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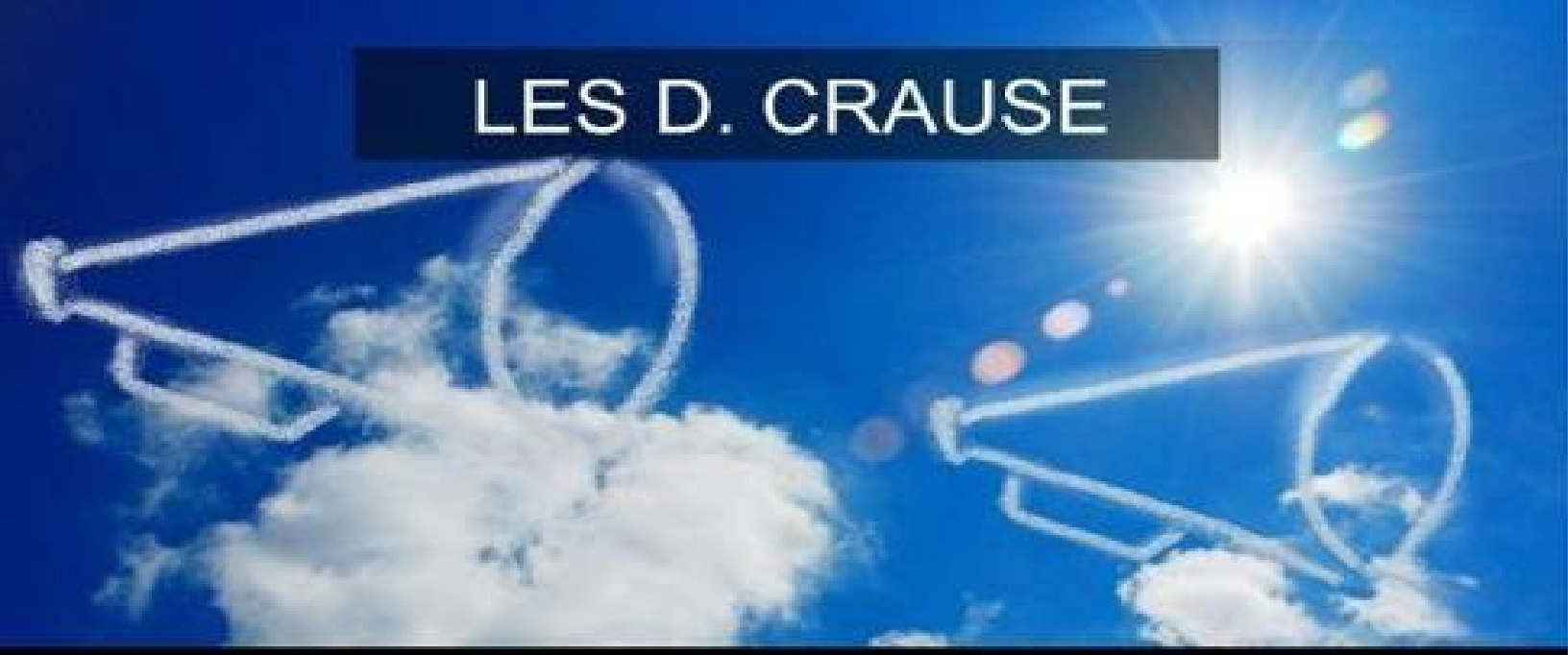
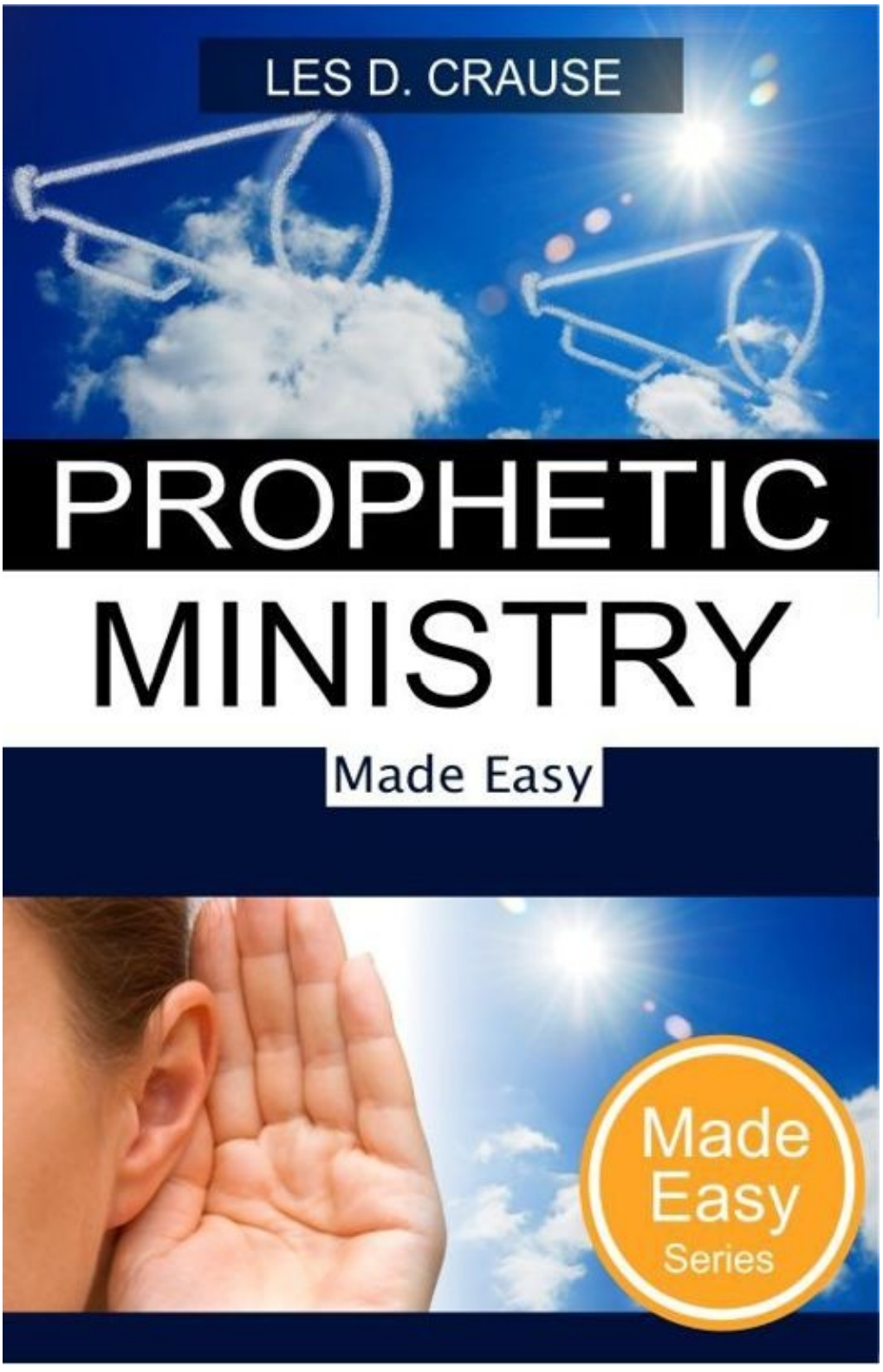


PROPHETIC MINISTRY

Made Easy




LES D. CRAUSE
PROPHETIC
MINISTRY
Made Easy
Made
Easy
Series

Prophetic Ministry Made Easy

By Les D. Crause

Prophetic Ministry Made Easy

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Foreword

Everybody wants to be a Prophet

The Prophetic Ministry has taken the Church by storm since the turn of the century. In the past prophets were very rare, and it looked like they had disappeared from the Church.

But then, suddenly God began to restore the Prophetic Ministry and this ministry became available to believers who did not think they could ever qualify for it.

Prophetic teachers rose up and schools for the prophets all came into being. I was blessed to be amongst the first to lay down a systematic teaching series for the preparation and training of the Prophetic Office.

My full teaching series entitled The Way of the Prophet has been a best seller for many years, and is still a standard for those who are called to the Prophetic Office.

But not everyone is called to rise up into the higher level Fivefold Office of the Prophet. Many are called to simply function in the Prophetic Ministry. I realized that I had left a hole in my original teaching on the subject by not giving enough teaching about the actual functioning of a prophet in the local church.

The Prophetic Office functions in the Universal Church, and a prophet in office is called to equip the saints for the work of the ministry, and to lay the groundwork for the development and training of ministries in the End Times Church.

Many, however, will continue to function practically in the Prophetic Ministry without needing to rise up into full Prophetic Office. And even those who are called to full office often find that they have never really learned how to function practically in the true prophetic ministry.

So the main purpose of this book is to help those who are just starting out in the Prophetic Ministry to grow confident and learn how to do this ministry well.

And for those who are in training for higher office, or may have already qualified for such an office, this book will bring a much needed emphasis on the importance of seeing this as a practical *ministry*, and not just a *level of attainment* in ministry.

I send forth this book then, in the hope that it will motivate you to get involved in this ministry by showing how easy it can be. I will be sharing many of my

own experiences along the way.

If you have been feeling unsure about moving into this ministry, or have lost interest in prophetic ministry, then this book is especially for you.

I hope that the Lord will use it to show you that you can do this, or to restore the fire that may have once burned in you for one of the most exciting ministries in the Body of Christ.

In His Presence

Les D. Crause

Apostle, Prophet and Entrepreneur
Global Business Ministries International

February 2012

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Chapter 01

The Ministry Manifests

Chapter 01 – The Ministry Manifests

It all started when I finally went into ministry and became the Pastor of my own church. I had waited years for this opportunity and now at last I could minister to people as a fulltime job.

In the years that led to my ordination and placement I had done everything I could to prepare for the call to ministry. In the early years I left my job to attend a full time Bible School. Then after that I kept buying and reading books, until I had become an expert in teaching the Word.

Now here I was, a highly qualified Bible Teacher, pastoring a small church of people who did not fully appreciate the awesome teaching that I was giving them.

Often I would prepare a powerful teaching message, but only a handful of people turned up to listen. Nobody really seemed to appreciate or be interested in the Teaching Ministry.

As I became involved in personal ministry and counseling, I realized that it was easy to stand up and preach on a subject. But when I was faced with someone who had a problem I felt quite weak and helpless.

The best I could do was to invite them to my next preach, so that they could hear from the pulpit, the truths that would change their lives.

I needed more than just knowledge of principles. I needed revelation of what was happening in the lives of the people I was working with.

The Lord heard my cry, and I found that after a while I began to have ideas come to my mind about people. At first I thought this was my imagination, but later I realized that the Lord was starting to show me things in the Spirit.

The last thing in my mind was the idea that perhaps the Lord was leading me into a prophetic ministry. I was called to be a teacher, not a prophet.

So I held back on the revelations that God was giving me, and used them only to show me which principles of the Word I should share.

This is something that I had learned to do not long after the Lord filled me with the Holy Spirit. At that time I had received a gift of the spirit that kept getting me into trouble. It was the gift of Discerning of Spirits.

When I first began to exercise this revelation gift I started to see demonic bondages in the lives of people. I thought that the right thing to do was to tell people what God had shown me. But instead of receiving my revelation, folks

got upset with me.

Nobody likes to be told they have a demonic bondage in their life. Just as nobody will admit that they have a problem in their marriage. In fact, nobody finds it easy to admit that they have failed.

When I first learned how to counsel people I realized that we are all responsible for the problems in our lives. The cause of our problems is not the way others treated us, but the way we responded to those problems

I found that it was much easier to preach the Word from the pulpit and let the Holy Spirit convict of sin. So even if I knew by revelation that there was a problem in the person's life, I held that knowledge back for fear of the rejection that it would cause.

What I did not realize was that the Lord was already beginning to show me the problems that a person faces when they begin to operate in the Prophetic Ministry. So instead of allowing the Lord to use me in the revelation gifts, and add the Word of Knowledge and Word of Wisdom, I suppressed the revelations He gave me.

If you have begun to operate in the gifts of revelation and flow in a prophetic ministry, then you understand what I am talking about. You have probably already experienced something similar.

Perhaps you got all excited about what the Lord showed you and went to share it with the person involved. But instead of sharing in your excitement and appreciating your revelation, they rejected it outright.

This has been the experience of everyone who has ever flowed in the prophetic ministry. And perhaps the main reason for this is because nobody has taught those in this ministry how to use it correctly.

I retreated to the safe haven of the Word, and that was actually a good thing. Now I could minister to people without experiencing their rejection. But I went too far in the other direction, and I failed to address what the Lord showed me about them.

It was much easier to stand up and preach about the Scriptural pattern for marriage than it was to confront someone on their failure in their marriage. I somehow needed to learn a balance. I needed to combine my revelations with the ministry of the Word.

The Lord gave me that first problem church to teach me a little about how to do this. It was a difficult church and I struggled to make it flourish. In the end my superiors decided that it was better for me to leave there and minister for a while

under a senior minister.

That was when I learned an amazing lesson. Since I was due to leave within a month, I stopped worrying about how people would respond to my revelations. I decided to go ahead and act on what the Lord was showing me. I began to share some of my revelations along with the ministry of the Word.

The results took me totally by surprise. Suddenly people began to respond better to me. And some of those who had opposed me now began to say,

"It is a pity that you are leaving now. You are finally really ministering to us and we like your ministry."

This was my first experience with using the Prophetic Ministry in a small way, but it was not enough to give me the confidence to let the Lord use me that way. I still had a few more experiences up ahead before I could rise up fully into becoming a true Prophet of God.

Learning to Pray

I wish I could say that I learned my lesson in my first church and that I finally allowed the Lord to use me in prophetic ministry. But that would be a lie. I soon reverted to my safe ground in the teaching ministry and when I became an assistant in a large church I tried once more to use only the ministry I knew well.

The church that I was working in was run by my senior pastor who was an evangelist. And the church was strictly controlled by elders who laid down the law and were very fussy about what was done in the church.

It was a matter of time before I found myself no longer in the ministry and in the end I even had to leave the country I grew up in. Every time I tried to minister in a local church I rose up with my successful teaching ministry and became a threat to the local pastor.

In the end all possibilities for ministry ended. The Lord brought me to the place He wanted me to be. I was ready to do whatever He wanted me to do. And that was when my true Prophetic Ministry finally began.

It started one night as we went to the Sunday meeting of a local church we were going to. We arrived early for prayer before the main meeting started and sat down to pray with those who had come to pray. But there was a kind of restlessness inside me and I felt uncomfortable, so I got up and walked outside.

There, as I paced up and down near the border of the property, the Lord began to explode inside me in revelation in a way I had never known it before. His voice was so clear that it almost felt like someone speaking out loud.

His words to me were,

"Your time here is finished. I am taking you out into something new."

This experience was so startling for me that I went and called my family out of the meeting hall, and we went home instead of waiting for the meeting.

It was now clear to me that my ministry was about to change. But what direction would it take? I found out shortly afterwards as I got down one day with my wife to pray and ask the Lord for provision.

I started out praying a standard prayer and found myself coming under a strong conviction of the Holy Spirit. I still had bitterness in my heart towards church leaders who had rejected me and hurt me. The Lord made it clear to me that He could not bless me until I dealt with these things.

What started out that day as a simple, short time of prayer turned into a very long prayer time, as the Holy Spirit began to move upon me and draw me into a closer relationship with the Lord.

This prayer experience was so powerful that I felt I wanted to pray more. So I began to set aside time each day to pray. In fact I was so stirred that I took a few days off work to spend more time in prayer.

The more I prayed, the more aware I became of the Lord in the Spirit. I had read somewhere that praying in tongues for long periods had a powerful effect, so I thought I would give it a try.

I soon proved the principle to be true, and after praying for over an hour in tongues I broke through to a new realm in the Spirit. And then the ultimate experience was when the Lord Jesus Himself appeared to me in a vision and gave me a revelation of His love.

Now the prophetic gifts began to explode inside of me, and I could not wait to get into His presence to pray. Praying in tongues became my way of charging up and I found it common for me to pray in tongues for 15 minutes just to warm up and get into the prophetic flow.

Then the Lord began to lead me to go and share with people. Some He sent to me to come and receive ministry. The Prophetic Ministry developed so quickly that I did not have time to think what I was doing. I just opened my mouth and shared what I was seeing in the Spirit.

The love that the Lord had poured into my heart seemed to make people more receptive to what I shared with them. I found myself telling them what God wanted to do in their lives. And sometimes I knew things about them that they

did not tell me.

This came so naturally to me that I did not fully realize what I was doing. It was only later when I saw a Prophet operating publicly for the first time that it hit me. I turned to my wife and said,

"What he is doing is the same thing I have been doing without realizing it. Perhaps the Lord has called me to be a prophet."

That night as I sat in the pews watching this prophet calling people up and prophesying over them, I wished he would call me up also and tell me what God had called me to do. But somehow he did not notice me. He noticed people all around me but he did get anything for me.

I was disappointed but I learned later that the Lord did not want me to learn from other prophets. It is not that they had nothing I could learn from. It was simply the fact that God had called me to receive different things directly from Him. Then He wanted me to go and teach these things to others.

I began to realize that each of the experiences I was going through was designed by the Lord to build a principle into me. And each of these principles would become the foundation on which I would build my Prophetic Ministry.

I will be sharing these principles with you in detail in this book, so that you can begin to apply them to your own prophetic ministry. The experiences that I have shared so far all taught me some of these principles, but there was more.

What I have not fully covered yet is the main function of the Prophetic Ministry, which is the act of speaking out prophecy. This is the operation of the gift of the Spirit known as the Gift of Prophecy.

Many are confused on the subject of the Gift of Prophecy and think that their ability to hear from God in revelation and function as a prophet is a gift in itself. This is not true at all. You do not have "the Prophetic Gift" as though this is a divine ability on its own.

I will discuss this in detail in a later chapter.

CHAPTER 02

The Essentials of Prophetic Ministry

Prophetic Ministry Made Easy by Les D. Crause

Chapter 02 – The Essentials of Prophetic Ministry

As you consider the experiences that I shared above concerning my own training in the Prophetic Ministry, you will see that there are a few key principles that you need to stick to. These are very necessary for you to be successful in functioning in this ministry.

Here are the main principles:

1. You must not be afraid to speak what God gives you.

2. You must use wisdom in speaking what God gives you.

3. You must develop your prophetic ministry through extensive prayer and waiting on God.

4. You must develop the gifts of revelation to function as a prophet.

5. You must be able to function in the gift of prophecy.

6. Your ability to function as a prophet must never be a goal or aspiration to rise up and prove yourself or make a name for yourself.

   It should never be a tool that you use to put others down or exalt yourself above others or try to control them.

   It is a ministry, which means the main purpose for it is to be a blessing to others.

7. Your motivation for the Prophetic Ministry must always be the love of the Lord. Before you can be effective in this ministry, you must have a loving relationship with the Lord Jesus and understand His unconditional love.

I will be looking at all of these subjects in some detail as we proceed through this study. By the time we are done, I think you will find that it is not really difficult to do the Prophetic Ministry.

Once you know the basics of what is involved and learn to do it the right way, you will soon be able to function well as a prophet and let the Lord use you in this ministry.

