



## PROPHETIC JOURNALING

### Handout #1

This exercise is designed to help you grow in the prophetic gift. Becoming aware of the many ways God speaks and learning to listen well is a process for most of us. Journaling daily and concluding each week with a personal evaluation will help you “grow”!

I recommend choosing the right journal for you!

- Consider the size, weight, line spacing (if lined at all), binding, and even style. Size and weight matter if you plan to travel with your journal—even if only to the coffee shop! Line spacing, binding, and even color can be distracting and discomforting. Lastly, let the color and style of the journal “speak” to you about the season you are in.

### Daily

- Each morning
  - Invite Holy Spirit to speak to you about your day
    - What to expect—the days happenings
    - How to co-operate with what he wants to do
    - What are you to focus on today?
  - Ask him what to “prophesy” over your day. Say whatever he says! Record the “word” in your journal.
  - Record all prophetic experiences
    - Words and scriptures you “hear” for yourself or others
    - Dreams
    - Visions or pictures
  - Record the level of awareness of God’s presence
  - Record any questions regarding the prophetic word and ask God to “speak” to you about them. Record what he says.

### Weekly Evaluation

- Review this week’s daily entries
- What is The Lord doing in you?
- What are you learning?
- What are the challenges you are encountering?
- How have you seen God moving in your life and the lives of people around you?
- What is the overall message God has given you for this week?
- Is there any action that should be taken in response to this message?



## PROPHECY: THE PROPHETIC GIFTS

Handout #2

### Prophecy

Prophecy is a gift of The Holy Spirit. His empowering presence in us manifests the gifts through us. It is to be used to edify (build up), exhort (call near), and console (cheer up/comfort) others. Its primary purpose is to encourage the church and God's people, but it also reveals hearts by bringing revelation of the reality of God, causing a person to "fall on their face, worship God, and confess that God is really among you" (1 Cor. 12-14)

*To encourage* means to instill courage, to give hope and confidence, to spur a person or people on to move forward, to assist something to occur or increase, and to foster growth. It means to help inspire, embolden, and hearten with courage and purpose by raising one's confidence. *Inspire* means to instill life, energy, or vigor into someone or something. *Hearten* means to lift dispiritedness or despondency by the infusion of fresh courage or zeal. *Embolden* means to give courage sufficient to overcome timidity or reluctance.

Prophecy has three parts: Revelation, Interpretation, and Application.

1. Revelation is the prophetic word, picture, vision, etc., itself received from God.
2. Interpretation is the meaning and import of the revelation.
3. Application is the "to-do" part, the implementation—the way the revelation and its' interpretation is to apply to a person or group—the action to be taken in response to what has been revealed.

### Prophecy Defined

Prophecy is the revelatory process of hearing God's voice and speaking His words. It is receiving divine revelation directly to the heart and having revelatory words placed in the mouth by the Holy Spirit to be given as a divine message from God directed to individuals, churches, people groups, a nation, etc. These messages can be forth-telling in that they interpret present events and circumstances from a divine perspective or fore-telling in that they reveal what the future holds according to divine perspective to help guide and counsel according to divine will. They can be spoken spontaneously and conversationally or specially and specifically prepared as writings of various kinds (i.e., teachings, sermons, books, letters) under the direction of the Holy Spirit. (Dr. Kim Maas, Prophetic Community)

**Prophecy is hearing from God and saying what He is saying.**

### Fore-telling and Forth-telling

Prophecy is the forth-telling and fore-telling of God's heart, will, ways and works.

- Foretelling-Divine revelation regarding future circumstances and events.
- Forth-telling-Identifying and interpreting what God has done/is doing, thus giving divine perspective to natural circumstances, times, and seasons making room for God's preferred future.



### **The Prophetic Gifts**

*Word of Knowledge-* A divinely received specific fact or information about a person, place, or event. God often gives a word of knowledge to gain a hearing and build the faith of the one to whom God desires to speak (Jn 4:16-19, 1 Cor 14:24-25).

*Word of Wisdom-* A divinely received revelation regarding God's will, plan, or purpose for a specific situation. The word can be directional, giving insight into what needs to be done (Acts 27).

*Discerning of Spirits-* A Divinely received ability to distinguish between different types of spirits and motivating influences, i.e., angelic, demonic, human, or Holy Spirit (Acts 16:17-18).



