inspired unction), impression, intuition, internal witness, empathetic feelings, and flashbacks.

1 The previous demonstration was not prophetic revelation or spiritual communication. It was simply a demonstration of what it looks and feels like to perceive spiritual communication in your imagination.

How It Happens

Although God will often speak to you suddenly without your anticipation, you can also deliberately utilize the prophetic gifts whenever you desire. You only need to know that you can. By doing so, you are simply coming into agreement with the present reality of “as it is in Heaven”.

KEY CONCEPT #5

We can operate in the prophetic gifts whenever we choose to.

Operating in prophetic ministry deliberately is a lot like walking into a dark room with a flashlight. You do not know what you will see as you look around, but you *will see* in the areas that you focus your light on.

The Soul Is The Projector Screen Of Your Being

As mentioned previously, spiritual information is transmitted to your physical being through the soul, which is the mind, will, and emotions. There are three methods of receiving prophetic revelation which directly relate to these three parts of the soul: seer, knower, and feeler. The seer method favors perceiving through the mind, the knower through the will, and the feeler through the emotions.

We will all tend to favor one of these methods over the others, but we still function in all three ways at least some of the time. In other words, we are not limited to only one method, but each one of us will find one of these to be naturally dominant.

Three Methods Of Spiritual Perception:

Seer

Knower

Feeler

A Further Word

John G. Lake said, "... each one is conscious of our own personality to this extent: At least in our material consciousness, our earthly consciousness, we are aware of our environments and the things that take place about us. And through the sensory organs we are brought into harmony with the world about us. All our life and being is on that plane to a great extent, without realizing as we should that the spiritual man and the real man – the God-man, the indestructible, eternal man, the God in us – has a being, a consciousness, and spiritual sensory organs just the same as our material man has. The soul is the consciousness, the ego, by which either that which takes place in the natural or that which takes place in the spiritual sensory organs is brought to us just the same as our material man has."²

Spiritual Reality Is Superior

Even though prophetic revelation may not initially seem as real to you as the physical realm, the spiritual realm you are perceiving is still superior. (Heb. 11:3; 2 Cor. 4:18; 1 Joh. 1:2) Everything physical was made out of the spiritual realm. Therefore, what we perceive in the spiritual realm is superior to what we perceive with our physical senses.

The Five Golden Senses

In the same way that every person has five physical senses which gather information from the physical realm, we each have five spiritual senses which gather information from the spiritual realm. They are seeing, hearing, smelling, tasting, and feeling (or touching). Some may refer to these spiritual senses as the golden or divine senses.

KEY CONCEPT #6

We all have five spiritual senses: seeing, hearing, smelling, tasting, and touching.

² Lake, John G., and Roberts Liardon. "Untitled, The Triune God." John G. Lake: The Complete Collection of His Life Teachings. New Kensington, PA: Whitaker House, 2004. 152. Print.

Living From The Spirit, To The Physical

God created us to primarily receive information from the heavenly realm through the use of our spiritual senses, which we perceive through our soul, and then release through our body into the physical realm. This is the way we were designed to function.

But after the fall of mankind, sin entered the world and corrupted our nature. Now we naturally tend to live in the reverse order of primarily receiving information out of the earthly realm through our physical senses, which is projected onto our soul, and then sowed into the spiritual realm.

As we deliberately use our spiritual senses and function in the order that God designed us to, we will find that our ability to perceive the spiritual realm will grow stronger. The more we value the spiritual information we receive, the more we perceive it.

Left-Brain vs. Right-Brain

Receiving prophetic revelation is a right-brain activity. For instance, dreams are not logical, systematic, and rational. Instead, they are intuitive, spontaneous, and random. The right-brain naturally interfaces with the spiritual realm, while the left-brain is perfectly designed to interface with the physical realm.

Spiritual revelation is carried on spontaneous thought, which is associated with right-brained thinking. Spontaneous thought is easily cut off by self-exertion.

KEY CONCEPT #7

Accessing the spiritual realm is associated with right-brained thinking.

LEFT-BRAIN THINKING	RIGHT-BRAIN THINKING
Logical	Intuitive
Systematic	Spontaneous
Rational	Random
Accuracy & Precision	Creativity & Aesthetics
Reasoning	Imagination
Analyzing	Synthesizing
Specifics	Patterns
Sequential	Simultaneous
Linear Progression	Holistic Overview
Seeing the Parts	Seeing the Whole
Object Focused	Subject Focused
Specific Detail	General Concept
Verbally Oriented	Imagery Oriented
Speaking, Reading, Writing	Music, Art, Acting
Counting & Measuring	Shapes & Motion
Literal, Technical	Metaphoric, Poetic
Grammar & Vocabulary	Context & Idea
Factual Past	Visionary Future
Individual, Independent	Group, Community
Mental Thinking and Learning	Hands-on Thinking and Learning

The broad generalization of assigning certain functions and activities to either the right-brain or left-brain is technically not an accurate assumption because they are not isolated to one side of your physical brain.³ However, it is a useful way of explaining the definite differences between the two distinct modes of thinking.

Whole-Brain Balance

Most people naturally prefer one mode over the other, but if you deliberately practice the mode you are weakest in, you will be able to operate in more of a whole-brain fashion. The more you practice, the easier it will get, even though you may continue to prefer one or the other.

The ideal goal would be to become fairly balanced between them both. We should strive to be equally right-brained and left-brained. There are benefits to both modes of thinking. In fact, both are necessary for you to minister at your full potential.

Advantages Of Left-Brain & Right-Brain Thinking

You can increase your ability to *receive* prophetic revelation by intentionally doing things that utilize right-brain functions. You can increase your ability to *deliver* prophetic revelation by exercising left-brain your abilities.

Three Ways To Increase Ability To Receive Revelation:

Be spontaneous by taking a drive to an unknown destination.

Use your imagination to do something new.

Do something creative, random, or unplanned.

3 The brain is distinctly different from the mind. The brain is a physical organ. The mind is spiritual, the invisible, real you. The mind, will, emotions, and every other part of our being is in some way connected to the function of our physical brains.

Three Ways To Increase Ability To Deliver Revelation:

Create a plan, schedule, or outline to act on and follow it exactly.

Be accurate, precise, and detailed in describing something.

Organize something in a rational order.

Left-Brained Advantages & Errors

Because we live in a left-brain dominated society, it's important to understand that in some ways logical, deductive reasoning is actually just as vulnerable to deception and error as spontaneous creative flow. The left-brain assumption that if you are in logical control, you will be less vulnerable to deception is deception in itself, because you think you are in control. Surrender and abandonment to the Holy Spirit relates inversely to your level of vulnerability to deception.

Logical thinkers may adhere to biblical facts and details more precisely, but they may also tend to reason themselves into error. This is especially true in light of the fact that the content of the bible is largely right-brain in essence. When left-brain thinkers try to understand right-brain thinking through left-brain lenses, they tend to develop basic misunderstandings and erroneous assumptions.

Three Errors of Left-Brained Thinkers:

Thinking you are in logical control.

Reasoning into erroneous assumptions.

Interpreting right-brained thinking or expression as logical or systematic.

Right-Brained Advantages & Errors

On the other hand, right-brain thinkers may connect easily with the essence of the bible and the experiences that it conveys, but they may also tend to sacrifice clear facts and details for the sake of what they feel.

For this reason, right-brain thinkers need to deliberately anchor everything on the details of the written Word and value it above their own feelings.

There are advantages to both ways of thinking and neither one is perfect in itself. Developing a balance between the two is best. You should embrace both as part of your maturing process toward being renewed in the likeness of Christ and becoming a whole man.

Three Errors of Right-Brained Thinkers:

Thinking you can be completely carefree by disregarding logic.

Disregarding clear facts and details in favor of feeling and intuition.

Receiving left-brained logical thinking as harsh, cold, or overly direct.

Exercise Your Right-Brain Ability

You must exercise to strengthen anything. In other words, do it. You can make it a point to do creative things daily, if for no other reason than to simply stretch your right-brain abilities. This will help you learn to shift into that spontaneous, creative mode at will, which will allow you to perceive the spiritual realm more easily.

It's okay to do right-brain activities with or without spiritual intentions. Some things that you can do are creative writing, drawing, doodling, rearranging, listen to music, singing, etc. Exercise your right-brain ability by doing anything to release what you feel in your heart without analyzing it.

Left-brained function is more focused on thinking, while right-brained functions involve more focus on hands-on involvement. Therefore, if you want to expand your ability to receive revelation, you should evaluate less and act on spontaneous thought more frequently, learning as you go.

Remember: practice to develop the gifts that God gives you, and

exercise to strengthen your ability to use them.

How To Tune In

The only safe and legal access into the spiritual realm is through Jesus Christ. We need to be surrendered to Him when we turn our attention to the spiritual realm. However, we are always in the spiritual realm whether are aware of it or not, and we are safe to the degree that we are living a life of yielding to His control.

Holy Spirit Influences, Enemy Pushes

God knocks on your heart and influences you. If you don't respond and surrender to God, He will often pass on by (Luk. 24:28-29). The enemy bombards you with what he wants you to say and pushes obsessively to have his way. In other words, if you feel compelled to relent to a strong pressure that you don't feel you can control, the enemy is pressuring you. God created you to take dominion and subdue, and He even gives you control of your Spirit.