Now you might be thinking that all of this is not for you at all. God has called you to another kind of ministry, and you have been very successful in this ministry without needing to function in the prophetic at all.

This is how I felt in my original ministry. I knew I was a teacher, and many people had told me what a good teacher I was. But there was something that was missing from my ministry, and it stopped me from being all God wanted.

When I began to move into the Prophetic Ministry I did not leave my teaching ministry behind. In fact the complete opposite took place. My teaching ministry moved to a new higher level. You are reading this book because my teaching ministry is still alive and well.

Perhaps you could ask me, “Are you a teacher or a prophet?” The answer to that is simple. I am both a teacher and a prophet. And in fact I am even more than that, because the Lord moved me higher up the ladder to the ultimate level of ministry that is found in the Apostle.

So even if you are already functioning in a ministry that is working well, do not limit yourself. God may be offering you the opportunity to add the Prophetic Ministry to your existing ministry.

This does not mean that you should drop what you are doing and become a ‘professional prophet’. God does raise many up to specialize in this kind of ministry. These are called to the full Prophetic Office and the prophetic becomes their defining ministry.

This book is not written primarily for this kind of person. I already produced the teaching needed for that level of Prophetic Ministry in my comprehensive teaching called The Way of the Prophet.

Perhaps you may find once you have gone through this book that the Prophetic Ministry burns so strongly in you that you would like to specialize in it. Then you are free to move ahead and go through the next level of teaching that is contained in that series.

But whether you are called to be a full prophet, or simply need to add the functions of the Prophetic Ministry to your existing ministry, this book will give you a sound foundation that will make sure you do it right.

What You Will Need

To carry out the functions of the Prophetic Ministry, you will need the following essentials, which are available to all believers.

1. The willingness to do what is necessary to obtain, develop and use these gifts
2. A desire to be used by the Lord to help others
3. The gift of Prophecy, preferably also the other vocal gifts.
4. At least one of the gifts of revelation, preferably all three.

If you cannot identify these gifts as part of your existing ministry, then I would highly recommend that you go through the following teachings that I have already released. These will help prepare the way for you.

A. Finding Your Ministry Calling
B. Finding Your Ministry Gifts
C. Developing Your Ministry Gifts

These teachings will show you how to reach out and receive the Prophetic Gifts, and learn how to use them.

This book assumes that you have already embraced these gifts and are ready now to start using them. Here you will learn how to focus all of these gifts into a ministry that will enhance your existing ministry and take you to a new level.

At this point you might not even be fully aware of what your full calling is, as I explained in Finding Your Ministry Calling. But that does not stop you from embracing the Prophetic Ministry and learning how to flow in these gifts.

If the desire burns in your heart and you have fully applied the teachings in the above series, then there is nothing stopping you from pushing ahead and learning how to carry out this ministry.

The main purpose of this book is to make the process so easy that you will wonder why you did not do this a long time ago. I will take you by the hand and lead you step by step into taking these gifts of the Spirit and using them together in a ministry that will touch the lives of many.

You may find that this will drop many pieces in place for you and begin to answer some of the questions that you had about what your true calling is. I showed in Finding Your Ministry Calling that you can begin by doing what burns in you, and that this will lead to you finally identifying your full calling.

So if there is a desire burning in you right now to be able to hear from God on behalf of other people, and speak the words of the Lord to them prophetically,

you do not need to wait for confirmation that you are called to the Prophetic Ministry.

In fact, you may find out in the end that you are called to something that is very different to, or far greater than, the Prophetic Ministry. But until you know what that is, you can embrace this ministry and become a blessing to many.

What You Should Do

If you desire to function in the Prophetic Ministry and believe that the Lord has led you to this book to help you do this, then here is what I would like to suggest you do.

Firstly, you should begin to prepare your heart by waiting on the Lord in prayer, and asking Him to confirm to you that this is the route that you should take. God will reveal this to you as you begin to apply the principles you will learn here.

The words you are reading contain an anointing that comes from the Spirit of God within me. As I have written these words I have released the anointing from within. So when you read and receive these words, you are getting far more than just some principles or teaching.

You are actually receiving some of my anointing, and what has come out of my spirit. This is because words come from deep within the spirit of man. And when the Holy Spirit is in a person, the anointing that He brings is also contained in those words.

So as you read this book, realize that you are doing more than learning about how the Prophetic Ministry functions. You are literally receiving the anointing that will cause you to also function in this same ministry.

If nothing happens, and you are not inspired by reading this book to move into the Prophetic Ministry, then it is possible that God does not want you to do this. You must be ready to face that possibility.

Perhaps your desire to operate in prophetic ministry is not something that the Lord put in you at all. Maybe it is just a fascination with the Prophetic or a healthy interest in the subject.

Perhaps the Lord wants you to be more of a teacher than a prophet. So your reason for reading this book is not to become a prophet, but to learn how to teach others to do this.

Either way, I think you will find by the time you reach the end, that you will have a new direction from the Lord, and new knowledge that you can use for the Lord.

If this is your experience then I will consider myself most blessed and will feel that I accomplished what God wanted me to do by writing this book.

So take my hand now as I lead through all the steps that are needed and the main principles that are needed for someone to function well in the Prophetic Ministry.

Prophetic Ministry Made Easy by Les D. Crause

CHAPTER 03

The Gift of Prophecy

Prophetic Ministry Made Easy by Les D. Crause

Chapter 03 - The Gift of Prophecy

The Prophetic Ministry is a calling from God in which He empowers someone to speak His words into the earth. At the lowest level this means speaking God's word directly to or over people.

At the highest level it means speaking God's Words into the earth as a decree or proclamation. The act of prophecy always involves speaking words. If you have not yet developed the ability to speak God's Words into the earth by revelation then you cannot be considered as being in the Prophetic Ministry.

In my early years of ministry I could function in only two gifts of the Spirit. I could operate the gift of Discerning of Spirits, and I could speak in tongues. But that is as far as I went.

When someone in my church gave an utterance in tongues, I always waited for someone else to interpret. Then I realized that people were expecting me as their Pastor to interpret the tongues. I felt put on the spot and a failure because I could not do this.

Later on, when it became clear that God was calling me to the Prophetic Ministry, I realized that the main gift I needed to operate in was the gift of Prophecy.

It was not enough to tell someone that I had received revelation for them. I had to be able to speak God's Word to them in prophecy. It was clear that because someone flowed in the revelation gifts that did not mean they were called to the Prophetic Ministry.

I had to learn how to speak God’s words directly to people using the gift of Prophecy. And I have come to believe that anyone called to the Prophetic Ministry should be able to function in both the gift of Prophecy and at least one of the Revelation Gifts.

If God has called you to this ministry you should therefore be aware of the operation of these gifts in your life.

I have shared in some detail on how I developed these gifts in my teaching series entitled, "Developing Your Ministry Gifts."

What I share here will be a scaled down version of some of that teaching. I only want to share what you need to know before you can begin to function as a Prophet.

Learning to Prophesy

In order to function in the gift of prophecy, you must learn how to speak out loud the words that God gives you to speak. This looks easy when you see someone doing it. But when you come to do it yourself you will find that it takes boldness and confidence.

What if you speak the wrong word? What if you made it all up and it just came from your mind? What if you heard the Lord incorrectly and missed what He wanted to say?

These are the fears that every prophet faces. You might think that the anointing comes down on you so hard that you cannot help yourself. But this is not true at all. It takes a lot of practice and some help from others to encourage you to step out in faith.

Where these things are lacking you might find yourself wanting to flow in a prophetic ministry, but unable to do it right. If this is the position you find yourself in, then I want to encourage you.

God can do more with you while you have this spirit of humility than He can with those who step out in the flesh in their own strength.

The Right and the Wrong Way

Before I share my own experiences in this, I would like to correct a common teaching that is promoted in some places. I believe this teaching to be false, unscriptural and dangerous.

I am referring to the teaching that has become known as "Activating Your Gifts."

This teaching encourages prospective prophets to prophesy over people by speaking out the first thing that comes to their mind. The trainee is given someone prophesy over and told to speak out whatever comes to their mind.

The idea is that as the person begins to speak, they make themselves available to the Lord. They start out making up the prophecy but then the Holy Spirit takes over and with practice they learn to give real prophecy.

Why is this bad practice? Well the first reason it is wrong is that a word of prophecy is always initiated by the Holy Spirit and not man. Prophecy can never be requested or given on demand. To prophesy over someone by your own choice without the leading of the Holy Spirit can lead to deception and also confuse the person you are ministering to.

The gift of prophecy, like all the spiritual gifts, is given at the sole discretion of the Spirit of God, who speaks when He chooses to speak, not when we tell Him to speak.

It is possible for someone to request prayer, and when you come to pray with them, you make yourself available to God. I have found that when the person needing ministry is reaching out in faith, God will nearly always give me something for that person.

So when I come to pray, I make myself available and wait on God to see what He wants to do. Sometimes the Lord will give a revelation. Sometimes He will give a prophetic word. It is always different and you cannot dictate how He will work.

If you are in such a situation and you feel that God wants you to prophesy, then by all means open your mouth and speak what God puts into your mind. If He gives you a vision or revelation in some other way, then you can share it without speaking a word of prophecy.

But if you get nothing, then simply pray for the person according to what they asked from you. And while you are praying, God may lead you in your prayer to pray for things that they did not tell you about. You might find yourself praying a word of revelation.

In fact I found in my early experiences in flowing in prophetic ministry that I would often begin to pray for a person and end up prophesying, as the word of prophecy would come on me while I was praying.

Practicing Alone

One of the best ways to become confident in the gift of prophecy without affecting others is to learn how to do this in your private closet. Here you can easily practice listening to yourself prophesy without any harm being done.

Start by prophesying over you and developing a prophetic style. Many prophets try to copy the way they have heard other prophets speak, but it does not suit them at all.

Find your own voice and learn to speak prophecy in a way that is comfortable to you and can be understood by others. Do not get hung up on King James English. But if that makes you feel more like you are prophesying, then by all means use that to start prophesying until you are more confident.

The key in giving an accurate prophetic word lies in flowing correctly with the Holy Spirit as He gives you the words. He will give these to you as you speak, and not up front.

Then, as you speak the words out you will sense in your spirit whether the words you are speaking are anointed or not. When you sense the anointing, keep

speaking. But when the anointing begins to wane, then perhaps you have moved away from what God wanted to say.

I like to compare this to walking along a narrow pathway, where you can walk along the road, but sometimes stumble off or put your foot slightly outside of the path. When you do this, you realize it and move your foot back onto the path again.

Most prophetic utterances are like this. You are moving in the right direction, and following the path that the Lord is leading, but you tend to stumble off the path every now and then.

Each word that you speak may not be totally accurate and of God, but at least the general direction that you follow is of the Lord. With practice you get better and start stumbling less and sticking more closely to the road.

Learning with Mentorship

It is good to have someone working with you who is more experienced in the Prophetic Ministry. Such a person may sense that God wants to use you and will encourage you to speak out.

When I am training or mentoring someone in the Prophetic I will often know when the Lord wants to use them. So if we are praying together in a group and I sense that the Lord wants to give a word of prophecy, I will say something like,

“The Lord is giving someone a prophetic word. Speak it out boldly and do not be afraid. The Lord wants to use you.”

Then, when someone responds to this and overcomes their fear by speaking out in prophecy I am there to give confirmation and encouragement. I can tell them if their prophecy flowed correctly and was anointed. And I can point out any mistakes that they made so that they can do better next time.

In this way, in the safe confines of either your own prayer closet, or in the presence of a helpful mentor, you can learn to prophesy with confidence and learn to hear the voice of the Lord better. Until you come a place of confidence through experience.

Group Prophecy and Personal Prophecy

Giving a prophetic word to a group is much easier than speaking a personal prophecy over a person. In a group the word could apply to more than one person, so the prophecy does not have to be that specific.

The main purpose of such a prophecy is usually to encourage, motivate and

confirm the Word of the Lord. It is God speaking words of love and encouragement to His people.

Personal prophecy, however, is very different. In this kind of prophecy you are speaking the word of the Lord to a specific person. So if you make a mistake and the person disagrees with what you prophesied over them, then you can face rejection, doubt and discouragement.

It is very discouraging when you find yourself speaking words over a person that go something like, “You have thought in your heart… you have asked the Lord…” etc., and the person responds by saying that they did no such thing.

Personal prophecy should never replace the person hearing from God for themselves in their own hearts. What your prophetic word should be doing is giving the person confirmation of something that they have been asking God about.

When this happens, the person realizes that they heard God correctly and are doing the right thing. This encourages them and builds their faith. But if the word is totally the opposite of what they felt God wanted them to do, it can bring total confusion and doubt.

So be very careful of directive prophecy. It can be dangerous and cause a lot of harm in the lives of people. Some have built their lives on personal prophecy, believing that God was going to do what the prophet spoke over them.

When it does not happen, they begin to doubt God and become discouraged. And what was designed to be a word that would motivate them to press in to the will of the Lord, becomes a stumbling block that makes them turn from the Lord.

As a prophet you hold great responsibility in your hands when you give personal directive prophecy. So do not do it lightly, but make sure that you are in tune with the Holy Spirit and are not simply speaking your own burden over the person.

Often prophets will call others to the same kind of ministry passion that burns in them personally. They are so obsessed with what God has given to them that they want others to also enter in.

But God may have called the person to something very different. So never be afraid to get feedback from the person after you have prophesied over them. Ask them if your word confirmed anything to them or was contrary to what they were expecting.

Be ready to admit that you are not perfect and can easily miss it in prophecy. Your prophetic word is never infallible and cannot be taken by the person word

for word as a pattern on which to build their life. Only the Scriptures have the power to do that.

What kind of words will you speak over a person when you function as a prophet? Will you speak principles, give commands, uncover hidden things, predict their future, speak rebuke or correction, or simply motivate and encourage them?

In the chapters to come, I will explain how to use these correctly. So continue to read through each section, and the pieces of the puzzle will all come together.

CHAPTER 04

Foretelling

or

Forth-telling?

Prophetic Ministry Made Easy by Les D. Crause

Chapter 04 – Foretelling or Forth-telling?

The terms prophet, prophetic, prophesying etc are often believed to be related to telling the future or predicting what will take place.

It is part of our human nature to be curious about what will happen in the future. That is why the occult and fortune telling have become such a big influence in the world.

Often even believers are lured into the idea that they should know what will happen to them in the future. They know that it is wrong to turn to the occult or a fortune teller because this is demonic.

But with the rise of the Prophetic Ministry, many believers have mistakenly thought that this was God's replacement for the soothsayers and fortune tellers of the world. They feel that God has given the Prophet to tell us what will take place in our lives in the future.

Because of this, many who have started to function in the Prophetic Ministry also feel that if they are to be successful as prophets, then they should be able to clearly tell people what is in store for them in the future.

Many Prophetic ministries do little more than tell people what will happen to them in the future. They prophesy over people in meetings and tell them that they will become wealthy or be successful.

They tell them that they will find the marriage partner of their dreams. They tell them what their future holds. And when they have done this, they think that they have fulfilled the Prophetic Ministry that God has called them to.

This is one of the biggest errors in the Prophetic Movement, and the one thing that has opened the door wide to deception, confusion and bitterness against the Lord.

A prophet tells a person that something will happen, and they go off, expecting this to happen just as it was prophesied. Then they wait and wait but it does not take place.

So what do they do? They do one of two things. Either they judge the Prophet for making a false prediction, or they judge the Lord for not keeping His promise.

In the end, the ministry that was meant to be a blessing and inspiration to them has become a stumbling block and the cause of discouragement and confusion.

Can a Prophet Predict the Future?

The question I would like to address here is whether it is the role of the prophet to predict the future or not. And if the prophet can and does predict the future, then what is the purpose for this prediction?

To understand this subject, I would like to explain once again, the functioning of the gift of the Word of Wisdom. It is this gift that gives a prophet, or anyone functioning in this gift, the ability to look into the future.

The two main gifts of revelation that the prophet functions in are the word of wisdom and the word of knowledge. I have explained the functions of these gifts in the other teaching series that precede this series. So you should know this already if you have been through those teachings.

When God gives us revelation, concerning the past, the present or the future, He always has a very clear purpose in revealing this. He seldom does this to make the prophet look good, or to satisfy the curiosity of the person receiving ministry.

God has a purpose in the life of every one of His children, and He arranges circumstances and brings in influences to make sure that this purpose is fulfilled. But He never imposes His will on anyone.

So when God reveals anything about someone, the reason He does this is to help the person to align themselves with His Divine will and purpose. He wants that person to be available to Him and to be in a place where He can carry out His purpose for them.

But He gives us the freedom to choose if we want to follow Him or not. And if we choose to not come into line with His plans for us, it is very possible for us to miss what He had in mind.

So when God gives a prophet revelation via the gift of the word of wisdom, His purpose is not to show the person what will happen to them in the future. The word of wisdom is not a fatalistic prediction of what will take place; something that is decreed and cannot be stopped.

This is the way that Satan predicts. And usually the purpose for it is to ensnare people into believing that their lives are not under their own control. They are led to believe that fate has stepped in and decided what will happen to them in the future.

God never works that way. Although He has a plan for each one of us, this plan is never considered our fate, and something that we have no control over. It is rather an indication of what God desires to do for us.

You Are the Master of Your Fate

Unfortunately we have been so programmed by Satan's method of prediction, that when God reveals His plans for our future, we tend to see it the same way as the fortune telling of the occult.

We assume that because a prophet tells us what is planned for our future, that we have no control over this, and must just wait for it to happen.

In fact the very opposite is true. The main purpose of the word of wisdom is not to inform you about what will happen to you in the future, but it is designed to motivate you to action.

When God gives you an insight into His future plans for you, He is inviting you to become a part of that plan. He wants you to be a partner in the work, not the employee who just does what he is told.

So if you receive a prophetic word concerning the future and do nothing about it, the chances are it will never be fulfilled. God told you this because He wanted you to do something to help make it happen.

If you as a prophet have not understood this principle, then you have failed to carry out your ministry correctly. Your job was not to tell the person what would happen to them in the future.

Your job was to show them what God wanted to do in their life, and give them direction on what they should now do to make this happen.

For example, if the prophet is given a word that shows a person will become wealthy in the future; this should never be thought of as something that will just happen automatically.

It may be that God wants the person to take some action that will lead to the accumulation of wealth. God could be telling the person that they should consider getting involved in a business enterprise. He may want to anoint that person for business, so that they can accumulate wealth to bless the work of the ministry.

If this is not made clear, the person may think that this money will just come to them automatically, and they will become wealthy overnight. So they wait for it to happen and do nothing to make it happen.

God works with us in the earth to fulfill His purposes. That is why the Scripture says that He does nothing unless He first reveals His secrets to His servants the prophets.

God wants man to participate with Him in His work in the earth. He is ready to do His part, and He gives us an opportunity to also do our part.

Your role as a prophet is to not only reveal what God wants to do, but also to help the person find out what they are supposed to do. That is why it is called the word of wisdom. It is a gift which provides a piece of the wisdom of God.

