

# TOOLS OF THE TRADE

PROPHECY

## Ephesians 4:1-13 New International Version (NIV)

As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. <sup>2</sup> Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. <sup>3</sup> Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. <sup>4</sup> There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; <sup>5</sup> one Lord, one faith, one baptism; <sup>6</sup> one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

<sup>7</sup> But to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it. <sup>8</sup> This is why it says:

“When he ascended on high,  
he took many captives  
and gave gifts to his people.”

<sup>9</sup> (What does “he ascended” mean except that he also descended to the lower, earthly regions? <sup>10</sup> He who descended is the very one who ascended higher than all the heavens, in order to fill the whole universe.) <sup>11</sup> So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, <sup>12</sup> to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up <sup>13</sup> until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

## God is the God of Relationship

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1 Cor. 14:1

“Follow the way of love & eagerly desire spiritual gifts, especially the gift of prophecy.”



# LISTENING TO GOD'S VOICE

John 14:27

“My sheep listen to my voice; I know them and they follow me.”



# WHAT IS PROPHECY?

Greek word: 'Propheteia'

“The gift of communicating and enforcing revealed truth.” (Strong's)

“The speaking forth of the mind and counsel of God – declaring that which can't be known by natural means.” (Vines Dictionary)

## True Prophecy Starts With God!

2 Peter 1:20-21

“Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of scripture came about by the prophet’s own interpretation. For prophecy never had its origin in the will of man but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.”

## True Prophecy Points People to Jesus!

Rev. 19:10

“At this I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, “Do not do it!” I am a fellow servant with you & with your brothers who hold to the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.”

## True Prophecy Profits the Receivers!

- Edify, encourage, comfort or guide

## True Prophecy Confirms What God is Already Doing!

- Brings clarity and empowers
- Encourages unity

## Prophecy is Partnering with God in what He's Already Doing and Wanting to Do!

- Positioning – who's in front or beside us?

# PRINCIPLES IN HANDLING AND RECEIVING PROPHECY

## **In Delivering a Prophetic Word:**

- Walking in God's holiness – (Ps. 139:23-24, Ps. 66:18)
- Commitment to prayer and meditating on God's Word – His Truth
- Humility
- Walking in boldness and obedience – NOT FEAR! (Rom. 8:15-16)
- God Pleasers, not People Pleasers
- Sensitivity in delivering a word – WHEN and HOW
- His spirit imparts and convicts
- We deliver – God fulfils
- Beware of distractions
- Growth through mistakes
- We're a link in God's plan (1 Cor. 3:6-9)

### **In Receiving a Prophetic Word:**

- Message can be open to error
- Don't quench the Spirit – test everything (1 Thess. 5:19-21)
- Message affirms what God is doing/speaking
- Trust God for fulfillment

# Principles for Prophetic Evangelism

(Helen Calder – prophetic minister)

- Prayer
- Position
- Power
- Prophecy
- Proclamation