*“And the spirits of prophets are subject to prophets.” 1
Cor. 14:32 ESV*

We will cover more about how to identify a pure and Godly word in Chapter 4.

The Kingdom Of God Is Within You

Tuning in to hear the voice of God is as simple as shifting your attention to the spiritual realm where the Holy Spirit is. That heavenly realm is all around you, but the Kingdom of God is within you. Jesus is in you, and you are in Him.

*“Being asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come, he answered them, “The kingdom of God is not coming with signs to be observed,²¹ nor will they say, ‘Look, here it is!’ or ‘There!’ for behold, the kingdom of God is in the midst of you.” Luk. 17:20-21
ESV*

“In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you.” Joh. 14:20 ESV

“In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.” Eph. 2:22 ESV

“If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. ³ For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.” Col. 3:1-3 ESV

Look To See

After shifting your whole being to focus on the King and His Kingdom which is within you, then you “look to see” what He will show you in the area that you wish to see into.

“I will take my stand at my watchpost and station myself on the tower, and look out to see what he will say to me ...” Hab. 2:1 ESV

Use Your Flashlight

Essentially, you get into His presence, and then you shine into the area you wish to see into, expecting Him to show you something. In His light, nothing is hidden. Believe that God will share one of His many thoughts with you (1 Cor. 2:9-16; Rom. 8:27; Psa. 139:17; Jer. 29:11).

“For with you is the fountain of life; in your light do we see light.” Psa. 36:9 ESV

“The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.” Joh. 1:5 ESV

“The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.” Joh. 1:9 ESV

You can “warm up” by deliberately looking for specific kinds of word of knowledge, like looking into a dark room with a flashlight. Remember, you don't know what you will see, but you will see in the area that you are looking into. You can then use these targeted words of knowledge to launch into prophecy more easily (John 1:47-51; John 4:16-29).

You will find that you will see the kinds of things you look for. This is why some people tend to see certain types of things more frequently, while others see other types of things regularly. It is also true that you will tend to see the kinds of things you personally value.

Use Proximity

Being in someone's personal space, especially by touching them, makes it easier to perceive spiritual revelation about them. Always ask permission before laying hands on anyone, unless the permission is already implied (as it is in most churches).

More about proximity will be explored in Chapter 5.

Three Power Principles For Spiritual Perception:

Look into the area you want to see into as you would in a dark room with a flashlight.

Shift your attention inwardly where the Holy Spirit is.

Get closer to the person you are ministering to, even by stepping into their personal space.

When It's Tough Getting Started

If you don't think you are hearing God speak, ask yourself questions. What do I think I saw? What am I thinking of, or what do I think I'm thinking of? What do I think I feel? Don't evaluate too much, just engage. If you take more than a few seconds to evaluate your impressions, then you are probably being too logical. When you are logical, you tend to reason it out of your way. Just start saying what you

see or feel without analyzing it and trust that God will give you more as you go.

For instance, sometimes it helps to ask questions to investigate by focusing on what is already there. The perspective would be, “it is already there, I just haven't perceived it.” Ask specific questions based on the leading of the Holy Spirit, while looking for answers. Ask yourself, “what is already there?”

Alternately, it is helpful to shift your perspective to perceive what you have already noticed and disregarded. It is shifting your focus from “God, please show me,” to, “what have I already perceived?”

A third method is to think out-loud to bring clarity to what you are seeing. This is explaining or talking-out what you perceive. It is actively acknowledging what you are perceiving while engage your whole being in releasing it. This is a very powerful way to engage what you are seeing.

Three Ways To Jump-Start Prophetic Ministry:

Ask questions to investigate

Shift perspective to perceive

Think out-loud

Summary Review

1. **The way we experience things in our imaginations is what it looks and feels like to perceive in the spiritual realm.**
2. God is Spirit, and **He most often speaks to us spiritually.**
3. **We can perceive spiritually anytime we shift our attention to look inwardly** and perceive what God is revealing.
4. We perceive the spiritual realm inwardly in three ways: **seeing, knowing, and feeling.**
5. We gather spiritual awareness through our five spiritual senses: **seeing, hearing, smelling, tasting, and feeling.**
6. **Right-brained thinking is ideal for receiving spiritual revelation**, while left-brained thinking is ideal for delivering revelation.

Key Concepts

Key Concept #5

We can operate in the prophetic gifts whenever we choose to.

Key Concept #6

We all have five spiritual senses: seeing, hearing, smelling, tasting, and touching.

Key Concept #7

Accessing the spiritual realm is associated with right-brained thinking.

Principles

Three Methods Of Spiritual Perception:

1. Seer
2. Knower
3. Feeler

Three Ways To Increase Ability To Receive Revelation:

1. Be spontaneous by taking a drive to an unknown destination.
2. Use your imagination to do something new.
3. Do something creative, random, or unplanned.

Three Ways To Increase Ability To Deliver Revelation:

1. Create a plan, schedule, or outline to act on and follow it exactly.
2. Be accurate, precise, and detailed in describing something.
3. Organize something in a rational order.

Three Errors Of Left-Brained Thinkers:

1. Thinking you are in logical control.
2. Reasoning into erroneous assumptions.
3. Interpreting right-brained thinking or expression as logical or systematic.

Three Errors Of Right-Brained Thinkers:

1. Thinking you can be completely carefree by disregarding logic.
2. Disregarding clear facts and details in favor of feeling and intuition.

3. Receiving left-brained logical thinking as harsh, cold, or overly direct.

Three Power Principles For Spiritual Perception:

1. Look into the area you want to see into as you would in a dark room with a flashlight.
2. Shift your attention inwardly where the Holy Spirit is.
3. Get closer to the person you are ministering to, even by stepping into their personal space.

Three Ways To Jump-Start Prophetic Ministry:

1. Ask questions to investigate
2. Shift perspective to perceive
3. Think out-loud

Chapter 2 - Activations

Activation: Personal Journaling

Purpose

In this exercise, you will begin to prophesy by writing down the things that you feel God is saying to you concerning yourself. This will help you to realize that you can hear God speaking to you, and then express it.

Instructions

You will simply ask the Holy Spirit to speak to you about yourself and then start writing the first things that come to your mind. Don't try to figure it out or plan it out. Don't evaluate what you are thinking or writing. Don't worry about being perfect or saying everything just right. It doesn't even need to be in complete sentences. It may be seemingly random pictures, ideas, feelings, words, scriptures, etc. Just write whatever comes to mind. When you are done, you can go back to read and evaluate what you feel God was saying to you.

An extra page is included at the end of this chapter for you to write down what God is saying to you.

Activation: Looking For Fruit

Purpose

In this prophetic exercise, you will get a word of knowledge by looking for the fruit of the Spirit that is most strongly developed in someone's life. You are going to encourage them by noticing the good things that God is doing in their life. This will stretch your ability to perceive spiritual truth by looking for a word of knowledge.

Instructions

Select a partner to prophesy to. After praying and then focusing your attention on your partner, read through the fruits of the Spirit listed in Gal. 5:22-23: Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. The Holy Spirit will illuminate at least one of the fruits to you that are especially prominent in your partner's life. You will then prophesy that word of knowledge to the your partner for their encouragement. Switch roles and allow your partner to do the same for you.

Activation: Prophetic Blessing

Purpose

This activation will allow you to speak the goodness of God into the future of others as the Holy Spirit leads you. You will speak love, acceptance, and appreciation, invoking God's special favor and divine blessing on their lives. Proverbs 10:11 says, “The mouth of the righteous is a fountain of life,” so you are going to turn your fountain on and speak life.

Instructions

Pair up with a partner and ask them to allow you the opportunity to practice. Focus your attention on Jesus and His presence. Then from that place, shift your attention to your partner and pray or speak a prophetic blessing into their life. Continue to verbally release the good things that come to your mind until that flow of thoughts or ideas stops. Then switch roles and allow your partner to prophetically bless you.

Chapter 3

Interpreting: Receiving Understanding for
Prophetic Revelation

The Importance Of Good Interpretation

Much of what is labeled as false prophecy is often simply a misinterpretation of accurate revelation. In other words, the interpretation is where most apparently wrong prophetic revelation first goes wrong.

Experience Comes Through Practice

Obviously, experience makes a big difference. Experience comes through practice, so if you don't try, you'll never reach your potential. Don't stop trying just because you've missed it. Don't wait until you're perfect. Rather, allow God to work on your personal character as you continue trying and practicing until you get it right.

It's easy to interpret prophetic revelation in a way that you want it or expect it, therefore it's important to take steps to ensure as much impartial accuracy as possible. When you don't have an internal witness about the interpretation you are considering, don't proclaim it. Rather, phrase it as a question, present it as a possibility, wait on the Lord until you get the understanding, or simply say what you see. No interpretation is better than forcing a misinterpretation.

The Roots Of Good Interpretation

Having a solid biblical foundation with an accurate perception of God as perfectly revealed only in Jesus Christ is of utmost importance to accurate interpretation.

KEY CONCEPT #8

Every interpretation should accurately testify of the Truth as revealed in Jesus Christ.

The Testimony Of Jesus

The testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy, so every interpretation should accurately testify of Jesus, His nature, and His heart. Knowing Him

in Spirit and in Truth is crucial. Approaching all things in a spirit of love is paramount.