What is wisdom? Is it not the ability to use knowledge? So if you have received the knowledge that God wants to do something in your life in the future is that enough? No, you also need wisdom on what to do with that knowledge.

This puts a heavy responsibility on the prophet then. He or she must not only predict the future, but also provide the wisdom that the person needs in order to make this future possibility come true.

The Power of Forth-telling

The prophet must be one who speaks God's will and purpose into the earth. Not one who simply predicts what God will do, but one who shows what God plans to do.

This can be carried out in two different ways. The one involves telling the people involved what God plans to do. This also means showing them what they should do to partner with God in this work.

The second one involves releasing God's Word into the earth as a creative decree. Any human being has this power, as I taught in the Way of Blessing. But the prophet does it under inspiration and clear direction from the Lord.

God says that when He sends His Word into the earth, it will not return empty, but it will do what it was sent to do. But He can only speak His words into the earth through a human channel.

Even the ultimate Words of God recorded in the Scriptures had to be released into the earth through human channels. God has created the world so that only a spirit living in a body has the authority to make things happen here.

So the prophet is uniquely gifted by God to find out what God wants to do and to speak His word into the earth to make it happen. This is part of the power of the prayer of intercession, which is one of the most important functions of the prophetic ministry.

We will look at that in more detail in our study on Prophetic Prayer. But for now, it is important that you realize where the predictive part of the prophetic ministry lies.

It is also important that you realize the responsibility that rests on your shoulders when you speak a word that involves a prediction. You must follow it up with wisdom and direction that will help the person to know what they must do as a

result of this word.

You can avoid many problems by using different words to speak out a prediction. Avoid telling the person that God is going to do something in their lives, or that something will happen to them in the future.

It is better rather to say that God wants to do something in their lives, and that it is His will for them to experience what could happen in the future.

Then, after you have told them what God desires for them, ask the Lord for wisdom to explain to them what they should do in order to release the power of God to work in their lives to make this happen.

Finally, add your own authority to this by praying for the person and asking the Lord to do what He promised. This also gives God authority to work in the earth and in the person's life.

Perhaps before you pray, you might want to ask the person if this is what they want, and if they do desire to experience this in their lives. Show them that they have the power to decide and release the Lord to work on their behalf.

The best thing to do would be to get the person to pray and thank the Lord for what has been promised and give God license to work in their life to bring this about.

Until the person gives license, the Lord cannot do what He has promised. He will never overrule our wills.

In this way any predictions that are given in prophecy are licensed in the earth, both by the prophet and by the person receiving the word. The angels are then also licensed to begin working to bring this about.

Finally, remember that Satan will oppose this word. So after speaking a release on this word, make sure to also stand against the forces of darkness, and block them from interfering with it.

If you do this consistently, you will be amazed to see that the predictions given will come to pass exactly as they were prophesied.

Giving Dates

There is one final aspect of prediction that I want to address before I end this subject. This is very important so do not skip this vital principle.

One of the biggest mistakes I often see junior prophets making is to give dates in prophecy. This happens because we see the prophecy as a prediction instead of a direction from the Lord.

I want to warn you right here to never make this mistake. The Lord seldom gives dates when He gives you a word of wisdom. The giving of dates is something we as human beings like to have. So we tend to add to the revelation of the Spirit.

This can lead to some of the worst kinds of confusion and disappointment. When the Lord puts a plan into action, it always involves people. He does nothing in this earth without using a person as part of His plan.

So when a word of wisdom is given, this is not a fatalistic decree. Certainly God knows the future and can show us what will happen. But most of the time the final result depends on man being obedient to His word.

So if you or someone else involved fails to hear His word and obey it, things may not happen exactly as planned. The Lord does not force His will on us, but offers us a chance to be part of His plan.

Do not ever make the mistake of telling someone that something will happen by a certain date or on a certain date. There is no Scriptural basis for this at all. If you think you heard this, the chances are you were in deception.

As I shared above, try as much as possible to present any future words as being a call to action, not something to make the mind happy. No prophetic word should ever be ignored. It should always give a direction for someone to follow.

CHAPTER 05

Prophetic Seeing

Prophetic Ministry Made Easy by Les D. Crause

Chapter 05 – Prophetic Seeing

There is an old saying that goes, “A picture is worth a thousand words.”

When it comes to prophetic revelation this principle is very true, because a large portion of the revelation that a prophet receives comes via the medium of vision.

Visions are the language of the spirit, since the sense of sight is the strongest of our five senses. If God communicates something to you, it comes up out of your spirit and into your mind via the five senses.

When this happens, the chances are that your mind will receive the message in picture form. It can be communicated using any of the five senses, but the most common is the use of pictures through the sense of sight.

If you think that this is not true, then try this simple exercise. Close your eyes and let your mind roam and do whatever it wants to. Let this happen for a few minutes until your mind starts to roam. Now answer the following questions:

As you let your mind roam what happened? Did you see something in your mind? Did you hear something inside you? Did you feel something physically deep within? Did you taste or smell something in your mind?

All of these are possible, but the chances are that your mind produced pictures more than anything else.

You may have also had a little come via the sense of hearing. When this does happen, usually you will hear words, rather than sounds. I will look at this in more detail in the next chapter when we consider Prophetic Hearing.

Assuming then, that the largest part of your spiritual revelation is likely to come by you seeing something in the Spirit, it is important that you know how to make the right use of visions in the Prophetic Ministry.

In the early days of the Old Testament, the prophets of that time were called seers. That is because they had a reputation for seeing things in the spirit. This has not changed much in the New Testament. God still shows the prophet pictures by means of spiritual vision.

How Visions Come

I always thought that a vision had to be a supernatural event where you go into a trance and literally see a vision in the Spirit. I waited for this to happen to me but it never did. And when I asked the Lord to give it to me it did not happen either.

Then I realized one day that I had actually been seeing visions for some time. I

just did not realize that those were visions. I thought they were the imaginations of my mind.

Once I identified what a vision really was, I faced a new problem. How did I know which of the pictures that came into my mind were from the Holy Spirit? What if the pictures that came up were just from my memory or my imagination?

And then I realized also that the pictures in my mind could be from another place. They could come from the enemy, who often puts thoughts into our minds.

So there are three possible sources of pictures that come up into your mind:

1. Satan or a demon power influencing you from the outside
2. Your own thoughts and memories, coming from your sub-conscious mind.
3. Influences coming up from deep within your human spirit

Of these three, the only one which is truly a prophetic revelation is the third one. Anything from Satan might look like a spiritual revelation. But it is not from God and will lead you into deception.

Anything from your own heart will cause you to see things through your own experience. You will tend to see visions based on what you experienced in the past.

The danger of acting on these visions is that you might try to impose your own standards or experience on someone else. This is a common mistake in trainee prophets.

They think that they are getting a word from the Lord. But it is really just an idea based on what they already know.

Now it is possible for the Lord to remind you about something you learned in the past. Many of the pictures you see may be things you saw before, or thought about before.

So how can you tell the difference between these three different sources and not get into deception? How can you avoid making the mistake of acting on a vision that was not directly from the Lord?

I cannot give you an easy answer to this. Usually it takes experience to get good at this. Often you have to make a few mistakes along the way before you get it right. But here are some guidelines that might help.

Satan is Always Forceful

If you have a sense of forcefulness or pressure that comes with the vision then be careful. Satan will always impose his will on you and force things into your mind.

So if this comes suddenly and forcefully out of nowhere, do not respond to it right away. If you think this may be from the enemy, then rebuke it and tell it to leave.

Inner Programming is Consistent

When you receive an influence from your own heart, this usually always follows the same pattern. What comes up will probably be something that you thought about before.

It might make perfect sense and be the logical way to look at things. In fact you could probably explain the whole logic of what you are getting. It lines up with your own knowledge and experience.

The Spirit is Unique and Gentle

When an influence comes up out of your spirit, it may not look the same as something you learned before. There may be similarities, but often it is very different.

You may have been expecting God to say one thing, but He says something totally different. Often the picture that comes up is so unique that you have to think about what it means.

The picture is clear, but it is not something you thought about before. You have to figure out exactly what God is trying to say through this vision.

Finally, it never comes in a forceful way. In fact it usually comes so gently that you may think you imagined it. The picture pops into your mind, along with all the other thoughts that are there.

Your first impression may be, “That is interesting. Where did that come from?”

Now it is up to you to get wisdom from the Lord on what to do with this vision. You will not feel obligated to share it because it came so gently.

If you wait a bit and ask the Lord for confirmation, you will find that the picture remains and keeps coming back again gently. There may be a struggle going on inside you. You wonder if you should share this or not. It seems such a strange picture.

If you rebuke it then it does not leave. If you try to move your mind away from it, then it slowly comes back. All of these can be confirmation that you are getting a vision from your spirit.

What to Do With Visions

Once you have made sure that what you are seeing is a vision from the Lord, you must do something with it. God gave you this vision for a reason. It was not just so you could have some fun with pictures in your mind.

The vision was given to help you minister to someone. If you were praying alone the vision could help you to pray for someone. Or if the vision was for you, then God is giving you direction for your own life.

If you receive the vision while ministering to someone, then the Lord wants you to reveal it to the person. Sometimes just sharing the vision alone might lead to powerful ministry.

There are times when you might not be able to make any sense of what you are seeing. But the person whom it is for might know exactly what it means. It might confirm to them something they have thought about.

So how can you share this vision with the person? You can do it by telling the person directly what you see. If you do not know what the vision means, then you can ask the person if it means something to them.

Often the Lord will give you what the picture means. Then you can share this with the person also. You tell them what you saw and what you think it means.

Another way to communicate what you see to the person is to convert the vision to a prophetic word. Sometimes the vision is actually God showing you what to prophesy.

So if you sense the spirit of prophecy come on you as you see the vision then use it like this. Step out boldly by speaking a prophetic word. And as you speak, you will be able to describe the vision you are seeing as a prophecy.

When you do this, you will find that the wisdom to know what the vision means comes naturally as you speak. You will find yourself describing what it means as you go.

There is one time however, when you may not need to tell the person what you saw. This is where you are praying or interceding as a prophet when you get the vision.

You may be spending time in prayer, and as you begin to pray for someone, the Lord gives you a vision for that person. Usually when this happens He is telling you how to pray for that person. He does not necessarily intend you to go to the person and tell them what you saw for them in prayer.

There may be a time when you will share this, but do not rush into it. You could tell the person that you were led to pray for them. And if they express some of their cares, you might share more.

For example after you have prayed for someone, they may tell you that they have been struggling with something. Perhaps the vision you saw for them links with what they told you. Then it might be a confirmation to them to share it with them.

You could share that what the Lord showed you lines up with the problem they have been having. They could then be encouraged to know that the Lord cares and showed it to you. It shows them that God is answering their prayers.

The one time you should never be in a hurry to share this is if the Lord showed you something private about the person. God is not in the habit of telling us about the sins of others. That is their own private business and is between them and God.

So if you saw a vision of a person doing something wrong, this would be a rare occasion. Often this kind of vision comes from the enemy and is designed to cause conflict and divisions.

If the Lord shows you the faults of someone else, it is so that you can pray for them and be available to help them if they ask for help. It is not for you to go to them and minister to that problem.

The Lord never imposes His will on us and we should never do this either. Many prophets think that the moment they get a revelation they should act on it. It takes wisdom and experience to know when to reveal what you saw.

CHAPTER 06

Understanding Visions

Prophetic Ministry Made Easy by Les D. Crause

Chapter 06 - Understanding Visions

There are two main kinds of visions that you can receive, according to how God gives them. I like to call these Internal and External Visions. This links with what I have taught elsewhere on the anointing of God, which can be manifested internally or externally.

Internal Visions

The most common visions are those given from the Lord via your own human spirit. This is an internal vision and it means that God does not speak directly to your mind. Satan does not have access to your spirit, so he cannot speak to you this way.

An internal vision is always given via your human spirit. That is where the Holy Spirit lives, so He will always speak from there. This is the most common form of vision and is available to you at all times. All you need to do is learn to tap into your spirit within.

The best way to develop your ability to see internal visions is to learn how to hear the voice of your spirit. That means you must practice listening to that inner voice. And you must practice responding to that inner voice.

Probably the best way to become sensitive to that inner voice is to speak in tongues often. When you speak in tongues you are bridging the gap between your spirit and your body.

At first this does not affect your mind at all, because speaking in tongues bypasses the mind. But if you keep speaking in tongues for a while, the flow begins to break through to your mind.

Your mind eventually runs out of input from your sub-conscious mind and all the stuff that has been pushed down there. Now your mind is ready to hear that deep inner voice that comes from the spirit.

If you practice this regularly and develop sensitivity to the spirit rather than the soul, you will get better at it. Then when the Lord speaks to you in a vision, there will be no blockages.

You will hear His voice more clearly, and your inner visions will become clearer. You will become so sensitive to the Spirit that you will detect right away when a vision is coming from there.

This will make you function far better in the Prophetic Ministry. And you will touch many lives using the power of visions.

External Visions

External visions are the kind that most of us expect to receive but seldom get. These are often also called trance visions. They come from the external anointing of the Holy Spirit as the Spirit comes upon you.

When God gives an external vision He does not do it only via the spirit as for the internal vision. This is the only vision that is superimposed directly on the mind. That is because the external anointing always affects the body directly.

This can take different forms. The most common case is where your natural senses are suspended and you are seeing only the vision. This is a bit like you experience in dreams, although dreams are not necessarily visions from the Lord as we will see later.

In an external vision it is a bit like you are watching a movie on a screen or you actually feel like you are somewhere else and part of the scene. You do not see what is going on around you, but you can see only the vision.

There is a form of this kind of vision that is known as the “open vision” which is a bit different. In an open vision your normal senses are still working, but an additional picture is superimposed on top of what you are seeing.

In this kind of vision you might still see your normal surroundings, but for example, Jesus or an angel may appear live to you and appear to be part of your surroundings. You can tell where they are standing and see them with your eyes open.

This kind of vision is rare, and you may never ever see a vision like this. That does not mean you are not flowing prophetically or that you are inferior as a prophet. The external anointing is always given under God’s control.

So if God reveals things to you in this way, then it is because He chose to, and not because you were more spiritual.

The Language of Visions and Dreams

Before we consider the subject of Prophetic Dreams I would like to explain a common experience that you will have with visions. This is the one thing that makes prophetic seeing different from prophetic hearing.

When you see a vision, the pictures that you see may be one of two different kinds. On the one hand God may show you real people, places and events. On the other the pictures you see may be only symbolic of principles that God wants to show you.

You cannot always assume that the person you see in your vision really exists. They may only be a symbol of something else. There are times when God will show you the real person, but this is not the most common situation.

One situation in which you are likely to see the real thing is where the Lord shows you something from the past. When the word of knowledge is given through vision, you will usually see something real and not symbolic.

For example, if you are praying with someone for healing of a past hurt or bad event, the Lord may often show you when this problem first appeared.

I often see the person I am praying with at a different stage of their life. I may see a woman as a young girl or a man as a boy. This shows me when their problem first appeared. Then I know where the healing needs to be ministered.

Sometimes you will see an incomplete picture and your mind will fill in the gaps. For example, before I met my wife Daphne, the Lord showed me what my future wife would look like.

I saw a vision of a woman with blonde hair and a slim body, who I could see was just slightly taller than me. I could also tell that she was younger than my previous wife. But the face of that person did not stand out. It was just the face of a woman from my own imagination.

When I finally met Daphne she was indeed tall, slim and blonde. And she was much younger looking. But she had a totally different face to what I saw in my vision.

The Lord wanted to show me only what my future wife would look like. He did not show me exactly who she was ahead of time.

Dark Sayings

We sometimes use the term ‘dark sayings’ to describe the fact that what we see may be symbolic. A person dressed in a dark suit for example, may mean a person who is clothed in darkness, or having problems.

There are many different symbols that your visions may contain. Often the symbols chosen are obvious, and they will nearly always be something related to your own experiences. You will find that after a while you will get to identify which symbols are most common to you.

The symbols that you see in the Spirit though, may not apply to anyone else. Do not assume that a symbol is universal. The Bible does have some symbols that are used over and over again. And if you know these symbols, the Lord could use them in your visions.

But it is more likely that over time you will learn to identify some of the things that you see in your visions. You should seldom need to consult someone else to ask them what your vision means.

The only time this is necessary is if the vision is for someone else. If you share the vision with them, they may understand exactly what it means; whereas the symbols may mean nothing to you.

Night Visions

A night vision is a vision that is given while you are asleep. Many confuse dreams and night visions and assume that these are the same thing. But this is not true at all.

Dreaming is a process of the soul by which it carries out a process each night of purging, rearranging and releasing stress. When you go to sleep carrying the stress of the day, your soul tries to release the tension of the stress by creating dreams that allow you to release that stress.

This process is not spiritual at all, and even animals experience this. So to interpret all dreams as night visions would be a big mistake. Certainly animals do not have visions.

There is however another element to dreams that is not necessarily the release of stress or the purging of bad experiences. It is a process of rearranging of the sub-conscious mind.

The sub-conscious contains all the memories of our waking hours, but it is stored in such a way that the data may be accessed when needed during our lives.

Each time you face a situation in life, your inner mind looks for a solution based on the information that has been fed in there during your life.

If this data is not somehow catalogued and arranged for access, this could be a slow process. But in experience it takes only a fraction of a second for your mind to access its databanks and come up with an answer.

You will notice that when a person is faced with a sudden crisis or unexpected situation, there is a momentary pause before they take action.

In that moment a deep inner process is taking place. The mind takes the data from the current situation and feeds it inwards into the inner mind. It looks for matching data, or something from the past that links with the current situation.

When it finds what it is looking for, the answer is sent back to the conscious mind, and the will kicks into action to do something about the situation.

Now for this to happen efficiently, the sub-conscious has to daily rearrange its data banks. New data has been added during the day. And some of that data is similar to experiences from the past.

Your inner computer therefore takes the new data and fits it into the data banks. If the data is new then it is stored in a new place. But if the new data is more up to date that older data, then your inner mind may decide to dump the older data.

When this happens, the only way that the data can be dumped is to pass it back to the conscious mind where it came from. This results in data being communicated via the senses, as I explained earlier.

And of course, the most common sense is the sense of sight. So the main content of your dreams consists of vision, or things seen. But your dreams also contain all other sensory input.

So a dream can be as real as life, with all the senses functioning. But the data that is thrown out does not come out in the same form as it went in. It comes out all mixed up like garbage.

The vast majority of our dreams are like this. They have no significance whatsoever and to try to understand them or look for symbols in them would be pointless.

What they can often tell us though is what kind of things are in our heart. Our dreams can often be a mirror to show what is happening inside. Inner conflicts, aspirations and frustrations are often portrayed in dreams like intense movies.

These are not night visions. And to interpret them as a message from the Lord, or a prophetic direction is a big mistake. A night vision is the same as a day vision. The only difference is that you are asleep when it comes.

The principles that I shared above concerning visions therefore applies to night visions in exactly the same way.

