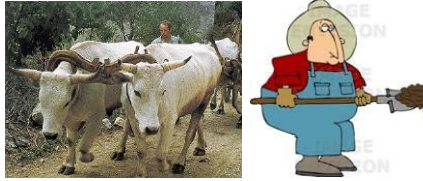


Prophecy - How to Properly give a word at Church

Proverbs 14:4 Where no oxen are, the trough is clean; But much increase comes by the strength of an ox.

Our Vision: To impact our community and the world with the Gospel of Jesus Christ, equipping believers to walk in victory through the Word in the power of the Spirit.



#2 Mission statement: A Spirit-sensitive revival church, inviting the Holy Spirit's presence to manifest His gifts, to lift up Jesus, edify, exhort and comfort believers.

1 Corinthians 12:1-11 Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I do not want you to be ignorant: ² You know that you were Gentiles, carried away to these dumb idols, however you were led. ³ Therefore I make known to you that no one speaking by the Spirit of God calls Jesus accursed, and no one can say that Jesus is Lord except by the Holy Spirit.

⁴ There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. ⁵ There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord. ⁶ And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all. ⁷ But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all: ⁸ for to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit, ⁹ to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healings by the same Spirit, ¹⁰ to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits, to another different kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹ But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills.

1 Corinthians 14:1-3

1 Corinthians 14:26-33 How is it then, brethren? Whenever you come together, each of you has a psalm, has a teaching, has a tongue, has a revelation, has an interpretation. Let all things be done for edification. ²⁷ If anyone speaks in a tongue, let there be two or at the most three, each in turn, and let one interpret. ²⁸ But if there is no interpreter, let him keep silent in church, and let him speak to himself and to God. ²⁹ Let two or three prophets speak, and let the others judge. ³⁰ But if anything is revealed to another who sits by, let the first keep silent. ³¹ For you can all prophesy one by one, that all may learn and all may be encouraged. ³² And the spirits of the prophets are subject to the prophets. ³³ For God is not the author of confusion but of peace, as in all the churches of the saints.

1 Corinthians 14:38 But if anyone is ignorant, let him be ignorant.

2 types of ignorance concerning spiritual gifts:

- Not knowing
- Knowing, but not following God's way.

How to give a word in a service:

1. Pray beforehand. (Unless I have given myself to praying in the Spirit before a service I will purposely not give a prophesy)

2. Wait for the right timing. Ask yourself, "Does this fit in?" "Is it the right time?"

1 Corinthians 14:39-40 Therefore, brethren, desire earnestly to prophesy, and do not forbid to speak with tongues. ⁴⁰ Let all things be done decently and in order.

3. 2-3 words is the standard number allowed in a service, unless leadership indicates otherwise.

1 Corinthians 14:27 If anyone speaks in a tongue, let there be two or at the most three, each in turn, and let one interpret.

- I can't have 8 words in a service on a normal basis. Scripture gives guidelines.
- In a normal flow of a service prophecy does not dominate.
- I endeavor to be open, but praise and worship will not always dominate a service
- Not everybody should give something in a service. If I don't know someone I will not hand them the mike.

1 Corinthians 14:26-33 How is it then, brethren? Whenever you come together, each of you has a psalm, has a teaching, has a tongue, has a revelation, has an interpretation. Let all things be done for edification.

Q) Whenever you come together does everyone have a word? A) No, or we would be here all day.

- Everyone has the potential to have a word and we should be open to everyone having the potential of a word, at least those who are in the spirit.
- When a speaker comes to our church, I generally like to leave plenty of time for this individual to exercise their gift.

❖ Mentally or emotionally challenged people should not be handed the microphone or be allowed to speak out!

❖ I have had people say positive things inspired by the devil (Just like Paul)

Acts 16:16-19 Now it happened, as we went to prayer, that a certain slave girl possessed with a spirit of divination met us, who brought her masters much profit by fortune-telling. ¹⁷ This girl followed Paul and us, and cried out, saying, "These men are the servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to us the way of salvation." ¹⁸ And this she did for many days. But Paul, greatly annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, "I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And he came out that very hour. ¹⁹ But when her masters saw that their hope of profit was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace to the authorities.

When not to give a word:

1. If you are easily offended.
2. If you are not willing to be judged and taught.
3. If you are emotionally distraught:

- Woman who was going through a divorce and was speaking in tongues very loud in a grieving tone. It scared the life out of everyone in the service. Thank God the pastor had the maturity to discern what was happening and turn it into a positive by praying for the woman.
 - Woman who fornicated and wanted to alleviate her guilt by prophesying God's grace.
4. If no quality time spent in prayer before the service (It will not guarantee accuracy, but it will help you be in the spirit).
 5. If you feel like you need to perform – you feel like you have to predict, rhyme, be eloquent, etc.
 6. If you feel pressured. Never give a word under pressure. Satan pressures, God brings peace
 - If you say, "I have to give a word", I recommend you Sit down. Don't pressure yourself or me. Being nervous is understandable, but God leads by peace, not by pressure.

What is not a word:

1. A testimony is not a word (Testimonies have their place, but should be cleared with leadership before a service, not asking in the middle of a service if you can give it).
2. Your commentary of how the service is going is not a word.
3. Talking about your trials is not a word.

