



PROPHECY: Speaking God's Truth

February 16th, 2025

EMPOWERED
Discovering Spiritual Gifts

DAY 1: DISCOVERING YOUR SPIRITUAL GIFTS

READING: 1 CORINTHIANS 12:1-11

God has uniquely gifted each follow of Jesus for the building up of His church. As you read this passage, reflect on the diversity of gifts mentioned. Consider how these gifts work together in harmony, just as different parts of a body function.

Ask yourself: What gifts has God given me? How can I use them to serve others and glorify Him? Remember, your gifts are not for your own benefit, but for the edification of the body of Christ. Today, pray for discernment to recognize your gifts and for courage to step out in faith to use them.

This week challenge yourself to find a trusted group where you can begin to **discover, discern, develop, and deploy** your spiritual gifts. It might mean that you need to take a step of courage and boldness to find some trusted people in your life.

DAY 2: THE POWER OF PROPHETIC ENCOURAGEMENT

READING: 1 THESSALONIANS 5:11-22

Prophecy in the New Testament often functions as a means of encouragement, comfort, and strengthening. As you read today's passage, focus on verse 11: "Therefore encourage one another and build each other up." Consider how your words can be a source of hope and strength to others.

Ask God to give you a heightened sensitivity to the needs of those around you. Is there someone in your life who needs a word of encouragement today? Take a step of faith and reach out to them, allowing God to speak through you to bring comfort and hope.

Key Takeaway:

- Prophecy in the New Testament is primarily about bringing encouragement, strength, and direction to obey God's Word.

DAY 3: SPEAKING TRUTH IN LOVE

READING: EPHESIANS 4:11-16

Today's reading emphasizes the importance of speaking the truth in love for the growth and maturity of the church. Reflect on how prophecy, when used correctly, can bring clarity and direction. Consider the balance between truth and love in your own communication. Are there areas where you need to grow in speaking truth more boldly, or in tempering your words with more love?

Pray for wisdom to discern God's truth and the courage to share it in a way that builds others up rather than tears them down.

Key Takeaway:

- The gift of prophecy functions in three main ways: a) To comfort, upbuild, and strengthen b) To exhort and challenge c) To reveal mysteries and knowledge



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DAY 4: LISTENING FOR GOD'S VOICE

READING: 1 SAMUEL 3:1-10

Samuel's story teaches us the importance of being attentive to God's voice. In our busy world, it's easy to miss God's gentle promptings. As you read, consider how you can create space in your life to listen for God's voice. Are there distractions you need to eliminate? Practices you need to cultivate?

Remember, God still speaks today, often through His Word, prayer, and the counsel of other believers. Today, intentionally set aside time to quiet your heart and listen. Ask God to sharpen your spiritual ears to recognize His voice amidst the noise of life.

Key Takeaway:

- Prophecy is not just for a select few; all believers can potentially operate in this gift.

DAY 5: TESTING AND DISCERNING

READING: 1 JOHN 4:1-6

With the gift of prophecy comes the responsibility of discernment. Today's passage reminds us to test the spirits and not believe every claimed word from God. As you read, reflect on the criteria John gives for discerning true prophecy. How can you apply these principles in your own life and church community?

Pray for wisdom to discern truth from error, and for humility to submit your own thoughts and impressions to the scrutiny of Scripture and mature believers. Remember, true prophecy will always align with God's revealed Word and point people to Jesus Christ.

Key Takeaway:

- The ultimate purpose of prophecy is to point people to Jesus.