It is not my intention in this book to deal with interpretation of dreams and visions or the symbols involved. This has been dealt with effectively elsewhere and my daughter Colette Toach has written two books on the subject. So if you want more detail, I suggest you get hold of those.

Learn to recognize the voice of your own spirit, and the pictures that the Lord paints directly into your mind. He will give you the wisdom to understand what they mean, and you can use them to carry out an effective Prophetic Ministry.

Seeing prophetically is one of the main functions of the New Testament prophet, who is a seer just like the Old Testament prophet. But the New Testament

prophet is very different to the prophets of the Old Testament. I hope to show you some of these differences in this series, but I will not cover all of them.

CHAPTER 07

Spiritual Hearing

Prophetic Ministry Made Easy by Les D. Crause

Chapter 07 – Spiritual Hearing

We looked in the last section at how the prophet functions as a seer. But the prophet doesn't only see things in the Spirit. He or she also HEARS from the Lord.

In this section I would like to look at how the prophet hears from God, and the part that this plays in the Prophetic Ministry.

Firstly you need to realize that seeing visions and hearing from God is not only for those in the Prophetic Ministry. All believers are able to see things in the Spirit and hear from God.

This was not true in the Old Testament, because the internal anointing of the Holy Spirit did not exist yet. So when God revealed something to a person, He did it only to those whom He chose.

When someone in the Old Testament began to get revelation from God, they were thought to be prophets. Only the prophets were able to do this. So if you were an ordinary person and you needed a message from God, you looked for a prophet.

The New Testament Believer

The New Testament believer has the Holy Spirit living inside of them and can tap into the internal anointing of the Holy Spirit and hear God's voice. You do not need a prophet to be able to hear from God in this way.

What makes the Prophet different is the same thing that made an Old Testament prophet different. The prophet gets revelation from the Lord via the gifts of revelation. This comes more from the external anointing than from the internal.

To help you understand the difference between the Prophet and the ordinary believer, I would like to show you how you can hear from God as an ordinary believer first. Then I will show you how to hear from God as a prophet.

Revelation on Tap

The internal anointing exists in the spirit of every believer, and it is available for us to tap into at all times. You do not need to wait for God to do anything special or move supernaturally to receive from the internal anointing.

There are some simple ways that every believer can tap into the internal anointing and receive revelation. Because you can do this, that does not make you a prophet. It simply means you are born again and have learned to tap into the anointing of God that is within you.

When God adds the prophetic dimension to this anointing, you will still receive revelation this way, but it will come only when God gives it. It will come to you suddenly and outside of your control. And you will know it is the voice of God.

The biggest problem that any believer has in hearing from God is the ability to hear God's voice. Remember we are speaking here about a spiritual manifestation of the sense of hearing.

We saw that the sense of sight is always the strongest, and that the greater part of revelation usually comes to us in pictures. But this is not always the case. Sometimes you receive revelation by hearing in the Spirit.

The first time I ever experienced this strongly was that night when the Lord told me to leave my church. His voice was speaking so strongly in me that I could almost hear Him speaking out loud.

The Voice of Your Own Spirit

How can you hear the voice of God? He speaks most of the time through your human spirit. When He does this, it comes to you via the internal anointing. This means that the words come up from deep down inside you.

But God can also speak to you externally, and when He does this, He moves directly on your body, using the external anointing.

When this happens, God is not speaking via your human spirit, but He is speaking to you directly in your mind. This is much stronger, but it is never overpowering. God never imposes His will like Satan does when he attacks your mind.

When God speaks to you via your human spirit, it happens like this:

1. The Holy Spirit is living inside your spirit and He speaks to your spirit

2. Your spirit then passes this message to your mind via the sub-conscious

3. An idea or picture appears in your mind from nowhere

This kind of thing happens all the time. It exists in every human being and not just in born again believers. But a Christian has the Holy Spirit to help them.

A person who has developed the ability to listen to their spirits more closely finds it easier to 'hear' what their spirit is saying to them. But how can you do this?

God gave us as believers a tool to help us hear the voice of our spirit more clearly. It is called speaking in other tongues. I am not talking about giving an utterance of tongues in a meeting with interpretation, but just speaking in tongues in your private prayer.

When you speak in tongues you create a bridge between your spirit and your body, but it bypasses your mind. However, when you pray in tongues for a while, the flow that is taking place begins to affect your mind.

If you have tried this you will know what I mean. When you first start out you might not feel anything, and your mind can be blank or filled with other things. But after a while you can feel something happening down there.

If you spend long periods praying in tongues, then you start to learn how to recognize sound of the voice of your own spirit. And you will find it easier to allow influences from your spirit to come up into your mind.

When your spirit speaks, you recognize the voice and listen. Otherwise it is like all the other voices around us that we ignore all the time.

Christians who do not believe in the baptism of the Holy Spirit or speaking in tongues find this difficult. But even many spirit filled believers have this problem, because they do not speak in tongues much.

Ways of Hearing Your Spirit

When you hear with your spirit you will hear words. Seeing with your spirit always produces pictures, but when you move to hearing, you always get words.

How do you hear these words? Can you hear someone speaking to you audibly? No, we are talking here about receiving something internally, not externally.

If you practice this you can learn to hear words from deep down inside, in the same way you see pictures. Try it some time. Close your eyes and allow things to come up from your inner man.

You will find that if you listen, you will hear words, just as you see the pictures

that come to your mind. Try ignoring the pictures for a bit and see if you can hear words in the spirit.

Words are the language of the spirit. When God sent His word into the earth He did so using words. I have covered this idea in some detail in my books on The New Way of Blessing.

All words that we speak as humans come from our spirits within. This also means that the words we speak contain an influence or a power that is spiritual in nature.

How can we communicate using words? There are two main ways that are available to us. We can either speak them out loud, or we can write them down.

Thinking words is not an easy thing to do, unless you imagine yourself hearing someone speaking the words. Because when you hear something physically, you receive far more than just the words.

There is the pitch of the person's voice, their accent, their emotional expression and many other influences all mixed together. The same words spoken by two different people may sound totally different.

But when you receive words from deep inside, they do not come out the same way. You only get the words, and they usually come out in a kind of monotone. You have to add your own pitch, emotional expression and accent to it.

Hearing through Verbal Expression

When you talk you create a bridge between your spirit and your body. This is similar to speaking in tongues but not the same. Here you are also using your mind, emotions and will.

However, you will find a similar thing taking place to what happens when you speak in other tongues. While you are speaking, you may find ideas popping into your mind that come unexpectedly.

Something pops up from your spirit and into your mind, and you find yourself thinking of something that was not there when you started out. Some of this may come from your memories of the past, but some of it also may come from your spirit which lies deeper inside.

This is not the only time you will experience this. If you have read the Way of Blessing you will remember that I showed that what is in your spirit can be expressed in both words and actions. So actions also have the power to release influences from your spirit.

Have you ever noticed what happens when you are doing something that does

not need you to think much? You put your mind into neutral and while you are busy, suddenly ideas start coming up into your mind.

You could be standing in the kitchen washing dishes, or doing some physical thing that frees your mind to wander. Have you not noticed that as you do this, things often pop into your mind unexpectedly?

If you can speak or carry out any bodily action, then you can hear the voice of your spirit. It is while you are speaking words and doing something that your spirit pours out information.

I am not even talking yet about prophetic revelation or flowing in a prophetic ministry. I am talking about something that is available to every one of us.

And if you are a believer, then you can hear from your spirit in this way. If you have received the baptism of the Holy Spirit and can speak in tongues, then you have something extra that you can use.

But there is another tool that you can use apart from speaking to someone or even speaking in tongues. You will probably use this tool more than anything else. So I would like to show you how to use it.

You cannot always find someone to speak with and you cannot always find something to do. But you can pour out words any time even if you are alone. I am of course speaking about a wonderful tool that we have called Writing.

Hearing through Writing

When you write, you always put words down in the form of text. You can do this using a pen or pencil and writing on paper. And now with the marvels of modern technology, you can write on a computer screen using a keyboard.

What you do when you write, is to release words and actions together at the same time. While you are writing you are doing an action, and what you are writing is in the form of words. So you do the two together.

This makes writing one of the most powerful ways of tapping into your spirit. Yet many folks hate expressing themselves in writing. They would rather speak to someone face to face than to write them a letter.

With the coming of the computer age and email, more people have learned to write. Because of this, many have learned to tap into their spirits in ways they have never done before.

I will share in the next chapter how you can use all of these things to hear from

God and flow out in a prophetic ministry. But for now I want you to see what you can do just because you are a normal human being. And even an ordinary Christian can do amazing things.

Writing down your thoughts and inner desires and ideas in writing is something that many people do. And because it has become a common practice, this has been given a name. It is called journaling.

I first heard this term only in a Christian context and thought that it was a process that only believers could carry out. A teacher by the name of Mark Virkler was one of the first to use this term for Christians. He taught believers how to write down what they felt the Lord was saying to them.

But you will hear about journaling even in the world amongst unbelievers. If you have read the self-help teachings of the world or listened to teachers on success may have heard this term. It is an ability that all human beings have.

That is because all human beings have a spirit. Unbelievers do not see this as a process of tapping into their spirits. They are not even aware of the fact that they have spirits. And their spirits are dead towards God anyway.

What they tap into when they journal, is all the resources that they have gathered up in their sub-conscious mind. And when they sit down to journal, they express their thoughts and ideas in writing. Most of the time what comes out is what they have fed in there through the materials that they have studied.

Believers have something more, because they have the Holy Spirit living inside their spirits. So when you begin to journal as a believer, you tap into your spirit as well as the sub-conscious. And when you do, you will also receive some of what the Holy Spirit has put into your spirit.

So if you want to hear the voice of God, this is one of the best places to start. If you can develop a greater sensitivity to the voice of your own spirit, then you create a channel that God can use to speak through you prophetically.

How to Journal

As a Christian I like to think of journaling as me having a conversation with the Lord. So when I journal I sit down with pen and paper or a computer screen and I imagine Jesus sitting by me.

The first thing I write is what I would like to say to the Lord. If I have a question I would like to ask Him, then I write my question down in my journal.

Sometimes it helps to combine your journal with a diary of what has been happening in your life. I find that as I write about some of the things that have

been happening, I start to get into a flow of words from my spirit.

I might even record some of my dreams, if I had a clear dream or night vision that I do not fully understand. Then when I have finished recording these things, I begin to talk to the Lord. I tell Him that I love Him and just say what comes into my mind, as though I was having a conversation with Him.

The next part is where you have to learn to hear words from your spirit. You have said what you want to say in writing, and the act of writing with the words starts a flow coming from inside. So the next thing you write will be what comes up out of your spirit.

I like to imagine what the Lord would say to me, and I try to write the words that come up out of my spirit. This is one of the best ways of practicing Prophetic Ministry, because you learn to shut out what is going on around you and listen to your spirit.

At first you may hear the Lord speak words of encouragement to you. He might tell you that He loves you and that you are special to Him. But as you continue to write more will come out.

You may find yourself beginning to write the words of a prophecy. This is the Lord speaking to you, but it starts to come out just like a word of prophecy. And you will find that when this happens, you begin to write fast as the words start to pour out.

And just like it happens when you speak a word of prophecy, you will probably find that it will flow for a while and then suddenly stop. The great thing about it is that you now have a written record of the prophetic word that the Lord gave you.

And if you get good at this, you will find it easy to also minister to others like this. You will find that as you write a letter to someone, the spirit of prophecy may come on you while you are writing. Then you write out a prophetic word for the person and tell them what God is saying to them.

Writing is certainly one of the most powerful tools you can use to help prepare you for flowing in the Prophetic Ministry.

CHAPTER 08

Prophetic Hearing

Prophetic Ministry Made Easy by Les D. Crause

Chapter 08 – Prophetic Hearing

In the last chapter we looked at how you can hear from your own spirit. We saw that this is accomplished using words and actions. And we also saw that this was built into all human beings, and not only for Christians.

However, when a person is born again, the Holy Spirit comes to live inside of them. Then when you hear from your spirit, there is a chance that some of what comes out of your spirit is coming from the Holy Spirit.

Unfortunately a lot of what does come out also comes from the inner store of your memories and past experiences and studies. The sub-conscious mind is full of data, and when you tap into the inner person, this is the first thing that comes out.

So when you begin to speak in tongues, the first thing that comes to your mind is all the stuff you have been pushing down there. After a while this clears, and you begin to get a flow from deeper down, inside your spirit.

The same thing happens during conversation. And if you keep talking for a long time, eventually you will begin to get some kind of spiritual influence popping up into your mind as you speak.

This also happens when you are carrying out an action that does not involve the mind a lot. So words and actions together are a powerful way to tap into your spirit. And we saw that writing is a process by which we can combine both words and actions together to create a very powerful way of tapping your inner resources.

If you wish to flow well prophetically, you need to develop your capability in this area. In other places where I have taught on this, I showed that your spirit is like an underground stream. And you have to sink a pipe down into that stream in order to tap the water that is there.

Once a pipe has been sunk down there, however, you now have a capacity to receive from your spirit at any time. This means that you have now given the Holy Spirit something to work with. And any time He wants to send something out of your spirit, He has a channel through which He can do it.

The Power of the Word

The pipe can be made wider by filling yourself with the Word and Scripture, so this also improves your ability to hear from your Spirit. So if you want to have a greater flow from your spirit, one of the best ways to do this is by filling yourself

with the Word.

You can do this by memorizing Scripture, or meditating on Scripture, as God told Joshua to do. This is similar to making your pipe wider. And the reason for this is that the Word helps you to understand what comes out of your spirit.

If you receive impressions from your spirit, either in the form of pictures or words, these might not make sense to you. However, if you have filled yourself with the Word, they become easier to understand, and you can more easily identify when God is speaking.

When what comes out lines up with the Scriptures, you can hear the same voice in those inner words that you hear in the Word. You can tell right away that these are not just words from your sub-conscious. They are coming from the Spirit of God inside of you.

Setting Up Your Windmill

In my illustration of sinking a pipe down into your inner river, I also like to include the picture of windmill on the outside. In the natural when a pipe is sunk down into an underground stream, it is connected to a pump which is attached to a windmill.

Then, all that is needed for the water to come out is for the windmill to start turning. But this will not happen until the wind begins to blow. All you can do is sink down your pipe and set up your windmill, but you cannot make the wind blow.

The wind is the external moving of the Spirit of God upon you. And when that wind begins to blow several things start to take place inside of you. You will find out that flowing prophetically is just like that.

The only thing that you can do to be used by the Lord in prophetic ministry is to make yourself available to Him. And you can learn how to tap into your underground stream, using some of the ways I described above.

Now you must wait for the external anointing of the Holy Spirit before you can do anything more. Sure you can tap into some of the water through journaling, and even through praying in tongues. But the real gusher only comes when the wind begins to blow.

You will find that this is always how God works when He uses you in any kind of ministry via the gifts of the Holy Spirit. You will remember in my teaching on Finding Your Ministry Gifts that I explained the importance of knowing the difference between natural gifts and supernatural gifts.

(If you have not read my books Finding Your Ministry Calling and Finding Your Ministry Gifts I would highly recommend getting them to fully understand what I am talking about here.)

The gifts of the Spirit that are used in anointed ministry are always supernatural and external. They only operate in those who have walked through the doorway of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

And in fact the baptism also gave you the ability to sink down your pipe, by giving you the ability to speak in tongues. But now that you have entered that door, you must embrace the gifts of the Spirit and learn how to use them.

I also covered most of that in my book 'Developing Your Ministry Gifts'.

You should now be in a place where the following things are true, before you can fully flow in the Prophetic Ministry:

a. You should have received the baptism of the Holy Spirit
b. You should have received and entered into functioning in the spiritual gifts of prophecy and at least one of the revelation gifts.
c. You should have learned to tap into your spirit through spending much time in prayer, especially praying in tongues
d. You have made yourself available to the Lord and to other believers to be used as His instrument of blessing.

Once these conditions are in place, you are ready now to begin functioning as a prophet in ministry. You have set up your windmill and are waiting for the wind to blow.

Knowing How and When to Respond

There is one more thing that is needed, even when you have all of this in place. You need to know how and when to respond to the wind when it begins to blow.

How do you know when the Holy Spirit is moving upon you and blowing His wind? You will know this by the operating of the external anointing via the gifts of the Spirit.

Remember that the internal anointing is something that you feel only deep down inside, and it does not affect you outwardly. But the external anointing is very outward, physical and real. You feel it on your body as it comes upon you.

When God begins to use you in the Prophetic Ministry you can expect some kind of external manifestation to come to start things off. The Lord will probably put a vision or words into your mind.

This is the first sign, out of nowhere, that something is about to take place. God gives you something to start with, and you must respond to that before you get any more.

If you have ever operated in the word of Prophecy you know that it works that way when you first start out. The Lord gives you a few words or a picture, and perhaps a strong urge inside to speak. This is an external anointing, and it means that the wind is beginning to blow.

But before anything more happens, it is up to you to do something with this. If you ignore the revelation God will not force you to act on it. He will continue to gently bring it upon you, urging you to take the next step?

What is the next step? It is yielding to the Spirit of God and allowing Him to now fill you from inside, and cause the water to pour out. The windmill is ready to turn, but you must release it from inside or nothing will happen.

Let me give you an example of how this could happen. You could be sitting sharing with someone, perhaps in a group or you may even be praying together. And you suddenly sense the Holy Spirit telling you to minister to someone.

Perhaps He gives you a simple picture or a few words to use. And that is all you get. Now if you are like most people, you will probably wait for Him to give you more before acting on this. In fact, you may even try to push this thought back and ignore it.

But all that the Lord has done is to give you a direction to follow. He has come upon you by His Spirit and told you to go and minister to that person. And until you do this, you will not get anything more.

However, if you step out in faith and go and pray with the person, or tell them what you have received so far, something amazing begins to take place. Suddenly a surge of power comes up from inside you and you may find yourself saying many things that you did not think of.

You may find yourself praying and decreeing over them. You could begin to speak a word of prophecy. Or you could find yourself telling the person something that you had not thought of before. And as you speak, the Holy Spirit gives you wisdom and words to speak.

By the time you are done, you realize that you have ministered prophetically to someone, and it all came out as you stepped out in faith to obey the prompting of the Holy Spirit.

If you are too afraid to step out boldly and do this, you may find that you never fully get into the flow of the prophetic, and you tend to rely only on the thoughts

of your mind.

Many budding prophets have made this mistake. They think that they have to get the whole message in their mind first before going to share with someone. But most of what comes into their mind is their own thoughts and ideas.

Prophecy is not God giving you a message to give to someone else. It is God using you as a channel to speak through as you make yourself available to Him.

Now there will be times when the Lord may give you a word to go and give to someone, but that takes more maturity and experience. And often it means you should move up into the higher levels of the prophetic. Some of these functions are available only to those who have been placed into Prophetic Office.

This book is not designed to address prophets at that level yet. I am trying to help you flow in prophetic ministry first. Once you have learned how to do that well, then the Lord will raise you up if He has called you to the higher office of prophet.

So for now, I suggest you learn how to tap into your own spirit, and you reach out by faith to receive the necessary gifts of the Spirit to flow in prophetic ministry.

