

5. Warns of opportunities

Acts 21:4

These believers prophesied through the Holy Spirit that Paul should not go on to Jerusalem.

6. Identifies and imparts spiritual gifts

1 Timothy 4:14 NLT

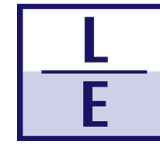
Do not neglect the spiritual gift you received through the prophecy spoken over you when the elders of the church laid their hands on you.

## Timothy

1 Timothy 1:18-19 NLT

Timothy, my son, here are my instructions for you, based on the prophetic words spoken about you earlier. May they help you fight well in the Lord's battles. 19 Cling to your faith in Christ, and keep your conscience clear. For some people have deliberately violated their consciences; as a result, their faith has been shipwrecked.

\*Taken from Chuck D. Pierce and Rebecca Wagner Sytsema, *When God Speaks*



Lake Effect  
C H U R C H

You Do You  
Part 7: The Gift of Prophecy

February 13, 2022

1 Corinthians 12:31 NLT

So you should earnestly desire the most helpful gifts. But now let me show you a way of life that is best of all.

1 Corinthians 14:1

14 Let love be your highest goal! But you should also desire the special abilities the Spirit gives—especially the ability to prophesy.

“The gift of prophecy is the special ability that God gives to certain members of the body of Christ to receive and communicate an immediate message of God to his people through a divinely anointed utterance.”

C. Peter Wagner, *Your Spiritual Gifts Can Help Your Church Grow*

“Prophecy is speaking the mind and heart of God as revealed by the Holy Spirit.” Chuck Pierce and Rebecca Sytsema, *The Spiritual Warfare Handbook*

1 Corinthians 14: 1-5 NLT

Let love be your highest goal! But you should also desire the special abilities the Spirit gives—especially the ability to prophesy. 2 For if you have the ability to speak in tongues, you will be talking only to God, since people won't be able to understand you. You will be speaking by the power of the Spirit, but it will all be mysterious. 3 But one who prophesies strengthens others, encourages them, and comforts them. 4 A person who speaks in tongues is strengthened personally, but one who speaks a word of prophecy strengthens the entire church.

5 I wish you could all speak in tongues, but even more I wish you could all prophesy. For prophecy is greater than speaking in tongues, unless someone interprets what you are saying so that the whole church will be strengthened.

Acts 2:17 NLT

'In the last days,' God says, 'I will pour out my Spirit upon all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy. Your young men will see visions, and your old men will dream dreams.

### Judging a prophetic word

1 John 4:1-6 NLT

Dear friends, do not believe everyone who claims to speak by the Spirit. You must test them to see if the spirit they have comes from God.

If the word is given in a corporate setting Paul says;

1 Corinthians 14:29 NLT

29 Let two or three people prophesy, and let the others evaluate what is said.

1 Thessalonians 5:19-21 NLT

19 Do not stifle the Holy Spirit. 20 Do not scoff at prophecies, 21 but test everything that is said. Hold on to what is good.

### Question to ask:\*

1. Does the word edify, exhort or comfort you?
2. What is the spirit behind the prophecy?
3. Does it conform to the Scripture?
4. Does it display the character of Christ?
5. Is it manipulative or controlling?
6. Does it usurp your will?
7. Does it pull rank?
8. Does it conform to what God is saying to you?

9. Does it allow outside perspective?
10. Does it give a dire warning?
11. How do you feel about the word in your spirit?
12. Is it confirmed by the church?
13. Does it come to pass?
14. Does it produce fruit?

### Responding to Prophecy:\*

1. Keep a journal
2. Do not interpret the word by the desires of your flesh
3. Embrace the word
4. Pray it through
5. Obey the word
6. Look for fulfillment of the word

### Purpose of prophetic words:

1. Strengthens
2. Encourages
3. Comforts
4. Convicts