How to Receive Prophecy

1. Allow God to confirm it (90% Confirmation)

- Acts 19:21-his spirit
- Acts20:22-23
- Acts 21:4
- Acts 21:10-14

Never base a major lifetime decision on a personal prophecy, but on God's personal leading

2. Stick what you don't understand on the shelf

Not every prophecy is accurate

1 Thessalonians 5:20-21 Do not despise prophecies. 21 Test all things; hold fast what is good.

3. Don't worry (Philippians 4:6-7)

Philippians 4:6-7 Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God:

7 and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

- Pray about everything
- Have a season of prayer for big decisions
- Never make a decision during a down moment and time

Prophecies are not meant to make you stress but to trust God.

Misuse of prophecy:

- 1. Basing major life time decisions on a prophecy rather than hearing God for yourself
 - Examples: Marriage, Ministry
- 2. Using a prophecy to justify your pet peeve, "New wineskin", obscure doctrine, or rebellion against those in authority.
- 3. Trying to win an argument with prophecy
 - In dealing with someone struggling with direction from pastoral care their response was "Didn't you hear the prophecies spoken over me? Your advice is contrary to my prophecy." Actually, my advice was contrary to what their flesh wanted to do. True prophecy won't feed a rebellious spirit. Rebellion is likened to a spirit of witchcraft.

4. Manipulation & Control

- Charismatic witchcraft: prophesying tragedy upon others because they didn't do what the other wanted, or disagreed with. This amounts to a curse cloaked usually in spiritual language. It is used as a tool for manipulation and control.
- 5. Throwing wisdom and common sense out the door
- 6. Pride Bragging & becoming puffed up over words spoken to you (Remember Joseph)
 - Big prophecies mean humility and servant hood will be worked into your life before the word comes to pass.
- 7. Making a prophecy say or mean something it doesn't
- 8. Impatience: trying to fulfill in 6 months what God intended for 10 years.

A square peg into a round hole

4. Avoid forcing

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

Be faithful with the sentence, scripture, puzzle piece, part that you know



Luke 16:10 "He who is faithful in what is least is faithful also in much; and he who is unjust in what is least is unjust also in much.

5. Avoid manipulating God's perceived plan (Abraham & Sarah)

6. Understand the Lord's timing

Let God bring it to pass In His time

Ecclesiastes 3:1 To everything there is a season, A time for every purpose under heaven:

Ecclesiastes 7:8 The end of a thing is better than its beginning; The patient in spirit is better than the proud in spirit.

Deer Rifle vs. Shot gun prophecy

Some deal with the big picture and others are steak on the plate while you wait.

Galatians 4:4 But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law.