Once these are in place, you will go through a training phase during which the Lord will give you opportunities to minister to others. And along the way you will make many mistakes and often get it totally all wrong.

Do not worry about this; it has happened to everyone who has flowed in this ministry. Just press on and learn how to do it right, and you will soon become proficient in the Prophetic Ministry, and the Lord will use you to be a blessing to many.

I will continue to share more principles on how to do this right in the rest of this book. I hope that you are getting a clear picture of what is involved, so that by the time you get to the end, you will have all that you need to be a prophet of God.

CHAPTER 09

Get Ready for Action

Prophetic Ministry Made Easy by Les D. Crause

Chapter 09 – Get Ready for Action

Keeping Your Spirit Primed

We saw in the last chapter how to sink a pipe into the ground and set up a windmill. Once you have done this, you are now in a position where you can be available to the Lord to be used in Prophetic Ministry. But this is not something you do once and then forget.

Even though you have tapped into your spiritual underground stream, it is necessary that you keep that spiritual pipe primed and ready for action. If you do not, then over time you will slowly lose your prophetic ability.

Most windmills and boreholes have a tank also, which fills up once the wind starts to blow. In this way it is possible for there to be a continual supply of water, even when the wind is not blowing.

Each time the wind blows, it fills up the tank. Then, when the tank is full, the pump disconnects until the water in the tank drops again.

You can also do something like this spiritually where the anointing of God is concerned. The Scripture speaks of being filled with the Spirit. This happens when the external anointing comes on someone. They fill up on the inside.

But after a while that anointing fades away and you have to be filled all over again. That means, you have to wait for the wind to come again before you can draw any water. You are spiritually weak when the external anointing is not on you.

All it takes is an event in your life that is stressful, or something that makes you angry or worried, and before you know it, that anointing is gone. Our daily life can do this very quickly.

So it would be great if you could keep some of it there at all times. You need a water tank to hold some of the anointing there all the time. Then you are always ready to be used by the Lord.

Probably the most important thing you can do each day to keep your spirit primed and ready is to spend time praying in tongues. It is like keeping the pipes full of clean water, instead of letting the water grow old and stagnant.

When the wind begins to blow, you want fresh living water to come out of your spirit not old stuff. You want fresh revelation and power, not the anointing that you had in the past.

When you open your mouth to speak prophetically, what comes out should be

fresh from the Holy Spirit, not something that you made up in your mind.

The best way to keep the water flowing and fresh is to spend time each day praying in tongues and also praising the Lord. If you spend a little time on both of these daily, you will be amazed how in tune your spirit is at all time.

You can take time out to do this wherever you. Even in the middle of your work you can pray in tongues under your breath or praise the Lord quietly to yourself. It helps keep your spirit connected to the Holy Spirit.

If you keep in tune this way, then the moment that wind begins to blow, you will find yourself able to minister prophetically. You will not have to work it up or try to get in the Spirit first.

Getting God to Use You

There are so many people that the Lord can use, and many have learned to set up their windmills also. So why should the Lord choose to use you? What makes you special enough for God to blow His wind on you?

If there is a windmill set up in the middle of a desert and nobody ever goes that way, then it is not likely that it will ever be used to pour water out for anyone. And if the water that comes out is not fresh, who would want to go to the windmill anyway?

Unless you are in a place where there are people that God can bless through you, then it is not likely to happen. The Lord does not blow His wind on you just so you can feel good. He does it so that you can pour out water for others.

So if you want to be used by the Lord in ministry, you need to be around people that need ministry, and be ready to minister to them when the Lord wants you to.

And then you need to really want the Lord to use you. There should be in you a deep longing to be used by the Lord and be His instrument of blessing to others.

If this exists, then the Lord will arrange the circumstances for you to minister to people. You will not need to arrange them yourself. You do not need to create a portable windmill and go looking for the wind. The wind will come to you, and God will bring people to you that need the water.

I like the picture of Rachel where she turned to her husband Jacob and said to him, “Give me children or I will die.” There needs to be a deep core desire that will not let go.

You so want the Lord to use you that you cry out for it, and will do everything in your power to be used by Him. If you attitude is one of,

“Well I am available to the Lord if He wants to use me. So if He chooses not to, then it is not my fault. It is all up to God.”

This is not the kind of person that attracts the wind of God. God is looking for someone with a passionate desire to be used by Him. He loves someone who will not rest until they have found a way to tap into His power and pour it out to others.

Your cry should be,

“Lord please will you give me people to minister to. Use me to speak to the broken-hearted, the downtrodden and the discouraged. Lord use me to speak healing and deliverance to the captives. Help me to minister to your people.”

Perhaps you feel that there is nobody for you to minister to. You are not in any official ministry, and nobody ever asks you for ministry. In your church they never give you a chance to do anything.

But you do not need to go to a church to find people who are in need. Just open your eyes and you will see that they are all around you. The next person you meet may be an unbeliever, someone who is sick or a person who has problems.

Everyone has one or more of these all the time. I found that when my heart is burning to be used by the Lord, I seem to bump into people who have needs without even trying. Somehow the Lord seems to arrange the circumstances.

As I being to speak to someone I find the conversation moving to where their need lies. As I am sharing with the person, and pouring out the little bit of water that I already have, something starts to happen.

The wind begins to blow and I can feel the water starting to flow from deep inside. Before I know it, I am ministering to this person, and God is giving me what I need to minister to them. The Holy Spirit leads me and gives me revelation that I need to do this right.

As you hunger for the Lord and His power, you will find that His glory and anointing will come upon you automatically. When this happens you must not keep it to yourself. You must realize that He gave it to you so that you can use it for others.

Imagine visiting your windmill each day and boasting about how full your tank is. You have been pumping water and even spilling it on the ground. There is more than enough to go around. But there are thirsty people all around you.

As you pour out what He gives you, He replaces it right away with more. In fact the more that you pour out, the more He pours in. And in the process you find

yourself being watered also.

There is no experience more exciting in this world than having the anointing of the Lord on you, and ministering to others under that anointing. It gives a better high than drugs or alcohol.

So do not be afraid to make yourself available to the Lord, and do not be afraid to pour out all that He gives you. You will find that once the word gets around that you have fresh water to offer, you will be swamped by people coming to drink.

CHAPTER 10

Operating in the Prophetic Anointing

Prophetic Ministry Made Easy by Les D. Crause

Chapter 10 – Operating in the Prophetic Anointing

The key to all ministry is always love, and unless love lies at the heart of your reason for wanting to minister, there is little point to ministry.

Do you want to be used by the Lord so that everyone will be talking about you and you will become known in your community? If you are successful in ministry then this will happen automatically. But if you make this your goal you will lose.

The most famous verse in the Bible, John 3:16 says that God gave His only Son because He loved the world. He did not do this to show how great He was, but He did it out of love.

That is why the Apostle tells us that there are two simple keys to being used by God in the gifts and ministries of the Holy Spirit. He says that we should '*pursue love and passionately desire spiritual gifts*'.

When these two are present then flowing in the Prophetic Ministry becomes really easy. The Love of the Lord drives you to reach to others in love. And the desire of your heart opens the door to the power of God that you need to do this.

Being Sensitive To the Needs of Others

Have you noticed that when you get into conversation with most people, they always want to talk about themselves? Someone said once that if you speak to someone about themselves they will listen for hours.

So if you want to be effective as a prophet, be ready to listen to people and talk about what they want, not about you want. Forget about letting people know how wonderful you are and how clever you are.

Learn to ask people about themselves. Take the risk of asking someone,

"How are you feeling today?"

You run the risk of listening to a sob story about all their problems. But if you care enough, you will not only find out about their problems, you will be able to offer them help in their problems.

If you are ready to listen and care for others, you will earn the right to have them ask you to minister to them. It is a lot easier than offering ministry to someone and having them turn you down.

Do you care enough to get involved in someone else's problems? If you do not

care, then why should the Lord give you revelation or a prophetic word to minister to that person?

How can you speak a word of encouragement if you do not care about the trouble someone is in? How can you speak a word of prosperity and provision if you are not concerned about their financial status?

There is no place in ministry for you to get your own needs met. You must be wrapped up in the needs of others. You do not minister because it meets your need, but because the Lord has already met your need.

Your needs are being met from your underground stream. And as you pour out from within to others, you will find that the Lord begins to meet your needs at the same time.

Always Speak the Word

The Lord always confirms His Word with signs following. He confirms HIS word, not yours. So if you are trying to speak your own words and set yourself up as a standard there will be no results.

When Jesus sent His disciples out He told them to go into the world and preach the good news. Many prophets seem to miss this and think that they are called to preach the bad news and rebuke people for their sin.

This was often the role of the Old Testament prophet, because God always sent a prophet to call His people back to Himself. This does not apply in the New Testament. The prophet is not sent to call the Church back to God.

Many prophets are so black and white in their thinking that all they can talk about is death and the negative. They have stopped speaking God's Word and are speaking their own burden instead.

The Scriptures have a power to prepare the ground for God to move. Have you not noticed that when an anointed preacher has finished preaching the Word, God begins to move?

The Word has prepared the hearts of the people, and now they are ready to receive from the Holy Spirit. Usually when people come to the front for prayer, things begin to happen.

Many prophets have so majored on their own revelations that they have not bothered to get into the Word. And it is a known fact that prophetic preachers often use very little Word in their preaching.

Act on the Anointing

Even though you may have set up your windmill and kept your pump primed, it is important that you respond very quickly when the wind begins to blow.

Sometimes this happens when you least expect it. You are sitting there, minding your own business, when suddenly the Lord gives you a prophetic word. You find your heart starting to beat more quickly and you realize the Lord is calling you to minister to someone.

Perhaps a picture comes to your mind, or the Lord puts some words in your thoughts. He is calling upon you to take this and pour it out to someone.

I can remember when the Lord first began to use me I learned to prepare by praying alone. It was easy then to get revelations for myself or something for others that I needed to pray about. But once I got around other people it was different.

You may be praying or sharing with someone and you suddenly get a revelation. I remember once praying for a young couple and they had not asked for anything specific. But as I prayed I saw a womb with a baby in it.

I also knew in the Spirit that this baby was going to be a boy. It is the last thing that I expected, but it came very clear. Now if they had asked me to pray about her falling pregnant I would have understood. But this came totally unexpected.

I waited for confirmation, half hoping that someone else would say something, or speak a prophetic word, but nothing happened. There was a hush and I could feel that the Lord was waiting for me to act on this revelation.

I could sense the Lord leading me to go and tell her what I saw. I was afraid to do this in case I was wrong. But the Lord kept urging me to do it.

When you see something like this you might be tempted to think that it was your imagination. But I tried later to see if I could make up a picture like this by an act of my will. And I found it really difficult to create a picture from memory.

Your imagination does not have the power to produce the kind of visions that the Holy Spirit imparts to you. When you realize this, you will become more confident in what the Lord shows you and be bolder to act on it.

In the end I went to her and told her what I had seen. Her eyes went big and the look on her face showed me that I had not imagined this. She said to me,

“How did you know that I have been crying out to the Lord every day to have a baby?”

I learned a lesson that day concerning the prophetic ministry. The Lord wanted to answer her prayer, and He used me to bring the answer. It was not simply a

matter of me predicting what would happen, but the Lord wanted to use me to bring this to pass.

She was not pregnant yet, but the Lord wanted me to tell her that He had heard her prayer and given her heart's desire. And when I spoke that word into the earth, I gave God the license to do just that, and He did.

The Lord did give her a baby boy just as I had seen it.

This happened often when I was first learning to flow in the Prophetic Ministry. I would be praying with a group of people and I would get an impression that I needed to pray for someone in the group.

It was never forceful, and I often waited to see what else the Lord would give me. It was like the first time I spoke a word of prophecy, where I only got the first few words. And until I stepped out and began to speak those, nothing more came.

In time I came to realize that when the Lord gave me something like that, it was up to me to take the next step. Until I actually went to the person and shared with them or prayed with them, nothing more came.

The Lord blew His wind on my windmill, but it was up to me now to start pumping that water out. It did not begin to flow until I went to the person and sometimes nothing happened until I put my hand on them.

Sometimes that is all the Lord told me to do. And the moment I laid my hands on the person, the water began to gush out. I would not know their need ahead of time.

Each time I did this I also was not sure how the Lord would give me the next step or how further revelation would come. Sometimes I would see a vision, other times I would get a word of prophecy. There was no way to know how God would work.

Sometimes you might even feel that you are doing the first step in the flesh. You are making up the first words of your prophecy. If all I felt was the Lord telling me to speak a prophetic word over them, I had to choose my first words.

So I would say something like, "The Lord says to you…" and once I spoke those words, the anointing kicked in and the rest began to come out. It was always a step of faith.

Once you take that step of faith, under the influence of the external anointing, you will find that the rest comes pouring out from the internal anointing. Of course this happens more easily when you have set up your pipes and your

windmill and kept your pump primed and ready.

Then you will find yourself able to very easily flow in the Prophetic Anointing.

Using Wisdom

It takes wisdom to respond correctly to the anointing. You cannot simply begin to pour out the water and minister to people. It could bring confusion or frighten people away.

This is why prophets need to be guided and trained to use the anointing correctly. They need to be grounded in the Word and given direction from someone who has had some experience.

When God gives you a revelation or a word concerning someone, it is not always wise to simply tell the person what God showed you. They may not be ready to receive it and may not understand what it means.

Let me share a personal example with you that I experienced in this. As a minister I had gone through an unexpected divorce and was crying out to the Lord for the wife of His choice. He answered by giving me Daphne, who is my wife and partner in the work of the Lord.

Our meeting was miraculous and we have told our story in many places. But I would like to share here something that happened the night that we first met.

I knew that I would minister to her, because that is what I do. But I did not yet know if she was the one whom God had chosen for me. So as I came to pray with her, I put my windmill in place and made myself available to the Lord.

At first the Lord gave me a word of prophecy based on the book of Esther. It was a passage where Mordecai suggested to Esther that perhaps God had put her where she was and that she was in His perfect timing.

I realized from that word, that the Lord was telling both her and me, that our meeting each other was in His perfect timing and that He had arranged it. I was convinced then that she was going to be my future wife. But I could hardly tell her that or she might have thought I was imposing on her.

I knew from our evening together that Daphne had always wanted a child, but could not have it from her late husband because he was sterile. So it was no surprise to me when I came to pray to see a vision of her holding a baby in her arms.

Now the Lord had told me before we met that my future wife would be younger and would likely want a child. I had even prepared my children for that fact long before we met.

But now, as I saw this vision of her holding a baby, the Lord reminded me of this, and told me that what I was seeing would be my future child.

How could I share such a revelation with her? I could surely not tell her that the Lord had shown me that she would be my wife and that she would have my child. I needed wisdom from the Lord.

But before I could act on that revelation, I saw the Lord giving her a gift, and I asked the Lord what it was. He told me that He was giving her the ability to be a mother to my three daughters, who were in my custody. If we married, she would have to become their new mother.

Now it was becoming impossible for me to share with her what I was seeing. I really needed wisdom from the Lord to proceed with this time of ministry.

I paced up and down trying to decide what I should say. Eventually I told her,

“The Lord is showing me some things, but I cannot tell you what they are right now.”

This had never happened to me before and I was not sure what to do. But the Lord told me to share with her the vision of the baby. So I did that first.

Turning to her, I asked,

“Do you still have a deep desire to have a child?”

She broke into tears at that and asked me how I knew that she was still crying out to the Lord about this. I could tell her that the Lord had told me, but I did not tell her that I was going to be the father of this child.

I could tell her that she would have the baby that she desired, but she was not ready yet to receive the second part. That came much later after I had proposed to her and she had agreed to marry me.

And as a result of that vision, we could believe the Lord together for her to fall pregnant and to give birth to our son John, which only began to fall into place a year after we were married.

God will give you things for people, but you must use wisdom in how you communicate what you see and hear. This wisdom often comes only with experience, and after you have made a few mistakes.

It helps to have a mentor who can guide you. But you do have the Holy Spirit who will help you in this. And He will teach you how to operate correctly in this Prophetic Anointing.

CHAPTER 11

Practical Considerations

Prophetic Ministry Made Easy by Les D. Crause

Chapter 11 – Practical Considerations

When God gives you a revelation or prophetic word in a church or a public meeting, you need to be careful. This applies especially if you are in someone else's church.

You should be careful in giving a prophetic word until you are sure that the leaders of that church are happy about someone doing this. It has become a problem in many churches today.

This has come about because many prophets have done this without using wisdom, and have caused problems in the church. And because of that some pastors have put a limitation on prophetic words.

In some churches you are not allowed to give a prophetic word until you have put it past someone who is authorized to check prophecies before they are given.

This is totally unscriptural but there is little you can do about it. The Scriptural pattern is for anyone to be free to stand up and speak. But there should be those who can judge the prophecy and correct it if it is out of order.

I have always used this policy in any group that I lead, and will always allow prophetic words to be spoken freely. However, if someone speaks and the word is out of order, I will judge it publicly and correct the person.

This alone has prevented anyone from giving false prophecies, because they are afraid of the humiliation. The leaders of the church have the right to do this. And they should do it to let the people know that they do not agree with the word that was spoken.

Most of the time bad prophecies are the result of poor training in the Prophetic Ministry. And because many pastors know little about the prophetic ministry, they have failed to train their people correctly.

This book and others like it are designed to fill this gap and provide the right kind of training for those who desire to operate in this ministry.

The Right Time to Prophesy

If the Lord gives you a revelation, then He expects you to use it correctly. This does not always mean you should act right away. You might get the word while someone else is speaking or something else is happening in the meeting.

It would be wrong for you to interrupt what is happening to give your word, just because you feel the urge right now. I have seen someone break out into an utterance in tongues while someone is speaking.

This is rude and out of order, and you cannot say that the Holy Spirit made you do that. You simply allowed your emotions to control you. Paul tells us in 1 Corinthians chapter 14 how to use wisdom in giving utterances in a public meeting. One of the most significant verses in that chapter is this:

1 Corinthians 14:31 For you may all prophesy one by one, [so] that everyone may learn, and everyone may be comforted.
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 churches of the saints. (GBMV)

Do Not Impose Your Ministry

You should never try to minister to someone who does not want ministry. Sometimes in small meetings such as home meetings, you have prophets who have ‘itchy fingers’. They are itching to lay their hands on someone and prophesy over them.

If there is a visitor or someone who has not been in the meeting for a while, you can see them aiming for that person. They want the Lord to give them a word so they can go over and prophesy. And if they do not have the courage to do that, they will try to bring it as a public prophecy directed at that person.

It would be funny if it was not so obvious. But it has caused more harm than good. No wonder Pastors have become cautious of prophets and try to control them.

Of all the symbols used for the Holy Spirit, I think one of the best is the dove. When the Holy Spirit descended on Jesus He took the form of a dove. This is a very tender and gentle bird that is easily frightened.

The Holy Spirit is gentle like a dove, and the anointing that He brings should lead you to be the same. If you manifest an aggressive spirit like a vulture, then you are certainly not being motivated by the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit leads like a shepherd. He does not drive the sheep like a butcher, but goes ahead of them and draws them. So when a prophet uses the opportunity to attack and correct others, he or she is not being led by the Holy Spirit at all.

