

**WEBSITE**  
**THE GIFT OF PROPHECY AND WORDS OF KNOWLEDGE — PART II**

- “Let love be your highest goal! But you should also desire the special abilities the Spirit gives - especially the ability to prophesy.” (1 Cor. 14:1 NLT)



**Review:**

- The **gift of prophecy** is the human reporting of divine revelation — speaking forth, in merely human words, something that God has spontaneously brought to mind. (**Wayne Grudem**
  - **The NT gift of prophecy is different than the OT office of prophet**
  - A prophetic word can be a revelation about the **present, past, or future.**
  - Could come in the form of: **encouragement; warning; rebuke/correction; or insight.**
  - Could be revealed through: A previously recorded word from God (**scripture**); a NOT previously recorded word from God (**not scripture, although always in line with scripture**); **dreams & visions; a sense or impression**
- A **word of knowledge** is God transmitting to you His specific knowledge about something or someone that you would otherwise have no ability or means to know outside of the revelation of God.
  - Often proceeds a prophecy or a healing.
  - Words of knowledge have a way of opening up a person’s heart and stirring faith for what is to come.

**The purpose (the “WHY”) of the prophetic gifts can be for:**

- Strengthening, encouraging, comforting others
- Convicting non-believers
- Instructing
- Directing & guiding
- Predicting
- But always for the purpose of love.

- Prophecy is not just God wanting to share His information with us, but His heart with us.

### **HOW? (the goal, motivation, and practice of the gift of prophecy)**

- “Let love be your highest goal! (1 Cor. 14:1a)
- “Pursue love, yet desire earnestly spiritual gifts, but especially that you may prophesy. (1 Cor. 14:1 NASB)
- “If I have the gift of prophecy and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith so that I can move mountains but do not have love, I am nothing.” (1 Cor. 13:2 CSB)
  
- What is the **GOAL** of prophecy?
- **Love.**
- The end goal of all of the spiritual gifts is that those who are recipients of the gifts, or in proximity to the exercise of those gifts might experience and know deeper and deeper the **love of God** that surpasses knowledge.
- “I pray that you, being rooted and firmly established in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the length and width, height and depth of God’s love, and to know Christ’s love that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.” (Eph. 3:17b-19)
  
- What is the **MOTIVATION** of prophecy?
- **Love.**
- “For God so loved the world THAT He gave His only son...” (John 3:16)
- In all things, LOVE must be the motivating factor and the end goal if we are going to work in harmony with who God is, for “the one who does not love does not know God, because God is love.” (1 John 4:8)

"Your destiny is to fall in love with the people that you're calling gives you access to. Jesus for the joy set before him endured the cross. He had "The Who" before He had "The What". And because of The Who he endured the cross." (Shawn Bolz)

### **Fortune-telling vs. Gift of Prophecy:**

- **Fortune-telling** = the act or practice of someone predicting the future.

- **Biblical prophecy** = not fortune-telling, but FORTH-telling— it is speaking forth something from the heart and mind of God, and as such, is relational, as opposed to informational, in nature.
  - **1 Cor. 2:11b-12:** “In the same way, no one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. Now we have not received the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who comes from God, so that we may understand what has been freely given to us by God.”
- Prophecy is also forth-telling in that it sees what God sees and calls it forth.

**That is the motivation and goal part of the prophecy — it short: LOVE.** Now for the practice.

### **How do we know that something is a prophecy, or that someone is operation in the gift of prophecy?**

- Line up with the truth scripture.
- Will bear witness with the Holy Spirit in us.
- It is always for the building up of a recipient(s)
- It is for the glory of Christ
- It carries with it, the essence of the love of God

### **What should we do when we believe we have received revelation from God?**

- Pray about it
- Rejoice over it
- Take your time
- Know the tendency of your flesh
- Share with others with similar gifting or spiritual authority to see if there is a sense of confirmation
- Be willing to submit to mentors and church leaders
- “Love-test” it
- Pray about what to do with it and if/when to deliver it
- Know who it is for

### **How do we approach the delivery or reporting of a prophecy?**

- Try to be faithful with the content
- Choose your words carefully to reflect the Gospel and the love of the Father
- Deliver in a way that increases faith in God, and reassures the believer of God’s loving care, proximity, and sovereignty
- Make sure your heart is clean toward the person you are giving it to
- Decently and in order.

- One at a time.
- Deliver it and leave it with the person and the Lord
- Wait to share until you can share from a place of love as the motivating factor and goal. .

**All of this needs to be practiced and grown in**

- The gifts are not given in their fully matured state—we are not fully matured in our use of them
- Through practice, prayer, and critique

**Those were all on the delivery side of the prophetic, but now to the receiving end of the prophetic:**

**What do we do when we are given a prophecy from another person?**

- Do not despise it (1 Thessalonians 5:20)
- Evaluate it
- Rejoice over it.
- Look for confirmation
- Keep your attention and heart focused on Jesus—not the prophecy

**Where do we start?**

- Identity:
  - We must prophesy from a place of identity, not FOR a place of identity.
- Intimacy:
- Inquiry and Impartation
- Have faith