

Episode 008

Delivering and Processing Prophecies

Quick Recap on the Role of Prophecy

1 Corinthians 14:3 (NIV)

But everyone who prophesies speaks to men for their strengthening, encouragement and comfort.

- Edification – Build up
- Exhortation – Stir up
- Comfort – Hold up
- To convict and to convince – Show up
- Instruction and learning – Light up

Self Care for People Who Prophecy

What can contaminate prophecies?

1. Bitterness, envy, strife, insecurities, need for acceptance, frustrations etc.

All these plus a whole heap of other negative emotions and attitudes can colour our thinking, perhaps infect the word. We are to represent God's heart to others. Hence it is important to surrender such and submit them to the Lord. Allow God to uproot that which is not helpful and heal us within.

James 3:11-14 (NIV)

11 Can both fresh water and salt water flow from the same spring? 12 My brothers, can a fig tree bear olives, or a grapevine bear figs? Neither can a salt spring produce fresh water. 13 Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show it by his good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom. 14 But if you harbor bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast about it or deny the truth.



2. Improper family relationships

Colossians 3:19-20 (NIV)

Husbands, love your wives and do not be harsh with them. 20
Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord.

Let there be a divine order within the family, living in unity and love of God abounding amongst all within the family. What we do publicly in meetings often has little to do with actual life and lifestyle. The home is where the Kingdom of Heaven is established and the reality of Jesus is seen. The overflow from within our household/home will affect the way we minister in the prophetic.

3. Sin

Ephesians 4:31 (NIV)

Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice.

Get rid of sinful habits

4. Emotional life

Watch over your emotional life. Hand over to the Lord areas that are in need of healing especially disappointments and wounding in life or ministry. Emotional issues can cloud prophecy. Prophetic people need to have a relationship with the Lord of lovingkindness on a personal and ongoing basis.

5. Relational accountability

Who speaks into your life? Do you just go to someone whom you know will just support you but not correct you nor caution you? Do we allow others access into our lives? It is the unshared aspects of our lives that could be the enemy's landing strip.

6. Incorrect theology

If our perspective of God is one of God being a distant and stern God, we may tend to prophesy from that angle, tinted with negative prophecies more than normal.



If we take lightly to God's amazing grace, we may prophesy of God's grace without balancing with the holiness of God. Our understanding of the Word needs to be in proper balance so that we may communicate God's heart appropriately and according to the Scriptures.

Key Thought:

Issue of integrity in the prophetic ministry. Judge prophecy by the fruit, not just by the gift. Certain people may move in the gift dynamically yet it does not say much about the person's spirituality, character. If you are judging by the gift alone ie judge by the accuracy of prophecy alone, we may open ourselves to possible deception.

Focus on character and integrity. Gifts should go hand in hand with character, otherwise may be abused due to mankind's carnality. Character needs to match up with gifts. Inspect the fruit of people with supernatural gifting in terms of character and consistency of ministry. Prophetic people need to be tried and proven.

1 Thessalonians 5:21

Prove all things, hold fast to what is good.

Delivering Prophecy With Wisdom

Communicating the mind and the heart of God as effectively as possible.

We need to cultivate an affection for the Lord and a sensitivity to the heart of God. When we prophesy, we are not just speaking forth the mind of God (information concerning the person being prophesied upon) but we are also proclaiming, revealing, calling to remembrance God's heart towards His people. God's heart is filled with compassion, grief, joy and finally passion for God's people.

1 Corinthians 13:2 (NIV)

If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but have not love, I am nothing.



How to communicate God's heart and purposes in an effective manner to people?

1. Prophecy should be by the Word of God.

Prophecy should be in alignment to God's Word. God's written Word is eternal and stands throughout all ages. Prophecy should not be bringing forth confusion or disunity to the person or body.

2. Prophecy according to your capacity and level of metrone (sphere of authority)

Stay within your metron and let God expand accordingly. Don't try and add on your own stuff. Bring it up to leadership if the prophecy is of national level and let the leadership pray and confirm.

1 Corinthians 13:9 (NIV)

For we know in part and we prophesy in part,

Romans 12:6 (NIV)

We have different gifts, according to the grace given us. If a man's gift is prophesying, let him use it in proportion to his faith.

3. Accountability for the prophecy

1 Corinthians 14:32 (NIV)

The spirits of prophets are subject to the control of prophets.

1 Cor 14:39-40, all things must be done in an orderly manner.

Do refrain from injecting self and personal problems into prophecy, thus important to "flush" out negative elements (attitudes and emotions) from our inner life.

4. Three key words to remember concerning the delivery of prophecy; Message, Timing and Manner

Recognise that there is a flow of the Spirit in which God moves most of the time to communicate to us. That flow generally has a theme/emphasis that we ought to recognise and enter into for the best results of communicating the God thought for us.



- a. Message - can come as spontaneous utterance (word, sentence, scripture, picture or combination) Processing these thoughts through the Holy Spirit and considering the flow to which we verbalise God thoughts. We need to sort out our thoughts from God thoughts.