It is so easy to speak judgment and condemnation. And often this is just a cover up for the sin in your own life. This is not how the Holy Spirit works, and no prophet should ever give in to this temptation.

There Is Never Pressure

The Holy Spirit will never pressure you to do anything. He will tug at you and

gently nudge you. As He moves upon you, you will feel a gentle tugging inside, as He urges you to speak out. Sometimes it is so gentle you could miss it if you are not listening.

I have heard prophets claim that the Lord told them they had to speak, even though they knew nobody would like it. They felt that they would have disobeyed the Lord if they did not. But God never accuses or threatens.

If you hear a voice telling you to speak this out or you will be held responsible for disobeying, then you can be sure that this did not come from the Holy Spirit. You are hearing the voice of the butcher and not the shepherd.

Certainly you should obey the prompting of the Spirit and speak what He gives you. But you should do this in a spirit of gentleness and meekness. You should always minister in love and use wisdom.

If you are an aggressive and impulsive person, do not try to hide behind the Prophetic Ministry and use this as an excuse. You probably became irritated with the church or the people and felt it was time God rebuked them.

Instead of waiting for the Lord to deal with the people, you decided to take it into your own hands and speak out. You may think you can hide behind a “thus says the Lord”, but you have misrepresented the Lord and given the Prophetic Ministry a bad name.

Make Sure You Saw Right

You should never try to ‘wing it’ as a prophet. If you are not sure what you saw or heard, then wait until you understand what God is saying. If you misinterpret a vision you could lead someone astray. If you do not understand the picture, then share it and say you are not sure what it means.

The person you are ministering to may understand what the picture means. Or perhaps someone else might be able to give a suggestion. Always try to get confirmation before you make a bold statement of what you believe God is saying.

For example, you may see a bag hanging over a person’s head as you pray with them. You could then say something like,

“I keep seeing a bag hanging over your head. I am not sure what this means, but perhaps you do. I know that the Lord wants to minister to you and meet your need. So if you would like prayer I am here to pray with you.”

Do not feel that you have to interpret everything. The Lord often speaks in dark sayings, and you may need to ask the person a few questions to understand what

the revelation means. You want to minister, not bring confusion or cause problems.

Using Boldness

Even though you should use wisdom and not rush into anything, there are times when you have to be bold to speak out what God gives you. You have to step out onto the water as Peter did before you can walk on it. And if the Lord has only given you a part of the revelation, you may have to share that first before you get more.

Some people are a bit too much like Gideon. When God told him what to do, he asked for confirmation that he heard right. Then when God gave him the sign he wanted, he wanted another one. You not need to keep laying out fleeces to the Lord. You are supposed to be hearing His voice.

It can be very depressing when you receive a revelation and you are too afraid to act on it. You wait, trying to pluck up the courage to speak, and then the meeting is over, or the person leaves.

You could go home feeling condemned because you disobeyed the Lord. You were afraid of what people would think and so you did not do what you were told. It takes courage to be a prophet and to speak what God gives you.

You must realize that you are speaking for the Lord, and you are doing this to help someone else. That person could have been crying out to the Lord for an answer. And the Lord may have given you what they needed.

But because of your fear of man and keeping your eyes fixed on yourself, the person missed their blessing and so did you. You missed the blessing of experiencing the anointing of God working through you.

It Takes Faith

Every ministry and gift that operates through us needs faith. If you have not learned how to build your faith and release it, you will not do well as a Prophet.

This is why the Lord takes the prophet through a time of preparation and training. He will lead you into situations where things do not fall easily into place. You have to step out in boldness and faith and trust Him.

When things go wrong in your life, you may complain. But it could be the Lord stretching you to help build your faith. He wants you to exercise and develop your faith so that you will be able later to stand up in confidence and say, “Thus says the Lord…”

It takes faith to prophesy over someone and tell them something like,

“Thus says the Lord, ‘I have called you from when you were a child. I have prepared you and I have raised you up. And you will do signs and wonders, and you will heal the sick, and you will raise the dead, and you will go to places you have never gone to before.’ ”

You could be wrong, and if you have not learned to give simpler prophecies first, you will never have the faith to speak a word like this. You should start with prophecies that are easier to receive like,

“I have seen your heart My child, and I care for you.”

If you feel jealous of other prophets who give awesome words then realize that you may be the only reason this does not happen. That person had to face the same thing as you.

But perhaps she was not so worried about what people would think. Perhaps she was like a child learning to walk, who was prepared to take a chance and fall while learning. She was not afraid of the bruises that came while she learned to walk.

You must believe that other people need the water that is coming out of you. They are thirsty and you have the privilege of giving them the water that they need. You must be bold enough to offer it to them, even if they reject it.

Believe in Yourself

It takes confidence in your own ability to hear from God to be a prophet. Every preacher faces this. But you must come to the place where you believe so much in your preaching that you expect people will be moved by it.

If you are not confident enough in what you are doing and do not believe it is valuable, nobody else will either. So if you do not believe in your own ability to hear from the Lord, people will not believe your prophetic words either.

You will have to bold enough to believe that when you preach, somebody is going to want to borrow the tape or even buy it, and pay money for it to listen to it.

You say, “Who would buy something that I preached?”

You had better be bold enough to believe that somebody will. You had better be bold enough to offer it for sale. You will have to believe in what God has put in you. You need to believe in the anointing of God that is in you, because if you do not believe in it, then nobody else will either.

Do Not Apologize for Yourself

Do not apologize for your presence or for the revelation that you receive. Never apologize for being God's spokesman. Don't ever stand up and say, "Well, I'm so useless, but I will just give this out anyway."

That is false humility, and nobody will have any confidence in what you have to say.

You should stand up in humility, knowing your own weakness. But you are speaking for the King of Kings. It is His word that you are speaking, so you do not need to apologize for Him. You carry His authority and He chose you, called you and trained you for this.

He created you to be a water source, and He is not afraid to display you to the world. He expects people to see you and say, "Hey there is a water source, let's go and get some water to drink."

You may feel like a plain old windmill, but you should hold your head up high and show yourself to the world. You have the water of life to offer and that makes you special and valuable, both to the Lord and to others.

CHAPTER 12

Walking in Humility

Prophetic Ministry Made Easy by Les D. Crause

Chapter 12 – Walking in Humility

You must realize that when you step out in prophetic ministry, people will not always welcome you with open arms. They will often react very negatively to your ministry. So you should learn how to handle negative responses.

Handling Negative Responses

Suppose that while you are praying with someone, the Lord gives you a picture. It is a clear revelation and you know it is from the Lord. So you share it with the person in obedience to the Lord's leading.

You tell the person that God has shown this to you and ask them if they can identify with it. You are confident in what you saw or heard, so you expect a positive response. But instead the person denies what you shared, and claims that it is not true.

What do you do now? It is possible that you may have heard wrong or misinterpreted what the Lord said. If this is true, then you can gently pull back and apologize. You can explain that you perhaps misunderstood the revelation, and share with them what you thought you saw or heard.

It could be however, that you touched on a sore point in the person's life and they do not want to admit you are right. Some people do not easily receive help from others, and want to work things out themselves.

I remember once praying for a man, because his family asked me to pray for him. But I do not think he had much confidence in me. I began to pray and I saw a blood vessel and it was blocked. There was a clot in a vein, and it was quite clear. I stopped and I said, "What is wrong with you brother?"

"Oh," he said, "I've had trouble at times with my heart and whatever, and..."

I thought, "Wow, I must have missed that one. I never saw his heart."

Then his daughter said to me, "What did you see?"

I said, "I saw a blocked blood vessel."

She said, "You're perfectly correct!"

He had a blocked blood vessel in his leg or something. I don't know why he did not want to talk about it. Perhaps he had trusted God for healing and he did not want some prophet coming along.

Whatever his reason, it threw me for a moment. I thought I had missed it, but I had not. I had seen correctly. And only as I shared that picture of what I had seen

did it come out.

You should not allow yourself to be swayed by negative responses. But you should also not be arrogant and claim that you are right and demand that the person admit it. They will close their hearts to you and your ministry will be a waste of time.

If you are confident in what the Lord gave you, then hold onto your revelation, but withdraw for a bit. Give the person a bit of breathing space and let it go. But don't let the experience put you off ministering to other people in the future.

If you have a bad experience you might be afraid to share a revelation again in future in case you are wrong. You lose your motivation of love and allow fear to rob you of the blessing of being used by the Lord.

Rejection is one of the most common experiences of anyone flowing in prophetic ministry. So if you want to operate in this ministry, you should get used to handling rejection. It will be part of your training and preparation.

Handling Rejection

There are times when people will reject your ministry outright. Perhaps you try to minister inner healing to someone, and you find that they do not believe in inner healing. I was there once myself, and even preached against inner healing.

If someone had come to me that time and told me, "I see you have some hurts and the Lord wants to minister inner healing to you", I would have told them that inner healing was nonsense and I do not want to receive their ministry.

But the Lord tricked me by sending someone to minister to me who did not know what inner healing was. He just knew how to flow in the Spirit and he told me what he saw. He said,

"I don't know what is going on, but I have this glowing heat in my hand here and I want to pray for you."

I told him to go ahead, and when he did I felt the power of God come on me. Something happened inside of me and I began to laugh out loud. I did not understand what had happened, and neither did he. But it was clear that something had happened inside me.

He said to me, "I don't know what happened, but God says that He has taken a weakness out of you and put a new strength back in its place."

I only realized later when I began to feel the difference that a kind of inner

healing had taken place in me. Then I had to go back and throw away all my notes against inner healing. The Lord had done it to me, even though I did not believe in it.

Prophetic ministry can be so easy if we do not let our mind get in the way. Just let the Lord use you and follow the things He shows you. You do not always need to explain them. Sometimes all you need to do is share the pictures or words that He gives you.

Keep away from things that people will stumble over and avoid doctrines that cause arguments. Just learn to flow in love and people will open their hearts wide to receive.

When they feel the power of God coming on them and realize that this is real, they will soon let go of their mental blocks. Experience will displace false beliefs, and they will be more open to receive what you say.

Just let the Lord do the work, and keep you out of the way. You are just the channel for his anointing and blessing. You are a simple clay pipe, but what really counts is the water that comes out of that pipe.

You Are Not Infallible

Although you should be bold in your prophetic ministry, you must be careful to not create the impression that you do not make mistakes.

Sometimes your revelation becomes your baby, and you will not give it up for the world. You are like Abraham who would not let go of Ishmael, even after God told him that Ishmael would not be his heir.

I often see prophets who will not admit that they missed it and heard wrongly. They are even less likely to admit that they got into deception and listened to the wrong voice. But it happens all the time.

If you hear something like this coming from a prophet, then you can be sure that this person is in deception:

“God showed me that. I know it was God. I heard this voice booming out of the sky. It was the Lord, I knew it was. I was driving along in my car and the Lord said, ‘Go to the Mall.’ When I arrived at the Mall God said, ‘Go buy a new TV.’ I knew it was God. I don’t know why He wanted me to buy a TV. I didn’t need one. I already had one. It was expensive, but I knew it was God. I had to obey!”

The main problem that takes place is that those who begin to flow in prophetic ministry think they are called to function like the Old Testament Prophets. But there is a big difference between the New Testament Prophet and the Old

Testament Prophets.

Old Testament prophets seldom made mistakes, unless they did it intentionally. This is because they operated only under the External Anointing, and when they received revelation it was so supernatural, that they had no doubts they had heard from God. The external anointing is totally under God's control. The prophet is simply the messenger who delivers the message.

Old Testament prophets who spoke false words usually did it to make the people happy, but they knew it did not come from God. When the anointing came on them they would speak by the Spirit of God. This was so exact, that if the word did not come to pass, the person was classed as a false prophet.

So many of today's prophets think they are called to be Elijah's and that their function is to speak judgment and call the Church back to God. These people have never learned to tap into the internal anointing in their spirits. This anointing makes you pour out in love and grace, which is what the Lord intends the New Testament prophet to do.

Your function when you speak is to lift up and exalt the Lord Jesus, not yourself. This is true humility, and you do not try to make a name for yourself. Do not confuse this with boldness. In fact true boldness can only come when you learn to walk in humility.

Humility means you have total confidence in yourself in the Lord. If you have this confidence, then it is easy for you to say, "I'm sorry, I was wrong." You are not concerned that people will look down on you for this.

But humility also gives you the confidence to say, "I'm sorry, but I was right." And you can refuse to be moved by what people think, even if it results in rejection because of the Word you have spoken.

When you realize that you are simply the deliverer of what the Lord says, you never need to feel rejected if anyone rejects the word. It is not you they are rejecting, but the Lord in you and His word that you have spoken.

CHAPTER 13

The Prophetic Minister

Prophetic Ministry Made Easy by Les D. Crause

Chapter 13 – The Prophetic Minister

Now that we have looked at some general principles of how to function as a prophet, I would like to consider how to function prophetically as a minister. We will look at how you can flow in Prophetic Ministry while working with individuals, a group or a larger crowd of people.

Most of today's churches have unfortunately been built with an emphasis on the public meeting. Because of this, people always tend to get the same picture when they think about going into ministry. They see themselves standing behind the pulpit ministering to people in the pews.

You are probably weary of always sitting in the pews while the preacher gets to stand up and speak behind the pulpit. You feel that you would like to become a greater influence in the church. And even if the leadership allows you to give a prophetic word in the public meeting, you are still very limited.

Unfortunately with the current church pattern, it is only those who have a name and reputation that get to stand behind the pulpit. They are the only ones who can travel around speaking to different groups. These are the ones who are recognized by the Church as being prophets.

If this is the main picture you had in your mind about ministering prophetically, then I would like to burst your bubble and change this picture for you. The main part of your ministry as a prophet will never take place publicly or in the meetings. It is more likely to be to individuals or one person at a time.

I believe that most prophetic ministry will be to individuals, but there is a place for ministering to groups in a public meeting. So I will cover that first before we consider the more important function of working with one person at a time.

As you read this, you may not identify with it, because you may never have stood behind a pulpit to preach. You may not even have had an opportunity to speak publicly. However you will in time get these opportunities, so I want to give you some principles and guidelines to use when this happens.

Right now you may only be functioning in prophetic ministry, but the Lord may have called you to rise up into full Prophetic Office. If this happens, then you will certainly be headed for a more prominent role in ministry, and you will likely end up talking to groups of people.

You need to picture this and visualize it in your mind until the Lord opens the door for this to take place. When it happens, you will have to learn to use the prophetic anointing in your preaching.

If you think of preaching, you probably see yourself standing up and giving a sermon as you read from your sermon notes. This is something I learned early in my ministry experience. I started out with a strong teaching emphasis and always had notes to preach from.

My sermon notes were laid out systematically and covered all the content that I was planning to preach. I knew where I was going to start, where I was headed and how I was planning to end. I had a clear track to run on as I preached.

Most prophets have never learned to do this, because they feel that they should simply speak what God tells them to speak. And often this will happen. We call it preaching prophetically. But that does not mean you simply talk for an hour on every subject that comes into your mind. It simply means that the Lord gives you the sermon notes as you speak.

When I first added the prophetic ministry to my teaching ministry, I had to learn to let go of my notes. Sometimes I would stand up with my notes and the Lord would tell me to put them away and just speak what He gives me. At other times, He would not let me prepare detailed notes. All I had was my main subject.

It is a bit like when the Lord gives you the first words of a prophecy or tells you to go and pray for someone. You do not get the whole picture ahead of time, but it comes to you as you obey and speak.

That is like one of those times when the Lord says, “Go and speak a word of prophecy. Go and pray for that person. Open your mouth and speak and I will fill it.”

You say, “Well, what must I speak on?”

He says, “I’ll tell you when you open your mouth.”

Or He will tell you what to speak on and He will not tell you what to say about it until you open your mouth. Sometimes that is going to happen when you preach.

You say, “Well, I can go about five minutes in prophecy.”

If you are expressive you can talk your way around. You can flower it, paint the pictures and add Scriptures. You can stretch it out. You can give a good long prophecy there.

Now you have to do this standing up behind the pulpit. And you will find that you can now go for long periods with practice. It doesn’t come from your notes now. You will learn to speak by the Spirit. You will learn to speak out what rises up out of your spirit as a Prophet.

My Personal Experience

I remember the first time that God began to do this to me. It was in fact the last church that I pastored. It turned out I was not really much of a pastor because I was already flowing right in the Prophetic Ministry.

God gave me the opportunity to minister as a prophet. So when it came to Sunday meetings and I had to preach, I just wanted to prepare those good old teaching messages homiletically.

I said, “Lord, give me a word and He said, “Okay,” and He gave me a Scripture reference.

I said, “Lord, I want a word.”

He said, “That’s your word. Take that Scripture and preach on it.”

“But Lord, what do I preach on it?”

He said, “You will know when you stand up.”

Perhaps you are used to you preaching for at least thirty minutes. That is not too difficult if you have enough subject matter in your sermon notes. But now you have to try preaching for thirty minutes on one verse. That means a lot of talking without looking at any notes.

At first you will probably tend to be a bit repetitive and say the same things over and over again in different ways to make the time stretch. But I found that I could learn to stand up and open my mouth and He fulfilled the Scripture that says, “Open your mouth wide and I will fill it.”

How did I manage to do this? I had already been in ministry for many years by that time. I had studied the Word and was full of Scripture. I had a large amount of knowledge about the Lord and the spiritual life. So I simply spoke out of the treasure of what was inside me.

It does not take you ten to twenty minutes to prepare a sermon like this. It takes ten to twenty years of experience and accumulation of knowledge. So do not expect to be able to do this when you are first starting out.

It would be better for you to first learn to preach with sermon notes so that you stick to your subject, and people do not get bored with your rambling. Some prophets preach on and on about nothing, repeating themselves over and over.

They have spoken for five minutes and it feels like they have talked for over an hour. The main difference between preaching this way and preaching with notes should not be the way you preach, but the subject matter of your preaching.

When you give a word of prophecy, the Lord gives you the starting point and you speak it out. As you do that, He gives you more and so on. Then when you

stop getting more, you know that the prophecy is over and you stop.

Prophetic preaching should be the same. It should not be you trying to find things to say for an hour. It should be you speaking the next subject that the Lord puts into you mind. And when you stop getting new things, then learn to shut up and stop.

Follow the Rabbit

Preaching prophetically is a bit like chasing a rabbit. You are not sure which direction it will follow, but you keep chasing it until you catch it. Either that or it disappears down a hole in the ground.

Imagine you are walking down the road when a rabbit suddenly crosses your path. If you are preaching a normal sermon, you must learn to avoid that rabbit, because it will take you off the road you are trying to follow. You have already decided where you are going and how you will get there.

Preaching prophetically changes this completely. If you are going in one direction and that rabbit pops its head up in the middle, then the chances are the Lord wants you to chase that rabbit. There is probably someone in the audience that needs a specific direction, and the Lord intends you to minister to that person in your preaching.