## REVELATION COMES BY...

### Handout #3-Part I

1. **Scripture** While reading, a particular passage is highlighted to you, it “jumps off” the page, and you feel stirred in your spirit over it. It suddenly brings a fresh understanding to your heart regarding what the Lord is communicating in that particular moment and is an answer to a specific situation in your own life or the life of someone else.
2. **Impressions** (Acts 14:9, 27:10, Lk 8:45-46, II Kings 2:15)
  - a. **Thoughts**-a sudden, fleeting, seemingly stray thought, name, scripture comes to mind.
  - b. **Physical**-a sudden sensation of pain, discomfort, or awareness of a body sensation
  - c. **Emotional**-sudden experience of an emotion not connected to your situation
  - d. **Five senses: sight, touch, taste, smell, and hearing** -experiencing revelation through the natural physical senses.
3. **The Voice of The Lord** (Elijah on the mountain, Paul on the road to Damascus, Jesus at his baptism all experienced the voice of God. Jn 10:27)
  - a. Still, small voice
  - b. Audible voice
4. **Puns/Parables** (Jer 1:11-12) Symbolism and “dark sayings” that require prayer and interpretation
5. **Visions** (Gen 15:1, 2 Kings 6:17, Ez 1:1, Acts 2:17, 11:5, 2 Cor 12:1)
  - a. **Pictures**-simple, fleeting pictures in your mind’s eye
  - b. **Visions**-scenes that unfold in your mind’s eye to tell a story
  - c. **Open Visions**-a vision seen with the naked, natural eye, open eyed.
6. **Dreams** (Mt 1:20, 2:13, 2:20, Gen 20:3, I Kings 3:5-15)
  - a. **Literal**-interpret themselves
  - b. **Symbolic**-need careful and Spirit-led interpretation.
  - c. **Angelic Messengers/The Lord**-special message given by a messenger
7. **Trances** (Acts 1:34) Awake, yet all attention is drawn toward observing a revelatory event. The body is present, but the mind and spirit are caught up in an intense revelatory experience.
8. **Transported** (2 Cor 12:23, Ez 3:12-15) Taken in the Spirit to another place to observe events or receive revelation
9. **Angelic Visitation** (Acts 27:23-24, Acts 9:37) The message of The Lord brought by an angelic messenger, or The Lord Himself.



## HEARING GOD

### Handout #3-Part II

1. **Awareness and Pursuit** God still speaks today (Heb 12:25, Jn 10:27, 1 Cor 14:1). Look and listen for his voice in all the various ways he speaks. Pay attention to thoughts and physical, spiritual, and emotional signals. God commands us to pursue his voice and revelation. He responds to hunger!
2. **Intimacy** (1 Sam 3, Jn 10:27) In God's presence, we learn to hear his voice. Scripture reading and meditation, worship, daily devotions, and prayer give us a sensitivity to the voice of God.
3. **God's Word** Know the scriptures, allow them to "dwell richly" in you to enhance and inform all prophetic revelation. (Rom 10:17, Col 3:16, 2 Tim 2:15; 3:16)
4. **God's Heart** (Jn 3:16-17, Mic 6:8) Prophecy reveals God's heart, character, agenda, and will.
5. **Love for others** (1 Cor 13, 1 Cor 14:3) **Love is primary.** The gifts are given for the building of the church, the encouragement, edification, and the comfort of others. To introduce them to a God who is real, present, working, and desires reconciliation and ongoing relationship.
6. **Ask and Listen** (Jer 33:3, Am 3:7). God desires to speak to those asking and listening!



## Interpreting Prophecy

### Handout #4

There are three components of a prophetic Word: Revelation, Interpretation, and Application.

- *Revelation*: the prophetic word itself, what has been received from God.
- *Interpretation*: translation of the meaning and import of the word
- *Application*: translation into action, the “to-do” component, the direction to be taken, the practical steps required

### About Interpretation

God often reveals his secrets in symbols. Left uninterpreted, the revelation cannot be received or acted on. It is at the interpretation that many prophetic words become misunderstood or misapplied. Interpretation must be faithful to the revelation and God’s heart. Be aware that sin, offenses, judgments, pet doctrines, prejudices, anger, rejection, etc., can become filters that cause misinterpretation and misapplication of revelation received. Ask Holy Spirit to reveal and cleanse you of anything that would corrupt a correct interpretation.

#### Interpretive tools:

- The Spirit of God-Holy Spirit
  - Pray and listen to what The Spirit reveals
  - Do not assume an interpretation by logic or reasoning
  - An opinion is not an interpretation!
- The Word of God-all interpretation of revelation must agree with Scripture (The Bible); it is the foundation of all prophecy.
- The Heart of God-all interpretations of revelation must agree with God's heart and character as revealed in Scripture.
- Symbolism
  - Scriptural symbolism—Names, images, and metaphors found and interpreted in/by scripture. (A good resource—*Dictionary of Biblical Imagery: An Encyclopedic exploration of the images, symbols, motifs, metaphors, figures of speech, and literary patterns of the Bible*, by Leland Ryken, James C. Without, and Tremper Longman III.)
  - Scripture Passages—Verses of Scripture highlighted or revealed by HS to give understanding.
  - Contemporary symbolism—Names, images, and metaphors found in contemporary life/culture. Ex. Vehicles of transportation often mean ministry, houses often mean personal life, etc.