Mistakes I have seen people make in operating in the gifts:

1. Being unusually unnatural, hyper spiritual - spooky. They have a religious spirit.
2. Speaking down to people when you prophesy. It is meant to be uplifting.
3. People feel like they have to make something up (knowing names of people you never met, etc). If you force things you are can open yourself up to familiar spirits.
 - If you shoot off three dud words in a row, go back to the prayer closet.
4. Weird words –
5. Don't get offended if your word is not given in a service. God may give 6 people the same word, but only one person is supposed to speak it out. You are to confirm it.
6. Judgmental or harsh words.
7. Some things are not for words to be spoken, but for intercession
 - 90% of things we get is what we are supposed to pray for
8. Not Judging things you have received



1 Thessalonians 5:19-22 Do not quench the Spirit. ²⁰ Do not despise prophecies. ²¹ Test all things; hold fast what is good. ²² Abstain from every form of evil.

1 John 4:1 Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world.

Ask questions:

- Is it scriptural? I actually heard someone prophesied "Divorce thy wife and get another"
- Is it consistent with what God is doing in this person's life?
- Does it make common sense?

9. Being prideful "Be careful of the **Big Head**"

In Delivery of a word:

- Avoid prideful delivery
- Be humble in your delivery. Avoid, "God told me". Try, "I feel impressed to share this with you"
- Avoid making yourself an expert and being un-teachable. Example of person who told their pastor, "I've never missed it". He said, "You just did, because everybody has missed it".
- Some people boast of their gifts so they won't be questioned - Claim to be prophet / Apostle

Proverbs 27:2 Let another man praise you, and not your own mouth; A stranger, and not your own lips.

In Reception of a word:

- I have seen mistakes in people thinking they were called into five-fold ministry because they received a prophecy saying so - falsely proclaiming themselves to be a pastor, prophet or apostle. I have seen some real disasters from people being called into the ministry by a personal prophecy. It has destroyed lives and marriages.

It is called: **Empty hands on empty heads Syndrome:**

Proverbs 25:14 Whoever falsely boasts of giving is *like* clouds and wind without rain.

- Calling yourself a prophet or apostle just because you prophesy.

Everyone can prophesy, but not everyone is a prophet

1 Corinthians 14:1 Pursue love, and desire spiritual *gifts*, but especially that you may prophesy.

1 Corinthians 14:31 For you can all prophesy one by one, that all may learn and all may be encouraged.

1 Corinthians 12:29 ... Are all prophets? ...

- People get ahead of God in their calling. Let God raise you up, not your own mouth.

Proverbs 18:16 A man's gift makes room for him, and brings him before great men.



- Word of wisdom: Try not to appoint yourself. People sometimes try to dictate to me what ministry they will be in based on a personal prophesy. "That is not according to my prophesy" - **You will know them by their fruits, not by their prophecy!**
Example Joseph (Before his prophesy ever came to pass he worked as a household steward, prison administrator)

1 Peter 5:5-6 Likewise you younger people, submit yourselves to *your* elders. Yes, all of *you* be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for "God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble." ⁶ Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time,

- Rule of thumb: Five-fold ministry gift will have a pulpit ministry

Luke 14:11 For whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."

10. Prophesying out of your soul (mind, will and emotions):

A. Mind:

- Relying on your thinking & five senses.
- Speaking out of assumptions Opinions and prejudices you have.

1 Samuel 16:6-7 So it was, when they came, that he looked at Eliab and said, "Surely the LORD's anointed *is* before Him!" ⁷ But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look at his appearance or at his physical stature, because I have refused him. For *the* LORD does not see as man sees; for man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart."

- Avoid being a latter day prophet. They prophesy after something takes place and want to take credit for it

B. Will:

- Using "thus saith the Lord" to dictate your will upon others.
- Manipulation - Making decisions for other people
- Praying what you think should be in people's lives
- Never prophesy someone's marriage. They may blame you later
- Correcting someone you are upset with. If correction is needed do it to their face; don't hide it behind prophecy

C. Emotions:

- Sad, Hurt, Anger, rejection, bitterness or even happy, joyful emotions can make you miss what God is saying

11. Feeling compelled to predict things or give dates

Example: Brother Hagin would get things in his spirit and it looked like was right there and say it would happen in 6 months, but it actually took two years. The word eventually came to pass, but he had egg on his face until it did because he put a date.

- One time someone asked me if their parents would get back together. We are not palm readers!

12. Operating in a wrong spirit - Especially hurt and rejection

Luke 9:51-56 Now it came to pass, when the time had come for Him to be received up, that He steadfastly set His face to go to Jerusalem, ⁵² and sent messengers before His face. And as they went, they entered a village of the Samaritans, to prepare for Him. ⁵³ But they did not receive Him, because His face was *set* for the journey to Jerusalem. ⁵⁴ And when His disciples James and John saw *this*, they said, "Lord, do You want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them, just as Elijah did?" ⁵⁵ But He turned and rebuked them, and said, "You do not know what manner of spirit you are of. ⁵⁶ For the Son of Man did not come to destroy men's lives but to save *them*." And they went to another village.

A. Predicting tragedy - Edification, exhortation comfort is the primary focus on NT prophecy.

B. Word curses.

Proverbs 18:21 Death and life *are* in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit.

Sometimes when disgusted with someone's behavior it can be tempting to say ... "They will never succeed ... They will never enter their promised land". Instead say, "Lord, help them. Only you can make them succeed."

13. Running your life by prophecy instead of God's personal leading can create cockeyed, irrational, and harebrained decisions. It can lose you money, sleep, time, etc. Instead of operating in faith they live in presumption.

- Exalting a word above measure
- Don't make a paragraph when God gives you a sentence. Be faithful with the part he gives.

1 Corinthians 13:9 For we know in part and we prophesy in part.

- Not using common sense and living according the word of God

Psalms 119:105 Your word *is* a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