A prophet who knows how to speak in this way can minister to the needs of many different people in the audience in one single message. By the time you are finished, you should have several people come to you and tell you that you ministered exactly to their needs.

When you stand up to preach to a large group of people, each one in the audience has potential needs. It is difficult in one message to meet all those needs, especially since you do not know what they are.

If you allow the Lord to use you prophetically as you speak, He will bring to your mind many needs as you are speaking. There is no time for you to call everyone forward for personal prayer, but you could minister to many of those needs right from the pulpit as you are speaking.

It can be tiring praying with people if you call them up for prayer. And if you flow prophetically you will want to spend time with each one, getting revelation and fully ministering to their needs. This is fine in person to person ministry, but it will kill you if you try it publicly.

This is one of the main reasons why the greater part of your prophetic ministry will not take place in the public meeting. You just do not have the time or the

energy to minister properly to a large group of people.

The easiest thing to do when ministering publicly is to identify the picture that the Lord gives you while you are up there. Many evangelists of the past did this where healing was concerned.

Oral Roberts would have a healing line where people had to take tickets and wait in line. But Kathryn Kuhlman would call out the healings publicly without praying personally with anyone. Yonggi Cho would do the same in his meetings.

Many prophets do the same thing and will call forward only those whom the Lord shows them. You can operate this way too if you learn to allow the prophetic anointing to operate in you from the pulpit. But it is not always necessary. You could simply minister to the needs the Lord shows you as part of your sermon.

An important principle to keep in mind if you do get a revelation and minister to anyone personally in the audience is that you should avoid embarrassing the person in any way. You can certainly speak out a prophetic word over someone or give them a simple direction from the Lord, but avoid all personal references and anything personal or private.

If you ever call anyone out, make sure you do this to minister to them, not condemn them. God may entrust you with someone else's secrets, although He generally does not reveal to you the sins of others, unless it is absolutely necessary.

Anyone who as a weakness as a gossip and cannot keep secrets is likely to go through a very strenuous preparation and training before the Lord can trust them with His secrets. And if you try to use those revelations to make yourself look good and put others down, then you have failed as a prophet.

If the Lord shows you something that needs to be addressed, call the person forward and minister to them privately. If this is not possible, then speak to the audience generally rather than identifying the person you are addressing. You could say something like,

"The Lord shows me there is someone here tonight who is involved in an adulterous affair. God says you must let this go, because it is opening a door to the enemy in your life and blocking His blessing."

Even if you do know who this refers to, you should never point to the person and tell them their sin. You should certainly not do this in a public meeting. Do not assume that because the Lord showed it to you, you are obligated to bring it out in the meeting.

Jesus Our Example

Do you remember the case where the Pharisees came and threw the woman at Jesus' feet that had been caught in adultery? Jesus knew all about her sin but He did not condemn her. Instead he identified the sins of the Pharisees. But He did not do it specifically.

He showed them that He knew their sin, by saying that the first one who was without sin should throw the first stone. Then He sat down and wrote in the sand. We are not sure if what He wrote had any effect, but they certainly all backed down and left. Yet He did not have to publicly expose their sin.

Someone has suggested that Jesus may have written things in the sand that showed He knew their sins. But that is just speculation. The point is that Jesus exposed their sin publicly without being specific.

If God reveals sins to you, then He has a purpose in it. That purpose is to minister to the person and bring them to repentance. It is not to condemn them or put them down. So you must use wisdom when it comes to this kind of revelation.

CHAPTER 14

Ministering Privately

Prophetic Ministry Made Easy by Les D. Crause

Chapter 14 - Ministering Privately

Now that we have looked at how to minister prophetically in a public meeting, let us consider what is involved in ministering privately, person to person. This is likely to be the main part of your prophetic ministry.

In this case, if the Lord should reveal to you something about the person's failures, it may be the right time to share it with the person. But you should always share it from a viewpoint of the grace and love of the Lord Jesus. You are not an Old Testament prophet sent to condemn and speak judgment.

How would the Lord address such a person? Would He condemn them, or would he tell them, as He told the woman caught in adultery, "Go free, but stop sinning."

It is up to you how you present this. And if you have a loving relationship with the Lord Jesus it will be easy for you to speak the same way He would. You could say something like this,

"The Lord knows that you are caught in an adulterous affair, but He does not condemn you. He loves you and the other person. But this will destroy you, and He wants you to be free. You do not need to hold onto this any longer. He wants to give you something better."

I had this exact situation once while ministering to someone, only the Lord did not reveal the sin to me, but he confessed it to me personally during counsel. He expected me to condemn him as most others would have done. But the Lord showed me His love and how He viewed this.

When I told him, "The Lord does not condemn you" his looked at me in disbelief. He wanted to know how I could say such a thing. I could tell him that this is what the Lord Jesus was saying. Instead of condemning him, the Lord was wooing him back in love.

The effect of this was really powerful and far greater than if I had spoken a word of condemnation to him. I could easily have turned to him and said,

"You are a useless rotten husband, how can you do that to your wife? You know that this is wrong in the sight of the Lord, and if you do not stop it at once the Lord will deal with you."

You must learn to use wisdom and grace as a prophet. That is why you should have a living and loving relationship with the Lord Jesus first before you try to flow in this kind of ministry.

Ministering to Unbelievers

The prophetic ministry is usually more to believers, but it is also possible to use the revelations God gives you for unbelievers. This usually happens more in the evangelistic ministry. In fact you will find that there are many cross overs between the prophetic and evangelistic ministries. Sometimes you may not be sure which one you are flowing in because they may look so similar.

Many prophets seem to think that they are called to give predictions for the world or their country. They try to predict who the next president will be or the next war that will take place. But this has little connection with the purpose for the Prophetic Ministry.

God may show the prophet something that Satan has planned and that will take place in the world. But the purpose for this is to help the Church prepare for this and be ready. So ultimately this word is not given to the world, but to the Church.

Agabus in the New Testament revealed that there was going to be an economic crisis and famine. And the main reason for this was so that the church could build up resources to help those local churches who were in the region that would be affected.

It was God warning the church ahead of time what the enemy was planning to do. This will happen often in the prophetic ministry. A prediction about the future is not so that we can know what fate has determined, but it is given so that we can do something about it.

Sometimes we can even stop what the enemy plans, but praying against it or taking action to make sure that it does not happen. The revelation is never just for our interest, or to prove that the prophet can hear from God. It must always have a practical application.

It is possible that the Lord can show you things also in the life of an unbeliever and when this happens, it is usually what the Bible calls a sign ministry. God gives this to you so that the unbeliever may be convinced that He is real and that you are truly a servant of the Lord.

When you reveal to an unbeliever something that God told you about them, they might be more ready to listen when you tell them that God loves them and wants to save them. Once again, the purpose is never to condemn, but to minister.

The whole world is ready to condemn, so it does not take a special anointing to do this. God did not call you to the prophetic ministry so that you can be more effective in doing what most people already do well.

We have all had enough of that; we get it wherever we go. How much more powerful it can be, when we show that we know what is in someone, but we still love them. People are far more likely to turn to the Lord when they realize that He knows their sin, but still loves them and wants to put His arms of love around them.

Ministering to Physical Problems

The Lord can also give you a revelation concerning sickness and disease in someone. If that person is an unbeliever, this can also be a sign that may draw them to the Lord.

I remember once speaking to a man who did not know the Lord, but he told us about a physical condition that he had. He had been suffering with his heart, and the doctors had been taking tests, but they could not find out what was wrong.

I cried out to the Lord to be able to minister to him and asked the Lord about it. The Lord gave me the go ahead to share with him the next time I saw him. So when I saw him the next time, I acted boldly and told him what I wanted to do.

I was not sure how he would respond, so I said to him, “I would like to do something for you before you go today. I would like to pray for you, that God would touch your heart.”

He agreed, so we bowed our heads and I put my hand on him and began to pray. The moment I did that the anointing came, and the Lord showed me what his heart looked like. I got a spiritual x-ray vision of it and I could see that one of the main blood vessels was slightly closed so that the blood would not flow normally.

I said to him, “I can tell you what is wrong with your heart. One of the main blood vessels is constricted and blocked. I am going to pray for you that God will sort that out.”

A while later when I saw him again, he said to me, “You were right about my heart. They ran some tests and they discovered that one of the blood vessels of my heart was clogged.”

I am not sure if this had any effect on him spiritually or brought him to a commitment to the Lord. But I learned through that experience that I could use the prophetic anointing to reach out and touch people with the love of the Lord, even if they are unbelievers.

Revelation of the Future

It is possible for the Lord to give you a revelation about the future for an

unbeliever. He might show you the road that lies ahead for that person. The purpose for this is so that you can tell them that God can change their path and produce a better end result.

Whenever the Lord shows me a person's future in this way, I tend to see their future as a road going off into the distance. Usually the condition of that road tells me what kind of experiences lie ahead for them. I see this the same way for believers or unbelievers.

If I see a road filled with potholes, or stones and obstacles, then I know some of what lies ahead for them. The road could be smooth, wide, narrow, dark, brightly lit, uphill, downhill and a host of other variations. I have learned to identify what lies ahead from what I see in the Spirit.

Do not assume that the Lord does not care about unbelievers. He loves them and wants to draw them to Himself. So when you get a revelation like this, you can minister the love of the Lord to them and draw them to Him.

You can tell this person that you see they have many problems ahead and the way could get rough. But with the Lord by their side, they can make it through. You can show them that the Lord Jesus is standing waiting to take them by the hand and lead them safely and securely through what lies ahead.

Ministering to Believers

Although the Lord can use you to minister to unbelievers, the bulk of your prophetic ministry will be to fellow believers in the Body of Christ. One of the most effective ministries that you can do is the ministry of counseling.

I have covered this subject in some detail in our counseling courses, but I would like to share here briefly how you can use the Prophetic Ministry in counseling.

You may think that to be qualified as a counselor you will need to study psychology and get a degree in counseling. In fact in the world you are taught that this is the realm of the experts only, and you should not touch it unless you are well qualified.

Psychiatry has gained a reputation in the world, and the teachings of psychiatry have become accepted as the truth. This is just like Darwin's theory of evolution, which is taught as truth, even though it goes against the teachings of Scripture.

The concept of mental illness has been accepted as fact, and only those who are qualified as mental doctors are allowed to deal with this problem. When you try to help people in the world, you are forced to continually make a disclaimer that you are not trying to give medical advice, and that they should consult a doctor

for help.

The same thing applies to the area of mental illness. If a person has a counseling need, you are taught that you must not try to get involved in this, but you should point the person to an expert who has been trained to deal with this correctly.

The truth of the matter is that godless psychiatrists have no solution for true psychological problems, which are usually more spiritual in nature anyway. You can minister to a person spiritually simply by letting the Lord reveal to you where their problem lies.

As long as you do not call their problem mental illness and claim that you are trying to heal them from mental illness, you should not have any problems from the system. But be careful, because the enemy will oppose you in this and try to stop you from ministering like this.

Even a believer who is trained in psychology is little use, because they need to spend months digging to find the source of a problem. Neither the counselor nor the counselee knows what the problem is. But the Lord does know what the problem is, and He can reveal it prophetically.

When you minister prophetically you do not need to dig and try to find the problem. The Lord can show it to you in moments. You have set up your windmill and you just ask the Lord to blow His wind on it. Then you direct the water hose at the problem.

I will not explain here in a lot detail how this works, as I have covered this in some detail in our counseling courses. But I would like to show you how to carry out a simple ministry called the ministry of Inner Healing using prophetic revelation.

Most problems in life are caused by hurtful and negative experiences in life. Even psychologists know that, but they do not know how to easily reverse the effects of past experiences. We as believers, however, have the Spirit of God, who can not only reveal where the problem started, but can also remove the effects supernaturally.

Using prophetic ministry, you can identify hurts in a person’s past that they may have forgotten or not thought about in a long time. Perhaps they have even repressed the memory because it was so painful to them. The Lord can show this to you in vision and you will identify where the problem began.

As you are praying for the person, the Lord may give you a picture. You may see a scene from the person’s life in the past. You may see the person at a younger age, and you can assess how old you think they were. You may identify the

clothing that they were wearing. You could see their circumstances and other people that are involved.

Now all you need to do is share with the person what you see. You could say something like, “I see you about the age of six. You are sitting crying and you have a rag doll in your hand. You’re wearing a little blue dress. Can you remember that scene?

Often when this happens, the person will break down and begin to cry and that memory comes back to them. They may say something like, “Yes I remember that. It still hurts when I think about it.” Then they will tell you what happened.

The ministry of inner healing is where God reaches in by His Spirit and goes into a hurtful memory of the past, and takes the pain out of it. You cannot get rid of the memory – it is still there. But you can remove the painful part of the memory so that it no longer affects you.

There may be several different events from the past that need to be addressed. The Lord will reveal only the important ones, and you should minister only to those. You may get further revelations another time; learn to just follow the leading of the Lord and minister what He gives you.

It is important to receive a bit of training in counseling God’s Way so that you can do this more effectively. And when you add your prophetic ministry to this, you will find that you can become a very effective counselor and really help people with their problems.

One of the most important causes of problems in our lives is a mechanism that I have called Templates and Triggers. These are programs that are built into us from past experiences. Using prophetic revelation you can help a person to identify their templates and triggers, and this alone can set them free.

Many of our problems are caused because the past is still with us. Although the events that affected us happened in the past, they are still as real to us as when they happened. So in effect, there may still be a child inside you that is hurting.

Psychology tells us that once a person is grown their character is set and they cannot change. But God not only tells us that we can change, He sometimes commands it. You must be able to put the past to sleep and move on into the future.

By allowing the Lord to use you in prophetic ministry, you can help people identify the child within and the bad templates from the past. You can release the power of God to go in and heal those hurts and grow the person up into adulthood, so that they can leave that childhood memory behind.

This is wonderful way of using the Prophetic Ministry, and if you have a passion to help people in their problems, then learning to flow in prophetic ministry can be more powerful than any counseling course you could take.

Lord willing we will be able to offer you both, so that you can become an effective counselor while using the Prophetic Ministry.

Prophetic Ministry Made Easy by Les D. Crause

CHAPTER 15

Ministering Deliverance

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Chapter 15 – Ministering Deliverance

In counseling, as you will learn from our counseling courses, there are three main root causes of problems that need to be addressed. Of these three roots the one that usually causes the most problems is the root of bitterness.

If you try to minister to someone with spiritual problems, you will not have to look far to find bitterness. Sometimes even if a person has a problem with sexual desire or lust, the root of their problems lies in some form of bitterness.

There are times when I have ministered to someone who has a problem with lust and I have been led to ask them about their relationship with their father. Often I uncover a root of bitterness and when that is dealt with, the person breaks free of their problem with lust.

The great thing about prophetic revelation is that you do not need to try and solve the person's problem from your own head. You reach in by the Spirit and minister to a need that may automatically solve other problems. All you need to do is follow the leading of the Lord and speak what He tells you.

It is not necessary to do the psychiatric approach of laying someone on a couch and getting them to tell you their life story. I tried that once and it was painful having to listen to the person's whole life story. In the end I still could not figure out what his problem was.

When we were done I decided to pray, and in moments the Lord put His finger right on the problem. We had not even covered it during our long session of walking down memory lane. That is the beauty of using prophetic ministry in counseling.

Guilt, Condemnation and Judgment

Condemnation and accusation is probably one of Satan's strongest weapons against believers. If he can keep you feeling guilty it takes away your faith and stops you from experiencing all that the Lord has for you. So often when you minister to someone, you have to address their guilt from past events.

Most of the time the guilt that bothers us is not true guilt at all, but a false guilt that keeps us in bondage. You feel guilty for doing something or not doing something. You feel like you failed and cannot forgive yourself or receive the Lord's forgiveness.

Often one of the most powerful forms of inner healing is getting the person to share with you some of their failures of the past that have plagued them for

years. When they share these failures with you, you can set them free by telling them that the Lord has forgiven them, and they can put that memory to sleep.

A powerful mechanism that you will also need to learn is the Law of Judgment. I have taught this in detail in our counseling courses, but I will mention it quickly here.

When a person has made a bitter root judgment against someone in the past, they have unleashed a force that works against them. Jesus said that if we judge, we will ourselves be judged by the same measure that we have used against others.

This usually shows itself in a person's life by things that seem to work against them no matter what they do. For example, if a man made a bitter root judgment against his mother when he was younger, he could reap the effects of the law of judgment through his wife.

One of the effects of the law of judgment can be to make someone close to you begin to act just like the person you judged. So the man could find his wife acting just like the things he hated in his mother. She may not do this intentionally, but the force of the Law of Judgment almost forces her to become this way.

You can deal with this by helping the person to let go of their judgment from the past, and also to renounce any inner vows that they may have made. But often it takes prophetic revelation to identify that such a problem exists in the first place.

Spiritual Imprisonment

Often in counseling you may feel like you are hitting a wall that you cannot get through. This is very real, and needs to be exposed by revelation before it can be dealt with. Often because of bad experiences in life, we tend to build walls of protection around us to stop the pain.

A person in this condition has built a kind of prison around themselves. And although this was done originally for protection, it has not become a bondage and restriction in their lives. It has closed them off from others, and sometimes even from the Lord. They have become untouchable so that no one can break through to help them.

God can show the prophet that this spiritual prison exists, and through revelation you can go inside those prison walls and reach the person that is hidden inside. You will take Jesus in there to shine his light in the darkness and to set the person free.

You may see Jesus picking up that little child and bringing him or her out into the daylight. You may see Him shutting the door behind to make sure that they cannot return to that prison. And you may see the little child running around playing in the open now, without fear or restriction.

All of this can be accomplished simply using prophetic revelation. By using this anointing, you can reach in and touch parts of a person's life that have never been reached before. This may have existed for many years, but nobody ever succeeded in breaking through. Now you can do in minutes what could have taken years of counsel.

Dealing with Curses

Part of the Prophetic Ministry involves bringing deliverance to the captives. It may be necessary to identify curses in a person's life before they can be set free. Identifying these curses or the doors that open the way for them to come in requires prophetic revelation.

The Lord can show you curses in a person's life that are caused by associations with others. There may be curses caused by objects in their home. And there may be curses from family generations. All of these may be revealed prophetically.

Early in my ministry I had a problem where it seemed that every time I tried to do something, it went wrong. I knew that part of this was my preparation for the Prophetic Office, but there had to be something more. So I asked the Lord for revelation.

As I prayed, I saw a man in the Spirit who clearly lived many years ago. I could tell by the way he was dressed; he looked like an old time preacher dressed in his suit. In the Spirit I heard him speak the words, "You are cursed with a curse, because you have disobeyed the Lord your God."

It was clear to me that he was speaking these words to a woman. And then I saw my family generations, and I heard his voice echo through the generations like an echo reverberating in an open canyon. I heard the words coming down on me. "You are cursed with a curse."

I do not know who this man was, and since it was several generations ago, I never did find out. But what I felt the Lord had revealed to me was that there was a man of God who spoke a curse, perhaps on one of his daughters who was likely one of my ancestors.

And that curse had been passed down through the family generations and was affecting me. The Lord had revealed this to me prophetically, and I had to break

the effects of those words that were spoken. I had to renounce and disassociate myself from the family generational curse and break free.