“But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. ²⁴ God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.” Joh. 4:23-24 ESV

Agreement With The Word

All good interpretation will be in agreement with the established Word of God. It's not following the letter of the law that is important, it is following the heart and soul of the One behind the words that is imperative. Accurate understanding of prophetic revelation must always reflect the essence of the Word as revealed in Jesus Christ.

Purity Of Heart

Our heart attitude towards God and towards the recipient must be pure. Our motivation for giving the interpretation must also be pure. It is the pure in heart who see God clearly, including His heart and desires.

*“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.”
Mat. 5:8 ESV*

Understanding Spiritual Metaphors

Logically reasoned thoughts and calculations often contain basic errors because God usually speaks to us through both symbolic spiritual metaphors *and* specific literal facts. But, one thing is certain: most prophetic revelation is in the form of metaphors.

In order to understand the things that God speaks to your heart, you will need to think metaphorically. The more you come into agreement with correct interpretation of spiritual metaphors, the more you grow in faith and ability. Remember, we learn by doing.

What Is A Metaphor?

A metaphor figuratively explains something by making a comparison with the similarities of something that is technically unrelated.⁴ Metaphors are associated with right-brain thinking, so exercising your right-brain thinking skills will expand your ability to interpret prophetic revelation.

See the Appendix for some examples of common spiritual metaphors.

Four Roots Of Good Interpretation:

A solid Biblical understanding

Agreement with the Truth as revealed in Jesus Christ

Purity of your motives and attitude

Understanding metaphorical thinking

The Roots Of Misinterpretation

When you have prejudice, anger, fear, suspicion, or other internal conflict with someone, it is very easy to wrongly interpret revelation concerning them. However, you can train yourself to wipe the slate clean and accurately interpret prophetic revelation even if you have internal conflict. With maturity in both wisdom and character, you can allow your revelation to positively affect your previous feelings and receive the heart and mind of Christ towards them.

Areas Of Conflict

In any area that you have unconfessed sin, strongholds, or personal areas

⁴ Examples of verbal metaphors: got your hands full; like riding a bike; fishing for information; everybody is singing the same tune; with your back up against a wall; water under the bridge.

of struggle, you will find that you are not able to accurately interpret revelation concerning those areas in the lives of others. In this case, you must confess your own sins and allow the blood of Christ to cover you.

Interpreting prophetic revelation based on preconceived ideas or on the recipient's attitudes, past, or outward appearance can easily be wrong.

*“When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought,
“Surely the Lord's anointed is before him.”⁷ But the
Lord said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or
on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him.
For the Lord sees not as man sees: man looks on the
outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.”¹
Sam. 16:6-7 ESV*

Wounds, Desires, Preferences, And Moods

Most misinterpretation is rooted in one of four things: our own wounds, desires, preferences, or moods. Interpretations that are produced out of or affected by these things often end up skewed or distorted.

Four Roots Of Misinterpretation:

Personal inner wounds
Personal desires
Personal preferences
Personal moods

Searching It Out vs. Figuring It Out

The understanding or interpretation is received in the same way that any other prophetic revelation is received. It is a gift of the Holy Spirit who leads, guides, teaches, and reveals Truth. It's always okay to ask the Holy Spirit and the recipient questions

as we are searching for the pieces to come together. We must learn to dig for accuracy while looking for more revelation.

Don't Force It

Pressure breaks your connection to receiving revelation by the Spirit. Just search it out by looking diligently, not hastily. Peace and gentleness are the way of the Spirit.

Inner Witness

Always look for an inner witness of the Spirit to indicate an accurate interpretation. On the other hand, a confused, clouded, “off”, or “sinking” feeling immediately indicates a wrong interpretation for most people. There is a distinct feeling that you will learn to notice when something is either definitely right or definitely wrong.

KEY CONCEPT #9

Don't figure it out; search it out.

The Holy Spirit Interprets

In Jeremiah 1:11-19, when God taught Jeremiah to understand what He showed him metaphorically, you will notice that it is God who speaks and it is God who interprets. In Genesis 40:8 Joseph said, “Do not interpretations belong to God?” And again in Genesis 41:16, Pharaoh asked Joseph to interpret his dreams and Joseph answered Pharaoh, “It is not in me; God will give Pharaoh a favorable answer.”

“Then the mystery was revealed to Daniel in a vision of the night. Then Daniel blessed the God of heaven. ²⁰ Daniel answered and said: “Blessed be the name of God forever and ever, to whom belong wisdom and might. ²¹ He changes times and seasons; he removes kings and sets up kings; he gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to those who have understanding; ²² he reveals deep and hidden things; he knows what is in the darkness, and the light dwells with him. ²³ To you, O God

of my fathers, I give thanks and praise, for you have given me wisdom and might, and have now made known to me what we asked of you, for you have made known to us the king's matter.” Dan. 2:19-23 ESV

Assumptions

Making assumptions about how prophetic revelation should be interpreted or will play out is often wrong because we only see in part. Especially try to avoid making assumptions with timing and the object or person of focus. For instance, names may be family or close friends instead of the person you are actually talking to.

Opinions and doctrines can be especially devastating to accurate interpretation. Even though they may be right, opinions and doctrines are not interpretations.

The bottom line is that we must learn not to force our revelation into our current grid of understanding, while still remaining rooted in the established Word of God. We should allow prophetic revelation to expand our understanding of the Word without going beyond it.

Friendly Advice

While they mean well, close friends will often give you advice out of their personal and more intimate knowledge of your own life and desires. In other words, they tend to fill in the blanks for you. It's wonderful to have close friends to share your life with. There are great benefits just in maintaining close relationships. But helping you interpret your revelation is usually not one of them, unless they are matured through experience.

The most common problem is that friends will unintentionally tell you what they know you want to hear, or to interpret your revelation in a way that fits what they already know about you. Another way of saying this is that your friends will have a tendency to box your revelation within the framework of your current life, in the way they perceive it. Also, it is very difficult for friends to not allow their own personal desires concerning your relationship to affect their understanding.

Seeing the Big Picture

Constructing an entire life-size poster out of tiny details almost always results in error. We only know in part (1 Cor. 13:9), and therefore prophesy in part. It is impossible to piece together every question and mystery out of the few parts that we do see.

It is only possible to piece together the part of the picture that God is currently revealing. This is what I would call the big picture. The big picture is the overall theme and message that God is currently revealing. It's the bigger picture in the sense that it includes or encompasses the currently revealed details.

Filling In The Blanks

It's common for people to try to fill in all the blanks in an attempt to answer all the questions they've ever had based on something that they are currently seeing, even when it is unrelated. Another common error is to attempt to make everything you see or hear be in some way related to something you desire. There is no need to make these mistakes. Just because God is speaking to you doesn't mean you are authorized to fill in the blanks about things He isn't revealing.

Prophecy In Part

So, it's okay to prophesy in part. Do not prophesy beyond what you actually receive. You don't need to piece together everything in a person's life and make sense of everything for them. If it worked that way then it would no longer be a personal journey of dependence and surrender to God.

The Bigger Picture

However, never lose track of the bigger picture that God is currently revealing for the sake of small details. Details should bring clarity and depth of meaning. Details can often reveal patterns and themes which are encompassed in the bigger piece of the puzzle which you are presently receiving.

KEY CONCEPT #10

Details bring clarity to the bigger picture.

Receiving The Interpretation

Ask and wait on the Lord for the interpretation, which you will receive in the same way you receive any other prophetic revelation. It may be one simple picture or idea, but it will present an overall perspective of the interpretation. It will be spontaneous thought and understanding. Then, when you focus your attention on the details, you will notice how the details add great clarity and depth of meaning to the bigger picture.

Never make any major life changes because of a prophetic word unless you have

Side Note | received multiple confirmations concerning the larger perspective. It is important to submit directive prophetic words to the wise counsel of your pastor and other spiritual leaders in your life whom God has gifted and entrusted with your care.

What To Do

So what do you do with the revelation you receive? The first and most important thing is to acknowledge the reality of the revelation, or acknowledge that God is showing you something (Pro. 3:6). It is simply admitting that you perceive it and that it's real. This causes your whole being to come more into focus on what it perceives in the spiritual realm. This causes you to grow and increase in your ability to see and hear.

The second thing you should do is to interpret the revelation if possible. When you don't understand what you hear or see, you ponder it in your heart until the understanding comes (Luk. 2:19). Hold it out in front of you, and as you go, be aware when and where it fits but don't force it to fit. It can sometimes be years before the understanding is there. Don't feel pressured to understand when you simply don't. Pressure breaks your ability to hear clearly by muddying the flow you do receive. Often the interpretation comes easily when the pressure to get it is released.

In the next chapter, we will learn more about how to apply the revelation. For now, let's just recognize the fact that the spiritual realm and the physical realm are overlapping and they influence one another. Therefore, what we perceive in the spiritual realm is useful for influencing the physical realm. In order to do this it must be applied in an appropriate way.

Three Things To Do With What You Receive:

Acknowledge it (Pro. 3:6)

Interpret it or ponder it (Luke 2:19)

Apply it as appropriate (1 Pet. 4:10)

Summary Review

1. **A solid Biblical foundation and understanding of Jesus Christ are of utmost importance to good interpretation.**
2. **Most prophetic revelation is in the form of spiritual metaphors**, so to understand it you will need to think metaphorically.
3. **A metaphor figuratively explains something** by making a comparison with the similarities of something technically unrelated.
4. **Most misinterpretation is rooted in either personal wounds, desires, preferences, or moods.**
5. **It is helpful to gently dig for accuracy while still looking** for further revelation and an inner witness of the Holy Spirit.
6. **You are not authorized to fill in the blanks about things God isn't revealing.**

Key Concepts

Key Concept #8

Every interpretation should accurately testify of the Truth as revealed in Jesus Christ.