Who is it for? What is it you want to do? And achieve in the person's life? Why is God choosing this person to receive prophecy? All these questions can help us be more clear, specific and significant in terms of what we are prophesying. It focuses the heart of God to the person being prophesied upon. Otherwise, we can fudge the word or pad it with our human insights. Prophecy is also about restoring people's dignity and self respect.

Discerning God's voice and heart and conveying to the people wisely and in an orderly way.

Prophecy has three elements:

- Word of Knowledge opens up the issue (about a person's life and situation, giving us the context),
- a Word of Prophecy speaks God's heart into it
- and the Word of Wisdom tells us how to respond to God.

Ask God in light of that, what does He want you to say to them? Sensitivity to the Holy Spirit and respect for the person prophesied upon need to be accounted for. The Gospel is redemptive.

Revelation: Interpretation and Application

How much to say? No need to rush to tell all. Understand how broad is His love, long His patience and deep and breadth of His love for the people. The Holy Spirit is not easily ruffled, but rather is very secure, very kind and very powerful at all times.

We may need to put margins into the word of prophecy. Consider the needs of the recipient.

If we have negative words in prophecy, we really should have solid grounding in the grace of God before being trusted with judgement in prophecy. Educate oneself in the truth of God's grace and love. Flow in with words that would edify the church/person.



- b. Timing – timing has to do with the flow/theme and the understanding of authority. Ask yourself if the prophecy is for you personally, for the church or for you to pray through before delivering it as per the Lord's instruction. Who should be told of the revelation and interpretation and when they should be told. Is it something for the entire congregation, for only the leadership, for you personally or to be prayed through only. Watch out that you don't come across pushy, possible sign of ambition and pride, without caring much about correction/counsel/unity in the body.

Stay in tune with the tenor of meeting – not cross current or against the current of what God is flowing towards.

Also should not obstruct the leadership responsible for coming in and giving direction to the church.

- c. Manner – Communicate, the manner in which we go about it will affect the receptivity of the message. The message, the timing and the manner of communicating the message should flow together to bring edification, exhortation and comfort to the body when prophesying and not confusion or frustration. The manner in which one prophesy. Inspiration, life and relevance (1 Cor 14:3)

Watch your emotional content. Spirit of the prophet subject to the prophet. You are not taking over the meeting. It is important to work under submission to church leadership. The way you convey should be keeping people's eyes and hearts honed unto the Lord rather than you the messenger. Lift up the spirits of the people rather than depressing the spiritual atmosphere. Speak inspirationally, refrain from yelling, screaming etc. Your demeanor should be one that matches the Holy Spirit's tone. Love should always be central to all that you deliver.

The objective affects the delivery. If the message is to strengthen the people, then add resolution, determination. Prophecy in a bold, forthright manner, dwelling on the supremacy of God, taking care to release confidence into the people concerned. If the message is on God's love, communicate in a manner which causes God's love to be spread abroad in their heart. In short, convey the spirit of the word, not just the word itself.



5. Working with church leadership

What if leadership does not think the way you do? What if what you say is disagreed by church leadership? Work with the leaders. Not only those who tend to say “yes” to you but also those who may query your prophetic gifting and motivation.

Pastor has a role to determine how he/she wants people to share.

2 Corinthians 13:1 (NIV)

This will be my third visit to you. “Every matter must be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.”

If the word you have received is different from the flow/theme of what God is honing upon, wait for further confirmation.

Learn to submit to the chairperson who is in charge of the service, for he/she is aware of the flow in the service.

Receive prophetic insight or word and passing it onto leadership oversight

Allow room for the leaders to exercise leadership and responsibility. Make sure you exercise patience, humility, teachable spirit, godly wisdom. Let God be the One to promote after all He has the best interest for you.

6. Prophetic declaration at the right time, right moment can impact greatly

Be very sensitive to God’s flow. He can bring victory in such God moments into a particular situation for specific individual or people and bring glory to His Name! [Ezekiel 37: 1-13 The Valley of the Dry Bones](#). Prophecy with faith in your heart and in the manner you declare His Word.

7. Prophetic storehouse

Stick to the written Word. Stay within your measure of faith.

Romans 12:6 (NIV)

We have different gifts, according to the grace given us. If a man’s gift is prophesying, let him use it in proportion to his faith.



Let's go about by setting the Lord before us. Our heart is like a prophetic storehouse. Continue to keep God's Word in your heart. Irrigate the canals of your heart to bring about the purposes of God. Anointing (water) and the Word (seed) go hand in hand together. Overflow in the Spirit, the anointing overflows, the seedling springs to life.

Discussion Questions

1. What is one area that God may be speaking to you about in terms of self care in the area of prophesying? What steps would you take to grow in self care so that you may be more effective for the Lord?
2. Name two aspects that God may be prompting you to grow in operating in the gift of prophecy. What revelation has the Lord brought to you that needs further development so that you may communicate more of God's heart to others?





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