Family Generational Curses

This may sound a bit far-fetched and paranoid, but when you flow in prophetic ministry you will get used to receiving revelations like this. The Lord will show you while you are ministering to someone, that they have an effect of family generations that should be dealt with.

One of the main ways I see this in the Spirit is when I see several people standing behind the person, which I know refers to previous generations. The characters may be female, meaning they could refer to mother, grandmother, great grandmother etc. If they are male then it comes from the father's side.

When you see this you can share with the person where you believe the family generation bondage is coming from and they can pray and renounce that family generation effect. This can often cause a very dramatic change in the person's life.

Often the main cause of family generational bondages is where an ancestor has dabbled in the occult or been involved in some kind of false religion or demonic cult. The effects of this can be passed down, and even if you are a believer they will still try to affect you.

The person only needs to deal with this kind of thing once and put it behind them. However family generation curses have a tendency to try and reassert themselves when you keep close contact with family members and keep opening your heart to them.

This applies especially if those family members have not renounced that curse, or refuse to acknowledge that such a thing exists.

Dealing with Demons

One of the gifts of revelation that a prophet may function in is the gift of discerning of spirits. This is a very necessary revelation gift when it comes to dealing with demonic powers in people.

This is a very dangerous ministry that can lead to all kinds of problems if it is handled incorrectly. For this reason I have taken some space in our counseling courses to show you how to bring deliverance from demons. This is especially important when dealing with demonic bondages in Christians.

I will give you a brief summary here of what is involved in dealing with demons using the Prophetic Ministry. However, before you try to get involved in this

kind of ministry, I would strongly advise you to go through the counseling courses first.

Templates, Habits and the Flesh

I have taught extensively on the different levels of authority in the Kingdom of Darkness in other places, so I assume you know some of this already. There are different levels of demonic power, and these should be dealt with in different ways. So what I would like to show you here is not so much how to bring deliverance, but how to identify demon powers prophetically.

Most of us have an idea in our heads of what a demon might look like. And most people think that Lucifer is an ugly creature with horns. But having seen all levels of demon in the Spirit, including Lucifer and his high counsel of wickedness, I can tell you that Satan is one of the most handsome, good looking men you have ever seen.

If you have developed the gift of discerning of spirits, you will find out for yourself that demon powers are pictured as various different creatures in vision. With a bit of experience you will learn to identify what kind of demon you are dealing with by what it looks like.

I would like to share with you here how I see demons in the Spirit, and perhaps you may find your own experiences similar. If this is the case, then you can use what I share here to quickly identify what kind of demon you are dealing with. Once you know this, you will be better equipped to handle this in the person you are ministering to.

High Level Demonic Princes

The highest level of demonic prince is the Prince of Darkness himself, Lucifer. And as I said above, he is a good looking character. He is the typical image of the tall, dark and handsome man that has always been considered the perfect man.

Directly below Lucifer, in his Council of Wickedness are two characters that sit at the highest level in the Kingdom of Darkness. These I like to call Pharaoh and Apollyon. Pharaoh is referred to in Scriptures as the god of this world. Apollyon is described in Revelation as the ruler of the bottomless pit.

I have taught on this extensively in other places, including the Way of Blessing, and explained there that these three, Lucifer, Pharaoh and Apollyon are Satan’s High Council, and each has a different realm of operation.

Lucifer himself majors on the religious systems of the world. Pharaoh oversees

the world system, including the economies of the world and all worldly levels of authority and power. And Apollyon is the general of Satan's army and is in charge of the hordes of demonic powers that attack us directly.

I have seen all of these in the Spirit and can tell you what they look like. So if you see any of these, you will be able to identify who you are seeing.

Pharoah is a tall ugly looking character, a bit like a Frankenstein monster. He reminds me of the character called Lurch in the old TV Series the Adams family, although I usually see him as bald. Apollyon looks more like a creature than a human. He has scales like a reptile but looks humanoid in form.

If you see any of these characters in the Spirit, then you know you are dealing with the highest level of the Kingdom of Darkness, and you will need to know your authority to be able to do warfare with them. You will usually see them only when you are functioning at a higher level of prophetic calling, and are engaging in spiritual warfare.

Below these three are the princes of darkness that rule the nations. There is one for every country, county and geographic area. These characters are usually very human looking, and will often have the look of a person originating from that country.

So you might see what looks like a Native Red Indian in the USA or an Aztec Indian in Mexico. You will soon identify what region he is ruling over as you receive revelation in the Spirit. But once again, this is likely to fall more in the realm of spiritual warfare in the Prophetic Office, than in ordinary prophetic ministry.

Moving down, there will also be lower level princes and each of these is involved in the Heavenly realm rather than in the lives of people. They are the ruling demons that control those at the lower levels.

There are princes for cities and counties also and Satan has a spiritual equivalent for all levels of authority that you normally find on the earth.

Demons that Attack Man

At the lower levels of the kingdom of darkness there are three levels of demon power that attack us directly. And then there is a specific kind of demon that I call the spirit of infirmity, who is in a class of its own.

The highest level of demon that attacks humans is called the ruler demon. Paul tells us in Ephesians 6 that there are rulers, powers and principality demons. Each of these I see in the Spirit as forms of primate, from higher level gorilla

looking creatures, down to little monkeys.

The highest level of these, known as the rule demon, looks like a bit like a Bigfoot or the Abominable Snowman portrayed in stories. It is half way between human and animal looking. These demons are the ones that take possession of the human body and will manifest, if pushed, to speak through the lips of the person they are possessing.

The Occult Demon

There is a particular kind of ruler demon that looks different to the others and looks like a combination of the ruler demon and the princes. This demon is the only one that looks a lot like the typical picture we have all been given of Satan. It is a creature with ugly features, and horns and can be very easily identified in vision.

When you see a demon like this, you can be sure that the person you are ministering to has had some kind of involvement with the occult. This could have been personal involvement or a family generational bondage that was passed down.

By identifying this demon you can know how to bring deliverance to the person by helping them to deal with all occult involvements from the past and closing all open doors to the enemy.

Power and Principality Demons

These are the demons that do not possess people, but exercise a strong influence in their lives. The power demons range from chimpanzees to baboons in their appearance. Principality demons tend to be ordinary apes or monkeys at the lower levels.

One ruler demon may open the door to thousands of these smaller demons. So when you minister to someone, do not waste a lot of time dealing with the smaller ones until you have first identified whether a ruler demon is present.

In all cases, where you identify demons in the life of someone, always remember that it is not your place to go into warfare with these demonic powers. You cannot get rid of them until the person has acknowledged their responsibility for allowing these things into their life.

And you cannot command such a demon to leave until the person has confessed and renounced their involvement according to James 4:7, which says,

“Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.”

I will not labor on this here, because I have dealt with it extensively in our teaching on how to bring deliverance to others in our counseling courses. But I would like to help you identify what you see in the Spirit.

Spirits of Infirmity

The lowest level of demonic power, I usually see as lower level creatures and insects. Sometimes a principality or power demon is involved in bringing sickness and disease, and where there is a serious illness these demons are usually involved.

However, there are other creatures that often typify different kinds of sickness. I often will see the same creature when praying for someone with a specific illness. With experience this now allows me to identify what the person is suffering from even before they tell me.

Some of the more common creatures that I have seen are spiders, beetles, scorpions, lizards, moths, crabs and many others. In each case when praying with someone for healing, I will identify such a spirit of infirmity and it will have to be dealt with before healing can come.

Snakes and Serpents

The Scripture tells us that we can tread on serpents and scorpions, and these are certainly common creatures that picture demonic powers. However I have found that scorpions and other poisonous creatures like spiders are normally involved in bringing pain and disease.

Snakes on the other hand have a more spiritual effect. When I see a snake in the Spirit, I know that I am dealing with a spirit of deception in the person. This spirit has been trying to deceive the person to lead them astray.

One kind of snake which stands out and is worth mentioning is the python, and this has a very specific function where demons are concerned.

In Acts 16:16 we read of Paul dealing with a spirit of divination in a young girl. She kept telling everyone that Paul and his team were servants of the Most High God. Paul cast the demon out of her and she lost her power of divination.

If you look into the Greek text of the New Testament you will see that the Greek word for divination is ‘puthon’ or python. So when you see a python in the spirit, you are likely dealing with a spirit of divination in a person.

When it comes to dealing with spirits of infirmity, you have authority in the

name of Jesus to command them to leave. However, if there are higher level demons that have opened the door for these things, then you should first identify and get rid of those before trying to rebuke the spirits of infirmity.

Deal with the Open Doors First

To conclude on the subject of bringing deliverance using prophetic ministry, let me clarify that when you receive a revelation of the presence of a demonic power, you cannot go in with all guns blasting and try to bring deliverance to the person.

It is true that the person may have become the victim of a demonic attack. But no demon has authority to do anything in the earth until it is given license from a member of the human race. Only man has full authority in the earth.

So before any demon can influence us in any way, it has to be given license by someone. In most cases the person who gave the license is the person who is suffering and needs help. But sometimes the license may have come from another source.

That is why it is important that you know how to identify and deal with curses in the lives of others before you try to bring deliverance. If someone has licensed the enemy in the life of another, then that license must be revoked using spiritual authority and words spoken into the earth.

Sinful Habit Patterns

I have found that in most cases where a person has a possessing demon, there is usually an occult link somewhere. Occult demons are the ones that most likely lead to demonic possession.

Another way to open this door is through the use of drugs, and most drug addicts or people who have done drugs in the past have opened themselves to demonic bondage. When Paul speaks about the works of the flesh he refers to witchcraft, which clearly is an occult function.

And once again, it is interesting to note that the Greek word for witchcraft is “pharmakeia” from which we get our word pharmacy. There is a close connection between drugs and demonic bondage.

So when you are dealing with a person who has dabbled in the occult or been addicted to drugs, the chances are you will often find a possessing demon that needs to be dealt with.

This is the main kind of sin that opens the door to a possessing demon. But demons cannot simply jump in and affect a person that easily unless they are

given continual license.

Standard deliverance ministries have often confused the demon with the sin involved. They seem to think that if we cast out the demon, the person will stop sinning. But this is not true at all.

It is not the demon that is causing the person to sin, but it is their sin that has licensed the demon. Our sinful habit patterns are the open doors that demons look for to influence us. And if we can deal with those habit patterns, the enemy has no license in our lives.

So to cast out a demon of anger is foolish, because anger is a habit of the flesh. You may get rid of the demon, but the flesh is still there. Rather deal with the sinful habit pattern, and the demon will no longer have any open door to come in.

So when you get revelation that a person has opened the door to demonic powers, the key is to uncover where they opened the door. Then, through Scriptural counsel get the person to close that door and tell the demon to leave.

You can do this very effectively by using the Prophetic Anointing to identify the entry point. Then bringing deliverance to others becomes a very simple process, and you will not upset people by telling them that they have a demon.

CHAPTER 16

Final Principles to Remember

Prophetic Ministry Made Easy by Les D. Crause

Chapter 16 – Final Principles to Remember

Dealing with a Backlash

One of the most unexpected and difficult things to handle in ministry is something that I call ‘the backlash’. This is something that is experienced by all who are involved in ministry. But it is especially prominent in the ministry of the prophet.

A backlash is what happens when you minister to someone and they either do not receive your ministry, or they fail to break through to victory. The result is that you come under an unexpected spiritual attack which can take you totally by surprise.

In my book The New Way of Blessing Part 1, I cover in some detail, the principles of dealing with curses. I have also spoken in some detail in the previous sections of this book on how to handle people who have demonic bondages in their lives.

When you minister to those who are under curses or carrying a demonic influence, you need to be sure that you do not open yourself to the backlash that comes when that person does not break free.

If you open your heart too easily to someone who is under a curse, and that person does not renounce that curse, or refuses to accept that they are under a curse, then the effects of that curse may become directed at you.

You may suddenly find all the symptoms of a curse manifesting in your life, which are theft, strife and destruction, accompanied by fear. If any of these things manifest, and you have personally dealt with all curses in your own life, then it is highly likely that you are receiving a backlash from someone that you have tried to minister to.

This is one of the reasons why I discourage those who think that a deliverance ministry is simply casting demons out of people. You cannot do this while the person continues to give license to that demon.

You should never try to cast a demon out without first identifying the entry point or open door that was created, and get the person to truly let go. If you do not, that spirit will rise up in the person you tried to minister to and use the power in their spirit to launch an attack against you.

We never ever need to fear demon powers, no matter how high they may be in Satan’s Kingdom. A demon only has power when a man or woman gives it to

him. So you do not need to be afraid of dealing with possessing demons or any other kind of demon. They must always bow to the Name of Jesus and the authority you have in that Name.

However, the attack of the backlash does not come by that demon attacking you directly. It comes when the demon uses the power in that person's spirit to launch an attack against you.

Therefore, whenever you have ministered to others, you should always clear your spirit by closing your heart to any further influence from that person. You should break spiritual links with that person and send back any curses or backlash attempts from the enemy.

This is not something you need to be afraid of. I am simply sharing this so that if you ever experience these things after ministering to someone, you can be aware of where they are coming from.

Always be Available

If you are a prophet or interested in the Prophetic Ministry, then I hope that reading this book has brought you to a place where you will want to be used by the Lord in this way.

Once you move into this ministry, you should be able to carry it out wherever you go. It does not matter if you are at Church, at home, at work, at the shops or walking down the street. Your windmill should be set up and ready to go.

Be ready and available to minister for the Lord wherever you are. If someone wakes you in the middle of the night, and you are still half asleep, you should be able to minister. You simply hold your windmill up to the Lord and ask Him to blow on it.

If you keep in a state of readiness like this, then whenever the Lord blows on your windmill, you are ready to minister. This may happen at times when you least expect it, so do not be surprised when this happens.

Sometimes you are not really wanting to minister. You are tired and want to go to sleep. But someone will call upon you to minister to them. This is when you realize the price that you have to pay for ministry. It is a labor of love, and you do it because you love the Lord and want to please Him.

I would like to share an experience I had like this once to illustrate what I mean. I found a telephone number that I had written in my old Bible and was curious to know who it belonged to. I did not recognize the number at all and wondered who gave it to me. So I decided to give it a try.

It turned out to be the man who was once my Senior Pastor in the ministry. He was a man I respected and admired, and I wondered if the Lord did not perhaps want me to contact him to receive some kind of ministry from him. I had not seen him in a long time, so this was quite possible.

We made an arrangement to meet and catch up on old times, and I was ready to go and receive whatever the Lord had for me. But when I prayed about it, the Lord surprised me by telling me that He was actually sending me to minister to this man.

You need to realize that this made me feel a bit insecure. This man was my senior. He was the one who had ordained me to the ministry. How would he feel about receiving ministry from me, one of his previously junior ministers?

You will find when you flow in prophetic ministry that you have to sometimes go against what your heart says, and just obey the Lord. Because a person is famous and popular and in the public eye, that does mean he or she never needs ministry.

So I went in obedience, and during our time of sharing the Lord began to show me things to share with him, and he was ready and open to receive. His wife on the other hand was not so open to receive, but the Lord wanted me to minister to her also and I was left alone with her while he went out to make a ministerial call.

It was a very challenging experience for me, but I learned that when you speak for God, the status of the person you are speaking to is not important. All that counts is that you are faithful to speak what He gives you.

And if you give it out in faith, hope and love, you cannot go wrong. Nobody easily rejects love, and if your word inspires faith and hope in others, then you have achieved your purpose in the Prophetic Ministry.

From Ministry to Office

I have tried to cover most of the scenarios that you will face when you begin to carry out a prophetic ministry. Most of the principles that I have shared relate to anyone who operates in the gifts of the Spirit that qualify a person to be called ‘prophetic’.

However this does not mean that such a person has attained full Prophetic Office. The office of the prophet is a much higher level position, which requires intense preparation and training. And the prophet in office is not involved primarily in ministering person to person as I have described.

Rather, the prophet in office is called to the Universal Church. Such a prophet is called to speak more to larger groups, train and release other ministries, and birth God's purposes in the earth.

Do not try to confuse these, or assume that anyone who functions in the Prophetic Ministry is automatically able to function in the Prophetic Office. Such a position is only attained after intensive training and much death to the flesh.

Not all who function in the Prophetic Ministry are called to move up into Prophetic Office. And many who function in a prophetic ministry also have other ministries that are more prominent than the prophetic. Few of either of these will ever rise up into full Prophetic Office.

However, if God has called you to mostly a prophetic function, and it burns in you to rise up into full office as a prophet, then you will not be satisfied until you have pursued the full training needed and paid the price to qualify for this office.

Such training is carried out largely in secret, and often with the help of a mentor or spiritual parent. I have taught extensively on this in my original full series called The Way of the Prophet, which was designed expressly for that purpose.

However, since many are confused on the difference between Prophetic Ministry and Prophetic Office, I have written this book to cover those who are functioning in prophetic ministry, and to show all the practical aspects of this ministry.

If after going through this book, you are convinced that this is the ministry for you and that you are called to rise up higher into the full Prophetic Office, then I would suggest you consider obtaining some of my more advanced materials.

The original series is still available for those who wish to study it, and there are training courses for this purpose in the training schools of Apostolic Movement International, which I set in place and have handed over to Apostles Craig and Colette Toach.

They are continuing with the original training courses that we set in place together, and offer mentorship and training to those called to Full Prophetic Office.

There are, however, many who are called more to the Apostolic Function and will rise even higher than the Prophetic Office. Many of these will reach this goal by going first through the training for Prophetic Office.

Since I will be mentoring and training many for the Apostolic Office, I have therefore decided to release abridged versions of the original Way of the Prophet for use in our training college, for those who are being trained for the higher

levels and would like to also learn about the Prophetic Office.

The first of these new books is entitled The Prophetic Calling and contains select extracts from the original Way of the Prophet, edited and modified for use in preparing for a higher calling.

But before you even think of moving in that direction, make sure that you have first learned to flow correctly in the Prophetic Ministry. And if God has called you to the Apostolic function, then you would also want to go through our other Ministry Made Easy Series Courses, which include all of the Fivefold Ministry.

If God has called you to be an Apostle, then the first thing you will need to do is learn as much as you can about all the other ministries. Included in this is a full teaching like this one, specifically for those who are called to the Apostolic Ministry.

And once again, that book is directed at those who desire to function in Apostolic Ministry, and not those who are specifically called to rise up and be placed into full Apostolic Office.

There are five ministry functions, but only two of are able to move up into full office status. These are the Prophetic Office and the Apostolic Office. So not rush into calling yourself a prophet or an apostle until you have fully qualified and been placed in these higher offices.

If God has called you to these, and you wish to aspire to such levels of ministry authority, there will always be a price to pay. And the first price you will need to pay is learning to function first in the ministries that go with these offices.

I hope that this book has inspired you to fully embrace the Prophetic Ministry, and that you will allow the Lord to use you effectively to minister to many using the gifts that He has given you.

I look forward to helping you further by encouraging you to consider enrolling as student in our online Academy at http://www.gbm-academy.com where you will be able to take study the contents of this book and others as a formal course.