Key Concept #9

Don't figure it out; search it out.

Key Concept #10

Details bring clarity to the bigger picture.

Principles

Four Roots Of Good Interpretation:

1. A solid Biblical understanding
2. Agreement with the Truth as revealed in Jesus Christ
3. Purity of your motives and attitude
4. Understanding metaphorical thinking

Four Roots Of Misinterpretation:

1. Personal inner wounds
2. Personal desires
3. Personal preferences
4. Personal moods

Three Things To Do With What You Receive:

1. Acknowledge it (Pro. 3:6)
2. Interpret it or ponder it (Luke 2:19)
3. Apply it as appropriate (1 Pet. 4:10)

Chapter 3 – Activations

Activation: Popcorn Prophecy

Purpose

This activation demonstrates the fact that we all see and know in part by allowing everyone in a group to add a piece to the prophetic ministry. It also helps you exercise your ability to hear from the Lord and speak what you hear.

Instructions

Everyone in the group will quickly deliver one word, picture, idea, or feeling for a person previously selected. It is very helpful to have someone write down the words given. Everything will then be put together to form one group word and presented to the recipient for ministry and feedback. You will then dig for better accuracy by presenting details individually.

Activation: Practicing Word of Knowledge

Purpose

In this activation, you will practicing receiving words of knowledge and then interpreting them in a way that is applicable to the person's life.

Instructions

Find someone you don't know well and then ask for their permission to practice receiving words of knowledge and the interpretation through the Holy Spirit. Focus your attention on Jesus and then turn your attention to your partner. Look to see what the Holy Spirit will show you about that person. You will intentionally perceive something about them that is already true in the present. Then interpret what you receive. Present your partner with the word of knowledge and then the

interpretation, and then ask them for confirmation or clarity. After you are done, give your partner permission to practice on you also.

Activation: Word Gifts

Purpose

This activation exercise is a creative way to prophetically bless someone by asking the Holy Spirit to give you a gift for them. This gift could be a word of knowledge describing something special that God highlights about them, or it could be a prophecy of something good that God is giving to them now or in the future. This exercise will stretch your ability to access prophetic revelation.

Instructions

After selecting a partner, you will focus your attention on the Holy Spirit and ask Him for a gift to present to them from His heart. You may see a picture or a short video in your imagination, or you may hear a specific word or phrase. You could feel an excitement or joy. You may smell a sweet aroma. Whatever it is, receive it from the Lord and then present it to your partner for their comfort and encouragement. After you are done, allow your partner to give you a special word gift from the Lord.

Chapter 4

Delivering: Prophetic Etiquette For Any
Environment

Ministering With Wisdom

When delivering prophetic ministry, always strive to encourage, edify, and exhort from a heart full of the fruits of the Spirit. Make it your aim to stir up faith, hope, and love out of a place of vibrant intimacy with the Holy Spirit. Always minister in a spirit of love.

KEY CONCEPT #11

Minister in a way that you could personally accept from someone else.

Safeguards

There are some things that we should completely avoid *in the prophetic ministry of all believers*. **It is wise to not prophecy exact dates, mates, serious change of direction, or babies.** These areas simply involve too much opportunity for unintended danger and are best left alone for the person to hear from God for themselves.

Four Things To Avoid Prophesying:

Exact dates

Mates

Serious change of direction

Babies

Prophecy Is Potential

For instance, individuals receiving prophecy may assume that all prophecy is supposed to automatically come to pass without their cooperation when, in fact, almost all prophesy is God-given potential. Dates, mates, change of direction, and babies all require specific action

on the part of the individual in order for them to come to pass.

If the person doesn't do their part to cooperate with the word and the prophecy doesn't come to pass, then they may easily begin to despise prophecy or doubt God. More often, they tend to view and portray you as a “false prophet” or “bad guy”.

At the other extreme, the person may take on false condemnation when they realize that their actions do affect their future and that their failure to act has had definite results as well. They may realize that they missed an opportunity and feel that they failed God, thinking they now have no other option. God is always ready to make the most of any situation and provide a new way for anyone who is willing to change their way of thinking and follow His leading.

Avoid Unnecessary Pressuring

It can also tend to put pressure on people to perform and force things to happen the way they think it has to happen instead of simply cooperating with God by faith and seeing other doors open which they had never before considered. We are taking a position of greater responsibility as the ones doing the ministry, so we just want to avoid some of these common issues.

Another very significant reason for these safeguards is that you can accurately see four different things: the plan of the Lord, the plan of the enemy, the desires of the human heart, and what is there just because it exists. It can be very difficult to discern the differences, even with experience.

If someone is looking for confirmation of their personal desires instead of God's desires, the person ministering prophetically may perceive it and share what they perceive without realizing it is the persons own desires. They can be accurate whether they prophesy the desires of the persons heart or the desires of God's heart. The roots of good interpretation can often help you discern the difference through experience.

**Side
Note**

Psa. 25:14 says that the secret counsel of the Lord is for those who fear Him. In order to stay on the path hearing and prophesying God's plan, we must keep ourselves in the place of awe and fear of the Lord.

Four Things That You See Spiritually:

The plan of the Lord

The plan of the enemy

The desires of the human heart

What is there just because it exists

Good Sense

Never say, “this will happen” (unconditionally) when the recipient's personal response or involvement is required to see the fulfillment of a prophetic word. Most prophecy is potential that is specifically available to the person, but does require cooperation for the fulfillment. Instead, it's best to encourage them to begin taking action in agreement with the word of the Lord.

“Thus Sayeth The Lord”

Do not say “thus sayeth the Lord” or “God says”. It is not wise since we're practicing until we are mature, and we don't need to be presumptuous. Instead, say something like, “I feel” or, “I sense”.

Leave A Way Out

You should always give the person the opportunity to reject your prophetic word. You need to allow them a way out. If you don't, then you may unintentionally heap condemnation on them when they are not ready to hear what God is saying to them.

Never Pressure Acceptance

Never pressure anyone to accept your ministry. The Holy Spirit loves

them more than you do, and you should allow Him room to work in their lives. If your ministry is not well received, graciously bow out and apologize for any mistakes you *may have* made.

Four Good Sense Principles In The Prophetic Ministry Of All Believers:

Don't say that something “will” happen.

Don't say, “thus sayeth the Lord!”

Leave room for your ministry to be rejected.

Never pressure anyone; only influence them.

Minister For Growth

Consider how to minister in a way that allows for growth at the person's own pace instead of placing demands or obligations on them. What they can't receive now, they will often not forget. If God is speaking something to them, He will continue even after you are gone. In other words, you do not need to do the Holy Spirit's job. You only need to allow yourself to be the bridge that allows that person to connect to Him.

Stretch, Don't Force

Do not prophesy beyond your faith (Rom. 12:6), but do stretch beyond your comfort zone. If you see something but you do not believe it yourself, do not prophecy it publicly.

What You See vs. What You Say

Consider what you see versus what you should say. It's not about you prophesying; it's about ministering to the need. If you do address sin, darkness, turmoil, and struggle, do it very gently and full of love, never condemning.

“Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you

who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted.” Gal 6:1 ESV

KEY CONCEPT #12

You do not prophesy everything you see; rather you minister to the need.

Encourage For Overcoming

Don't justify sin or disregard the truth, but encourage them with wisdom for overcoming. Personal prophecies should never be delivered in a manner that would cause shame or embarrassment to the recipient.

Be Accountable And Safe

Never minister to another person alone unless you have a close relationship with them already. Having accountability protects you against any possible false accusation and makes a safer environment for the recipient as well.

Spheres Of Authority

Spiritual authority in the Kingdom of God is favor which directly relates to responsibility, servanthood, relationship, and love. Authority does not come from great revelation. God grants authority according to His will, and we receive it by cooperating with Him by serving in love.

“But we will not boast beyond limits, but will boast only with regard to the area of influence God assigned to us, to reach even to you.” 2 Cor. 10:13 ESV

Authority Varies By Environment

Having a personal relationship with the recipient can give you greater authority in their life within a private informal setting which may not be

applicable in other settings. You only have an authoritative relationship to the degree that you take personal responsibility with love and humility to see them succeed in their lives.

Stay Within Your Sphere Of Authority

Do not prophesy beyond your level of authority. Just because you see something doesn't mean you have to say it. When appropriate, convey the word to the person who has the necessary authority. Yes, you can do this even when you feel great urgency, because the spirit of the prophet is subject to the prophet (1 Cor. 14:32). Jude verse 6 reveals that even angels are presently held under judgement because they “did not stay within their own position of authority.”

KEY CONCEPT #13

Minister only within your faith and authority.

Honor & Submit To Authority

Always submit yourself to the governing authorities with the humble heart of a servant (Rom. 13:1). Obey your leaders and remain teachable (Heb. 13:17).

The Roman centurion revealed an understanding of authority when He told Jesus, “I too am a man under authority, with soldiers under me” (Mat. 8:9). He recognized that Jesus had authority because He was acting under authority. Even though Jesus is God, He willingly subjected Himself to the Father's will and did not act on His own abilities and rights as God, but lived as a man under the authority of the Father.

“Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷ but made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. ⁸ And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient

*to the point of death, even death on a cross.” Phi. 2:5-8
ESV*

Express In Order To Benefit

No one will benefit from your prophetic revelation unless it is expressed clearly. We should strive to express it in a way that the person receiving the word can accept and understand.

“Now, brothers, if I come to you speaking in tongues, how will I benefit you unless I bring you some revelation or knowledge or prophecy or teaching? ⁷ If even lifeless instruments, such as the flute or the harp, do not give distinct notes, how will anyone know what is played? ⁸ And if the bugle gives an indistinct sound, who will get ready for battle? ⁹ So with yourselves, if with your tongue you utter speech that is not intelligible, how will anyone know what is said? For you will be speaking into the air. ¹⁰ There are doubtless many different languages in the world, and none is without meaning, ¹¹ but if I do not know the meaning of the language, I will be a foreigner to the speaker and the speaker a foreigner to me. ¹² So with yourselves, since you are eager for manifestations of the Spirit, strive to excel in building up the church.” 1 Cor. 14:6-12 ESV

Attempt To Be Effective

You may express a prophetic word in many different ways, but you should choose one that is appropriate for the person receiving so that they may benefit. You can express prophetic ministry by speaking, writing, journaling, prophetic acts, painting, music, and any other form of expression.

People receiving prophetic ministry often think of things differently from the way you present it to them. Even when the revelation is true, your presentation can prevent them from connecting with the word.

For instance, in Gen. 18:12-15 Sarah “laughed to herself,” and then denied laughing when the Lord asked Abraham, “Why did Sarah laugh?” I do not believe Sarah was intentionally lying to the Lord, but that Sarah did not think that laughing to herself (or laughing within her heart) was the same as “actually laughing.” This type of issue is common with prophetic ministry, and therefore it is good to be as fluid and descriptive as possible when relating what you perceive.

Open Hearts Through Positive Presentation

Always present your ministry in a positive way, making sure that the recipient feels as comfortable as possible. The openness of their heart is directly related to their trust of you and the how comfortable you make them feel socially. The more open their heart is towards you, the more effective your ministry will be in their life.

“Do not rebuke an older man but encourage him as you would a father, younger men as brothers, ² older women as mothers, younger women as sisters, in all purity.” 1 Tim. 5:1-2 ESV

Guard one another's dignity. Always be respectful and honoring, preferring others above yourself. Be bold yet gentle and full of grace, not blunt without compassion. Always ask permission before laying hands on anyone you are unfamiliar with, especially if you sense any sort of intimidation, fear, or distrust.

It's always a good idea to use breath mints and smile.

Proper Motives

Your motives should be to fulfill the purposes of prophetic ministry (refer to Chapter 1). Always strive to edify, encourage, and exhort. Remember, all true ministry is an impartation of faith, hope, and love as we serve one another as good stewards of God's grace. You should also be motivated to see righteousness and justice established through humility, mercy, and purity.

More than anything else, all ministry should be done as an act of worship and obedience to Jesus Christ.

Fruit Of The Spirit Litmus Test

“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.” Gal. 5:22-23 ESV

The fruits of the Spirit are an excellent aid for evaluating your motives. Use them to test the what is flowing from your heart. All of these fruits can be faked outwardly, but if they are not honest and truthful from the heart then the weight and substance of Heaven will not be resting upon your words.

Never Manipulate

Manipulation is any means of tricking or making people or circumstances satisfy your own desires, preferences, or moods, even if they are God-given and right. If you personally benefit by giving a prophetic word then you should probably “sit on” that word long enough to honestly evaluate your heart motives. Likewise, if you feel any sort of negative emotion towards someone, then you should get the Father's heart for that person before prophesying to them.

The Kingdom of God is established upon the surrendered, yielded heart. You must absolutely refuse to spiritually abuse others through manipulation.

It is manipulation if you use spiritual gifts as a way to impress others. If you are prophesying, always let the person know when you say or refer to something that you know in the natural. It is normal for the Holy Spirit to bring things to your memory in that moment, but it's best to let them know that He is reminding you of it.

Leave A Way Out

Remember, as a general rule, you should always leave the person a way out of the prophetic word. This means that you must leave them the

option to disagree with you and completely reject what you say. Never force them to accept you or the prophetic word you are giving.

Appropriate Timing

Look for the appropriate time to minister prophetically while expecting God to provide the opportunity. Allow things to flow along with the surrounding circumstances. In a church setting, this means that you should cooperate with what the Holy Spirit is doing corporately as you are surrendered to the established leadership.

God Loves More Than You Do

God wants people to know that He is speaking to them more than you want to prophesy. Trust that He will make a way at a time when the person will have their heart open to receive, whether through you or through someone else. Sometimes it's best to allow someone else to give the prophetic word that you have. Remember to prefer others over yourself. Every one of us can do this. If God can speak through a donkey, He can speak through anybody (Num. 22:28-30, 2 Pet. 2:16).

*“and the spirits of prophets are subject to prophets.” 1
Cor. 14:32 ESV*

Private Prayer Works

Don't forget about the power of private prayer and declaration. When it is best to give the word at a later time or not to give it publicly at all, you should always pray through it personally.

Summary Review

1. As a general rule, and especially when referring to the prophetic ministry of all believers, **it is not wise to prophecy exact dates, mates, serious change of direction, or babies.**
2. **Almost all prophesy is God-given potential** and requires definite cooperation from the person who receives it.
3. **You should minister in a way that allows for growth at the person's own pace** instead of placing demands or obligations on them. Therefore consider what you see versus what you should say.
4. **Spiritual authority directly relates to responsibility, servanthood, relationship, and love;** it does not come from great revelation.
5. Strive to **express prophetic ministry in a way that the person receiving the word can accept and understand.**
6. **Evaluate your heart motives** against the fruits of the Spirit.
7. **Look for the appropriate time to minister prophetically** while expecting God to provide the opportunity.

Key Concepts

Key Concept #11

Minister in a way that you could personally accept from someone else.

Key Concept #12

You do not prophesy everything you see; rather you minister to the need.

Key Concept #13

Minister only within your faith and authority.

Principles

Four Things To Avoid Prophecy:

1. Exact dates
2. Mates
3. Serious change of direction
4. Babies

Four Things That You See Spiritually:

1. The plan of the Lord
2. The plan of the enemy
3. The desires of the human heart
4. What is there just because it exists

Four Good Sense Principles In The Prophetic Ministry Of All Believers:

1. Don't say that something “will” happen.
2. Don't say, “thus sayeth the Lord!”
3. Leave room for your ministry to be rejected.
4. Never pressure anyone; only influence them.

Chapter 4 – Activations

Activation: Unknown Individual Prophecy

Purpose

In this exercise, you will learn that it is often easier to get a prophetic word for someone when you do not allow yourself to be distracted by their appearance.

Instructions

You will face the wall and close your eyes. Someone unknown to you will then stand directly behind you. Have them tap your shoulder to let you know that they are there without giving you any clues about who they are. You will ask the Holy Spirit to speak to you concerning this person, and then you will prophesy what He shows you.

Activation: Destiny Purpose Words

Purpose

Giving destiny purpose words will exercise your ability to receive, interpret, and deliver prophetic words in a way that ministers to someone – to edify, encourage, and exhort them to pursue God with more purpose and clarity. You are not going to prophesy a directive word to them, but you are going to speak about doors that God may be opening for them and opportunities that God may be bringing into their life. (I can see you doing these types of things ____, or I sense God may be moving you towards something like this ____, etc.)

Instructions

After receiving permission to practice on someone, begin to pray over them while looking to the Holy Spirit to speak to you and give you a word of destiny or purpose for them. Deliver it in the form of a prayer

as you actively receive and interpret the word. Do not be afraid to be silent for a few seconds as you focus your attention on receiving from the Holy Spirit. Switch roles with your partner and allow them to offer you a gift from the Holy Spirit for your own life.

Chapter 5

Team Prophecy: Ministering Effectively as Part of a
Team

Facilitating Exchange

Prophetic team ministry should be a spiritual exchange between God and the recipient, which we are facilitating as good stewards of God's grace (1 Pet. 4:10).

It's Not About You

This means that it's not about you. It's about creating an atmosphere or an environment that allows the Holy Spirit to touch someone's life. It's about allowing the recipient to be able to encounter God without being distracted by us. We become like a bridge that allows the two a means of access to one another.

You Are A Bridge

Of course, God can minister to them without us, but He chose to use us and gave us authority and a mandate to make the connection. We serve God and man by allowing ourselves to be a bridge between them. What a privilege that is.

Jesus Is The Ladder Connecting Heaven & Earth

In Genesis chapter 28, Jacob was on a journey to Haran. It says that when He came to a certain place he put a stone under his head and lay down to sleep.

“And he dreamed, and behold, there was a ladder set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to heaven. And behold, the angels of God were ascending and descending on it! ¹³ And behold, the Lord stood above it and said, “I am the Lord, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac. ...” Gen. 28:12-13 ESV

In John chapter 1, Nathaniel met Jesus and quickly answered Him, “Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!” (Joh. 1:49) Jesus said, “you will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man.” (Joh. 1:51) Essentially, Jesus was saying, “I am the ladder, the bridge, between Heaven and

Earth. And more than that, I am the way to the Father. My life is allowing you access to Him.”

We were made in His image, and He intends for us to do what He does. If you are a believer, your life is no longer your own and the life that you are living now is Christ living in you (Gal. 2:20). Because of Jesus, you are now the bridge that connects Heaven and Earth. The Holy Spirit is making you Christ-like. God intends to reveal Himself to all creation through your life.

Cooperate vs. Compete

When we operate as part of a team in ministry, we can only be an effective bridge when we are cooperating with our team. If we compete, hinder, or interrupt one another it breaks up the flow of ministry and tends to jerk the recipient out of a receiving mode.

Key Concept #14

Cooperate with the Holy Spirit and with your team.

It should never become a competition of who can get the best word or articulate it the most clearly. We should strive to honor one another above ourselves and to support one another, encouraging the recipient and our teammates. This is the message of Rom. 12:10 and 1 Cor. 14, especially verses 12 and 26-33.

Quick Clarity

Working together as a team can quickly bring greater definition and clarity to every individual word. Because we see and understand in part, we often get more revelation long after we ministered to someone. But, you may not have another chance to clarify what you felt the Lord wanted you to say to them. Team ministry overcomes this issue of timing very easily.

“But if all prophesy, and an unbeliever or outsider

enters, he is convicted by all, he is called to account by all, ²⁵ the secrets of his heart are disclosed, and so, falling on his face, he will worship God and declare that God is really among you.” 1 Cor. 14:24-25 ESV

A Team Operates As One Body

Quite often, someone will have a very general impression. After giving it, another teammate may get more specific understanding immediately. God will confirm it in your spirit, and then you will find that you are all moving quickly into deeper levels of ministry with the person. You will find that you are quickly penetrating the depths of their heart by operating as one body.

Focus Creates Flow

Or you may quickly receive the interpretation of a spiritual metaphor that another teammate delivers without an interpretation. Instead of being concentrated on what is unclear, the team can become wholly focused on being good stewards of God's grace toward someone that He loves.

Quick Confirmation

Team ministry allows for confirmation of prophetic revelation very quickly. Sometimes the only confirmation that you will get will come from your teammates. It is very common for more than one person to receive the same revelation in different ways. This also establishes the word by the testimony of two or three witnesses.

“This is the third time I am coming to you. Every charge must be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses.” 2 Cor. 13:1 ESV

Stay Focused On The Recipient

You will comfort, edify, and encourage your teammates in the process of ministering to others. This is very important, but keep your attention

focused on the recipient. Otherwise, you may end up getting revelation about your teammates. Cooperation only works when everyone's focus is on the same recipient.

Key Concept #15

Stay focused and unified for the benefit of the recipient.

Debrief Afterwards

It's a good idea to privately debrief as a team after you have ministered so that you grow and strengthen one another. During this time, you can focus more on each other and really take the time to be specific about details as you encourage and build one another up in the Lord.

If you are in a church setting, it's best to have an experienced team leader who can skillfully make any corrections that may need to be made. Let all judging, correcting, and directing among the team be done by the team leader, who has the responsibility to lovingly help you advance and grow in your own walk with God and in your own ability to minister effectively.

The Multiplication Principle

In the Kingdom of God, there is no addition; there is only multiplication. When two or more come together in unity there is a multiplied effectiveness. We will always be more effective together than we are individually.

“Five of you shall chase a hundred, and a hundred of you shall chase ten thousand, and your enemies shall fall before you by the sword.” Lev. 26:8 ESV

“How could one have chased a thousand, and two have put ten thousand to flight, unless their Rock had sold them, and the Lord had given them up?” Deu. 32:30 ESV

Key Concept #16

When two or more work together, there is a multiplied effectiveness.

Multiplication Increases Impact

Remember, there is also an establishing of the word at the testimony of two or three. When we are getting the same revelation, we are testifying of what we have seen and heard. This gives confirmation to the recipient and to us. It strengthens the power, effect, and impact of that revelation.

Corporate Anointing

Having your hearts focused in unity for the benefit of the one receiving ministry allows you to access a greater level of anointing and revelation than you can normally access alone. This is what is called a corporate anointing.

Proximity Anointing

In 1 Samuel chapter 19, Saul and his messengers prophesied under the corporate anointing. Normally, they did not operate in this prophetic anointing, but when they came into the spiritual atmosphere that was established by Samuel and the company of prophets they accessed and functioned in it.

Then Saul sent messengers to take David, and when they saw the company of the prophets prophesying, and Samuel standing as head over them, the Spirit of God came upon the messengers of Saul, and they also prophesied. ²¹ When it was told Saul, he sent other messengers, and they also prophesied. And Saul sent messengers again the third time, and they also prophesied. ²² Then he himself went to Ramah and came to the great well that is in Secu. And he asked, "Where are Samuel and David?" And one said, "Behold, they are at Naioth in Ramah." ²³ And he went there to Naioth in Ramah. And the Spirit of God came upon him also, and as he

*went he prophesied until he came to Naioth in Ramah. ²⁴
And he too stripped off his clothes, and he too
prophesied before Samuel and lay naked all that day and
all that night. Thus it is said, “Is Saul also among the
prophets?” 1 Sam. 19:20-24 ESV*

Not only is it true that being in close proximity to someone allows you to more easily receive spiritual revelation for them, but it also allows you to come under the anointing that others carry as well. This is true between you and your teammates, but more importantly it is also true between you and Jesus. As you abide in Him, covered by His blood, you can access and function in His anointing.

Mixed Teams

Because of the multiplied effectiveness and the principle of the proximity anointing, it's a great idea to mix team members with various strengths and levels of maturity. This is especially valuable to equip those who are new to prophetic ministry.

Three Key Benefits Of Team Prophetic Ministry:

Quick clarity

Quick confirmation

Multiplied effectiveness

Summary Review

1. **Prophetic ministry is about facilitating an exchange between God and the recipient.** Therefore, it's not about you.
2. **Team ministry is only effective when you cooperate** instead of compete.
3. **Working as a team brings quick clarity, greater definition, and quick confirmation** to prophetic revelation.
4. **You will be more effective as part of a team** than you are individually.
5. Having your hearts focused in **unity with your team allows you to access a greater level of anointing** and revelation than you can normally access alone. This is called a corporate anointing.
6. **Close proximity allows you to perceive related spiritual revelation more easily, and also to operate under the anointing that others carry.**

Key Concepts

Key Concept #14

Cooperate with the Holy Spirit and with your team.

Key Concept #15

Stay focused and unified for the benefit of the recipient.

Key Concept #16

When two or more work together, there is a multiplied effectiveness.

Principles

Three Key Benefits Of Team Prophetic Ministry:

1. Quick clarity
2. Quick confirmation
3. Multiplied effectiveness

Chapter 5 – Activations

Activation: Group Prophecy

Purpose

In this exercise, everyone will work as a team in order to demonstrate how God gives confirming words through multiple people. This will build your confidence that your confirming revelation is legitimate and helpful in ministering prophetically.

Instructions

One person will be chosen randomly for the whole group to prophesy over. Ask the Holy Spirit to give you a word for this person. After one person delivers their word, anyone who has a confirming or similar word will share their revelation also. Then someone will have an overview interpretation that brings all of the revelation together and really brings it all together.

Activation: Hot Potato!

Purpose

This will initiate you in the experience of prophetic team ministry by stretching you to give words quickly as a part of a team. It will allow you to practice giving your teammates an opportunity to minister and will stretch your ability to get prophetic revelation.

Instructions

One person chosen from the group will sit in a chair, and the rest of the team will surround them. Each member will give a quick, short word and then pass off the opportunity to the person on their left. Continue rotating quickly until each of you has had at least two or three opportunities.

Activation: Pit Training

Purpose

Pit training will give you more of a chance to turn your prophetic revelation into ministry as you work together with others. It will allow you to practice cooperating with your team and with the Holy Spirit as you focus on ministering with more depth and clarity.

Instructions

One person chosen from the group will sit in a chair, and the rest of the team will surround them. Take turns ministering in more depth, and allow your prophetic revelation to grow into ministry while remaining cooperative and considerate of your teammates.

Chapter 6

Prophetic Evangelism: Boldly Revealing the
Kingdom of God

Opening The Door

You can use the prophetic gifts to open the door to speak to unbelievers about the good news of Jesus. But, remember that evangelism isn't just leading people to Jesus. It's revealing the kingdom of God as Jesus did.

Key Concept #17

Use the prophetic gifts as a way to open the door for whatever ministry God wants to do.

Revealing The Kingdom

This is not an opportunity to impress people with the accuracy of your gifting, but to impress them with the reality and truth of the kingdom of God with which you have learned to cooperate.

In John chapter 4, Jesus spoke with the woman at the well, telling her things about her life that were already true which He didn't know in the natural (word of knowledge). Because of this one encounter, many in that town believed in Him (Joh. 4:39-42).

One Step Closer

Not everyone will be ready to surrender to Jesus, but you don't need to get everyone saved immediately. You only need to love them one step closer to Jesus from where they currently are. You can do this by demonstrating the love, power, and reality of the kingdom of God and His personal interest in their lives.

Not Pressuring For Commitments

When you sense that someone is ready, you can ask if they would like to know Christ. But, never pressure them into making commitments or decisions that they aren't ready to make.

Demonstrate The Kingdom In Power

Don't limit yourself to only ministering prophetically. Believe that the Holy Spirit will allow you to minister healing, miracles, and great faith. Anything that is not "as it is in Heaven" is a clue alerting you of an opportunity to minister.

Key Concept #18

Expect to demonstrate the reality of the Kingdom of God.

It's Not About Morals

Many unbelievers actually have better morals than many professing Christians. Good morals isn't what makes you a Christian. In fact, Christianity is different from every religion on the earth because the Spirit of it's founder personally inhabits every person who believes and surrenders controlling rights of their life to Jesus Christ. It's not morals that make us different; it's the Holy Spirit that makes us different.

Unreligious Approach

In John chapter 3, Peter and John were on their way to the temple to pray when they encountered the lame beggar who asked them for money. Acts 4:13 reveals that they were uneducated, common men. They didn't suddenly start talking in a religious manner just because they were about to minister. They simply said, "We don't have any money, but we will give you what we do have. Receive the life-giving power of Jesus Christ."

Watch Your Language!

Language is more than words. If you are walking through a bad part of town to minister, wearing a suit is either going to turn people away or switch them into a learned church mode that turns off their heart. People may act and talk right as a reaction even though it's not from their heart.

Body Language

Speak in a language that the people you are ministering too will understand (1 Cor. 14:6-11), while keeping it as simple as possible. Smile and be as relaxed as you can. People get nervous when you are nervous. Body language often overrides the words you say and can pull all of the attention away from God.

Church Words

Avoid words that are long, complex, and archaic. In other words, don't use King James English. Nobody speaks it or really understands it, not even most Christians. Most of all, avoid Christian words. You use words in church that people outside of the church do not understand. I'm referring to words such as redeemed, saved, salvation, righteousness, anointing, flesh, carnal, gospel, works, grace, amen, glory, and prophetic.

Key Concept #19

Learn to talk without using your church language.

See the Appendix for a list of definitions to some of the Christian words that people outside of the church do not typically understand.

Street Smarts

Avoid arguments and avoid being trapped in unfruitful discussions about various beliefs and doctrines. You should never try to convince people of anything on the street, you should simply put Jesus Christ on display.

You Have Dominion

You may have to steer conversations, and help people see the bridge that is available to them. They have a divine opportunity that has nothing to do with anyone's opinions. If someone is intent on discussing hard topics or arguing, then just end the conversation quickly. Tell them that you have no desire to argue and that you just want to bless

them. Ask them if they would let you bless them before you go on your way.

People Only Listen When Loved

People usually don't listen to God unless they know He loves them and realize that He has an interest and intimate knowledge of their life, circumstances, dreams, and destiny.

People do not generally listen to you either, unless they feel that you actually like them. Let your love be genuine. Never be preachy; be authentic and sincere. When something is unwillingly shoved down someone's throat, they always reject it.

Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. Rom. 12:9 ESV

I say this not as a command, but to prove by the earnestness of others that your love also is genuine. 2 Cor. 8:8 ESV

It's Not A Program

When people are being recruited, they feel like they are being recruited. Prophetic evangelism isn't a program. Don't turn it into one. Neither is it about promoting a church. It is sharing the gospel, which is revealing the good news about Jesus through love and friendship, not about building or growing a church or ministry. It's about expanding the kingdom of God being in the earth.

Small Teams

As a general rule, it's best to limit the street teams to two or three people. Larger groups of people can be intimidating to others. It's also good to mix giftings and personalities when pairing people up into street teams.

Encountering Christians

Sooner or later you will encounter a Christian when you are out on the

street ministering. Prophetic ministry works on them also, even if they don't believe in the gifts. You don't need to explain what you are doing or how you are doing it. You only need to do it.

As we saw when Jesus encountered Nathaniel in John 1:43-51, a new level of Heavenly reality and personal understanding was opened up to him that must have absolutely altered the course of his life. Imagine what God may do in someone's life through one encounter with Jesus, which you facilitate through prophetic ministry.

Just Do It!

Giving the first word is always the hardest one. Just do it. God loves people more than you can imagine, and He will work powerfully through you. Other people's lives will be impacted, and yours will be too. One powerful encounter will increase your boldness and change you forever.

Summary Review

1. Prophetic evangelism isn't just about leading people to Jesus, it's an opportunity to **use the prophetic gifts to reveal the Kingdom of God and minister to others.**
2. **You do not need to pressure anyone into making commitments** or decisions that they aren't ready to make.
3. **Speak in a language that the people you are ministering too will understand** and avoid using church words.
4. **You may have to steer conversations to help people see the bridge that is available to them** through the grace of Jesus Christ.
5. No one likes feeling that they are being recruited, and **most people only listen when they feel they are loved.**
6. **Prophetic evangelism isn't a program**, it is ministry through love.

Key Concepts

Key Concept #17

Use the prophetic gifts as a way to open the door for whatever ministry God wants to do.

Key Concept #18

Expect to demonstrate the reality of the Kingdom of God.

Key Concept #19

Learn to talk without using your church language.

Chapter 6 – Activations

Activation: Crowd Illumination

Purpose

This activation will encourage you to find a particular person out of a crowd that the Holy Spirit specifically leads you to minister to.

Instructions

You will scan the crowd looking for the Holy Spirit to illuminate someone in particular to you. You will then call them up before you have anything for them, believing God to give you a prophetic word for them.

Activation: Crowd Word of Knowledge for Healing

Purpose

This activation will allow you to see confirming words of knowledge, to work as part of a team, and to allow you to dig for more accuracy and detail. Many people will also be healed.

Instructions

Everyone will ask the Holy Spirit for at least one word of knowledge for healing and then deliver it when asked. Confirming words of knowledge from others will be asked for. Then those receiving the word will minister to those who respond to it, boldly believing that God desires to heal them.

Activation: Stretching For Details

Purpose

In this activation, you will stretch for specific words of knowledge for a person, regarding them, or related to them.

Instructions

Find someone you don't know well and then ask for their permission to practice stretching for words of knowledge. Focus your whole being on the Holy Spirit and then shift your attention toward your partner. Intentionally look to see something about them that is already true in the present, something regarding their life or something related to them in some way. Present your partner with the words of knowledge as you receive them without trying to piece them together or figure them out. Ask them to confirm any details that you got right. After you are done, give your partner permission to practice on you also.

Appendix

Typical Schedule for a Live Boot Camp

Session 1 (Friday 10am)

- Foundation: Biblical Basis for the Prophetic Ministry of Every Spirit-Filled Believer

Session 2 (Friday 2pm)

- Receiving: Hearing the Voice of God Anytime, Anywhere (plus Activations)

Session 3 (Friday 7pm)

- Interpreting: Receiving Understanding for Prophetic Revelation (plus Activations)
- Delivering: Prophetic Etiquette For Any Environment (plus Activations)

Session 4 (Saturday 10am)

- Team Prophecy: Ministering Effectively as Part of a Team (plus Activations)
- Prophetic Evangelism: Boldly Revealing the Kingdom of God (plus Activations)

Session 5 (Saturday 2pm)

- Question & Answers / Group Mentoring

Session 6 (Saturday 7pm)

- Personal impartation and ministry through the laying on of hands

Sample Christian Words

Amen - "I agree".

Atonement – The price that was paid so that you could be forgiven for all wrong-doing and be in good relationship with God.

Anointing - The presence and power of God's Spirit which you can feel.

Believer - One who believes that Jesus has given them eternal life.

Born again – (see Saved / Salvation)

Carnal – Human.

Covenant – Total, irreversible commitment.

Faith - Totally believing something you haven't seen yet.

Flesh - Human nature.

Gospel - The good news that Jesus has made it possible for anyone who believes to receive eternal life.

Grace - Favor that God gives to the humble.

Holy – Set apart for God's purpose. Dedicated to God.

New man - Your life and dominant nature after believing and surrendering control to Jesus.

Old man - Your life and dominant nature before believing and surrendering control to Jesus.

Redeemed – Freed from the consequences that you deserve.

Repentance - Turning from wrong-doing and humbling yourself.

Righteousness – Living rightly. Being okay with God.

Saved / Salvation – Surrendering your whole life to Jesus and being freed from the consequences that you deserve.

Sin - Missing the mark of loving God and everyone else.

Walk - The way we behave and the decisions we make in life.

Works - Things that we do in an attempt to feel like we are right with God.

Sample Spiritual Metaphors*

Bed - Intimacy, covenant, marriage, love; The place you have settled into or rested your heart; Rest, recovery, comfort, peace, the grave; Meditation, dreaming; Self-made (you "lie in the bed you make"); Sickness (sickbed), dying; Impurity, adultery, betrayal.

Bathroom - Cleansing, removing or releasing of toxins or iniquity; Purifying, washing or cleansing a wound.

Brown - Character, humility, compassion, servanthood, teacher, meekness; Mankind, earth, menial; humanism, Godless "wisdom" and reasoning, poverty, dead works.

Eagle - Prophet, the prophetic gifts; Spiritual sight, seeing into the distance (the future) with understanding; Ability to soar or ascend to heavenly places easily and swiftly; To dwell on the heights; Ability to swoop down and attack specific prey, swift to devour; A king or adversary.

Eye -To see; Omniscience, knowledge, sight, insight, foresight; The prophetic, insight, seeing what God is showing, spiritual sight; The perspective of a person's life; The orientation of one's affection, desires, and faith.

Falling - Losing control, anxious, nervous; Losing support, backsliding, apostasy.

Gun - Spiritual power; Ability to extend or wield power, ability to support authority with actual power; Danger.

House - You, your body, and life (the temple of your being where true worship takes place), the details or affairs of your life, your manner of living; The place, conditions, situation, details or affairs with which you abide or co-habitat; Your habitation or dwelling place in life; Your family, household, the body of Christ (as in a group of people gathered for relationship, fellowship, or purpose).

Left - God-given anointing, enabling, empowerment, ability, calling, destiny; Undeveloped ability; The spiritual; The future; What you were

born to do (God's destiny for you), gift of great faith from God; Spiritual: weakness (of man) and therefore God's strength, ability and authority; spiritual power and ability; Left turn; Spiritual change.

Naked - Vulnerable, transparent; Uncovering of truth, honesty, purity; Exposed, revealing the true nature or substance; Feeling like everyone can see your personal secrets or shame; Aware of your own vulnerability and true nature.

Right - Developed ability; The natural; The present; What you have faith to do (from within yourself), preparing for ministry, natural strength and authority, physical power and ability; Strength of man (flesh) or power of God revealed through man; Accepted; Right turn; Natural change.

Three - Godhead, Trinity; Fellowship, agreement (Amos 3:3); Strength; divinely ordered, sovereignly established or determined; Heaven, heavenly, spiritual, spiritual realm.

Two - Witness, relationship, fellowship, covenant, establishing; Double, multiplication, increase; Breakthrough; Psalm 2 -The Seating Of Christ (The Messianic Psalms); The reigning of the Lord's anointed.

Vehicle - A person's ministry, vocation, or way of life; What you are doing or created to do, purpose in life.

These definitions of spiritual metaphors and more can be found in the Seer Dictionary at **CarisMinistries.com.*

Important Info About the Definitions of Spiritual Metaphors

You must rely on the Holy Spirit. The meanings of colors, numbers, and symbols on **CarisMinistries.com** are given only to help by inspiring your understanding and giving you clues that will help you begin to think in a way that allows you to understand heavenly metaphors. The definitions are nothing more than likely and possible meanings. You must always rely on the Holy Spirit to give you the interpretation in every situation.

Source of Meanings

The meanings given are based first and foremost on their use in the Bible. Secondly, they are based on their symbolic significance in United States culture. Thirdly, they are based on the personal experience of myself and others that I trust. Last of all, the inherent meaning of symbols or objects is often true. In other words, the essential character, dominant features, nature, or habit of something is often the symbolic meaning of it.

Bibliography

This book originated as an outline for training believers in our local church without any intention being printed or distributed. At the time I compiled and wrote the content, I wasn't aware of anything of it's type in existence. Since then, I've become aware of some similar resources that I am happy to recommend.

No sources were used or cited in the compilation of this book, other than the Bible. The content of this book is the product of walking into my own calling over many years. All of the activation exercises contained were either inspired by things I've done myself or by things I've learned from friends.

Alphabetical Index of Key Words and Phrases

A

Action.....	14, 20, 21, 23, 24, 77, 79
Action,.....	14
Activities.....	11
Agreement.....	13, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 34, 58, 79
Angels.....	15
Angels. Angels are often.....	16
Anointing.....	15, 16, 101, 102, 115
Apostle.....	11
Apostles.....	10, 12
Assumptions.....	39, 62
Authority.....	6, 10, 14, 81, 82, 87, 97

C

Character.....	5, 8, 17, 57, 59
Character. W.....	17
Confirmation.....	21, 74, 99, 101
Corporate anointing.....	101
Correct.....	10, 58

D

Deliver.....	20, 29
Discerning of spirits.....	12, 13, 14
Discipline.....	10

E

Edify.....	3, 10, 20, 77, 84, 93, 99
Encourage.....	3, 10, 20, 51, 77, 79, 81, 84, 93, 99, 100, 123
Evangelism.....	111, 113, 116
Evangelist.....	11
Evangelists.....	12
Exhort.....	3, 10, 20, 77, 84, 93
Expression gifts.....	13
External anointing.....	16

F

Faith	4, 5, 12, 13, 18, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 58, 77, 78, 80, 84, 114
Figuring It Out	60
Five Golden Senses	35
Five physical senses	35
Five spiritual senses	35
Four Good Sense Principles In The Prophetic Ministry Of All Believers:	91
Four Things That You See Spiritually:	91
Four Things To Avoid Prophesying:	91
Fruits of the Spirit	52, 77, 85

G

Gifts	12
Gifts of Jesus Christ	11
Gifts of the Father	11
Gifts of the Holy Spirit	12

H

Healing	12, 13, 114, 123
Heavenly realm	36, 41

I

Internal anointing	16
Interpret	20, 29
Interpretation	12, 13, 15, 57, 58, 60, 61, 62, 64, 73, 99, 109
Interpretation of tongues	13, 15
Interpretation of tongues, faith, healing, and miracles	12
Interpretation,	74

J

Joel	6, 7
Judge	10

L

Language	83, 114, 115, 119
Last days	6, 7, 17
Left-brain	36, 37, 38, 39

M

Manipulation	85
--------------	----

Mind, will, and emotions.....	33, 34
Ministry “gifts”.....	12
Ministry activities.....	11
Ministry offices.....	11
Miracles.....	12, 13, 114
Misinterpretation.....	57, 59, 60
Motivational gifts.....	11
Multiplication.....	100
Multiplication.....	100

N

Natural abilities.....	11
New covenant.....	17, 18, 19

O

Office of Prophet.....	9, 10
Offices.....	11
Old covenant.....	17, 18

P

Pastor.....	11, 64
Physical realm.....	35, 36
Physical senses.....	35, 36
Power gifts.....	13
Practice.....	19, 23, 33, 38, 52, 57, 73, 74, 93, 109, 110, 124
Prophecy.....	5, 6, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 19, 43, 57, 73, 74, 77, 78, 79, 80, 83, 87, 95, 109
Prophecy.....	5, 7, 8, 51, 52, 63, 80, 82, 86, 93, 109
Prophet.....	7, 9, 10, 11, 78, 82
Prophetic gifts.....	3, 7, 8, 9, 13, 14, 34, 113
Prophetic Ministry.....	1, 3, 4, 5, 9, 10, 13, 16, 18, 77, 83, 84
Prophetic ministry: receiving, interpreting, delivering. E.....	20
Prophetic revelation.....	33, 34, 35, 36, 38, 55, 57, 58, 59, 60, 62, 64, 74, 83, 99, 109, 110
Prophetic word.....	10, 18, 19, 21, 64, 79, 83, 85, 86, 93, 123
Prophetic word, modeling it through their lives.....	10
Prophets.....	12, 17, 18, 86, 101, 102

R

Receiv.....	20, 29
-------------	--------

Receiving	13, 14, 18, 19, 20, 22, 23, 31, 34, 36, 55, 61, 73, 77, 83, 87, 93, 94, 98, 101, 123
Revelatory Gifts	13
Right-brain	36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 59

S

Searching It Out	60
Spheres Of Authority	81
Spiritual authority	81, 87
Spiritual communication	33
Spiritual gifts	8, 10, 85
Spiritual information	34, 36
Spiritual realm	35, 36, 40, 41
Strengthen, Encourage, Build Up	3

T

Teacher	11
Teachers	12
Team	95, 97, 98, 99, 100, 102, 109, 110, 123
Testimony	5, 57, 99, 101
The Expression Of Jesus Christ	4
The Holy Spirit Interprets	61
Three Actions Taken To Receive Anything	29
Three Key Benefits Of Team Prophetic Ministry	107
Three Levels Of Prophetic Operation	29
Three Stages In The Process Of Receiving Anything	29
Thus sayeth the Lord	79
Timing	62, 86, 98
Tongues	6, 8, 12, 13, 15, 83
Tongues, faith, healing, and miracles	12

W

Will of God	19, 22
Word of knowledge	12, 13, 14, 15, 43, 51, 52, 73, 74, 123
Word of wisdom	12, 13, 14, 15
.....	28, 48, 70, 90, 106

Prophetic Ministry Boot Camp

Jesus said, “My sheep hear My voice” (John 10:27) and “... it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you” (Mat. 10:20). If you can hear God and you can communicate what you hear, then you can prophesy. Prophetic Ministry Boot Camp will give you the tools you need to know you are hearing God speak, and to minister that revelation to benefit others.

Prophetic Ministry Boot Camp is a highly focused crash-course designed to release you into the prophetic ministry available to all believers. It is tailored to catapult you deeper into doing the works of Jesus Christ by teaching you to cooperate with God by the power of His Holy Spirit. It begins with very foundational teaching and ends with greater emphasis on doing the work of ministry through recommended activations.

Whether you are experienced ministering prophetically or you are wondering how to begin, Prophetic Ministry Boot Camp will give you powerful and clear insights that will bring you to a new level of understanding and effectiveness. It's simple and practical approach has consistently proven to be highly successful in equipping believers of all ages and maturity levels.



Jeremy Caris is a naturally gifted teacher with a calling to prophetic ministry. Much of his focus now involves equipping believers to hear, know, and follow God in their own daily experience. He teaches the foundational truth of the Word with simple clarity, while revealing deep things of the spirit in practical ways. He has the unique ability to demystify the

supernatural side of real relationship with a living God and make it an embraceable and accessible reality to all believers. Jeremy has been married to his best friend, Mandy Caris, for fifteen years, and is the proud father of two boys.