- Personal symbolism- Names, images, and metaphors that have personal significance and meaning found in the personal life of the one prophesying or the one receiving prophecy, which is different from the standard cultural meaning. Ex. A black cat in contemporary culture may symbolize witchcraft, but if the dreamer or receiver had a beloved black cat as a pet, it would represent comfort or companionship, etc. *ASK* the person who received the dream, vision, or picture.

Remember: Interpretation and application of revelation belong to God. We need the anointing of The Holy Spirit to know the meaning and the accompanying action for the word.



## Responding to Prophetic Words

### Handout #5

There certainly are prophetic words that are unconditional, meaning they will come to pass entirely as a sovereign act of God. Most of these are contained in the prophetic promises of God in scripture. However, nearly all the personal prophetic words we will receive are conditional in nature, meaning we have a responsibility to meet so that they are released in fullness into our lives. Prophecy is the potential and the creative power of God to transform and bring our lives into the fulfillment of God's dreams for us, but we have a responsibility to respond with agreement, prayer, and action.

This is not about receiving God's love. We have His love. This is about aligning with God's revelatory word and receiving the effectual working of his power to fulfill the purposes for which we were created! As God's people, who are to be prophetic people living in prophetic community receiving prophetic revelation, we have a responsibility.

What is this responsibility as it relates to prophecy? Response. We have been given the ability to respond, and therefore, we are responsible for responding.

What does responding to a prophetic word entail?

#### THE BASICS:

1. **Test** Apply the tests of prophecy to the word.
  - Does the word line up with Scripture?
  - Does it resonate in your spirit?
  - Does it rightly represent the revealed nature and character of God?
  - Do those placed in your life for accountability and leadership agree with it?

#### IF THE WORD PASSES THE TESTS:

2. **Transcribe** (write it out). Write it word for word if you received it on an audio file. Immediately write out what you remember if it was spontaneous and not recorded.
3. **Ask Questions** (in the presence of the Holy Spirit) and journal the answers
  - Is this word about identity, destiny, direction, correction, insight, wisdom, or prescription?
  - Are there things I need to stop doing or start doing?
  - Is there something God wants me to learn about myself, about him, about my circumstances?
  - Is there a scripture? If there is a scripture, study the scripture to receive all the insight and application contained in it.





## Prophetic Training Handouts ♦ Dr. Kim Maas

- Is there a timing in it? If there is no specific timing, be careful about assigning one!
  - Is there any action to be taken, direction to change or take, or solution to be applied?
  - Is symbolic language or symbolism contained in it, a picture, a vision, or a dream? Research the symbols' meanings to get their insight and application.
  - Does the word reveal the future? If so, what will I be looking for, expecting, and preparing for?
  - Are there clues in the word, so I will know it is coming and has come to pass?
4. **Pray**, Tell the Lord you agree and receive it, and give the Spirit permission to do whatever it will take to see this come to pass in your life! Ask the Lord to add to it! Declare the promises in the word, the identity insights, and the scriptural aspects over your life. Ask him to help you change where he has revealed things need to change. Repent of anything you have held onto that he is asking you to let go of...etc.
  5. **Plan** Think through the answers to your questions as you processed the word to create a plan of action. What further actions are required? Make a list of goals with the corresponding steps and create space in your calendar to achieve them. Enlist accountability partners and share the word with what you have understood about it. Perhaps share it with leadership.
  6. **ACT** As we have learned, prophecy is God speech. In Scripture, "hearing" includes obedience to the word heard. In John, Jesus said, "If you love me, obey my commands." Throughout the Old Testament, we find all the great men and women of faith responding to the word heard with obedience through testing and trial to fulfillment. Faith is responding to revelation. Hearing is acting in obedience to the revelation.

This type of lived-out strategy releases the power and potential of the prophetic words you receive!

Watch and see what God does as you begin the journey!



## Healthy Prophetic Community PT I

### Handout #6

A healthy Prophetic Community has healthy prophetic practices. Healthy prophetic practices abide by establishing core values and prophetic protocol. The purpose of protocol is to steward this significant gift of The Holy Spirit so it will flourish and accomplish its highest purpose; to encourage, comfort, and edify.

### Core Values

- 1. Love is primary** God's heart as represented in scripture is LOVE and RELATIONSHIP (1 Cor 14:1, Jn 3:16). His desire is to reconcile, save, heal, deliver and restore (Mk 16:15-18), to release the workmanship of his hands into the good works he has prepared for them (Eph 2:10). Prophecy reveals God's heart to a person and calls out the plan for good God has planned for a person, church, or people.
- 2. Character matters.** Integrity, humility, purity, teachability, self-leadership, and gratitude in attitude and action demonstrate the quality of character. (1 Sam 16:7, Prov 10:9, Phil 2:3-11, 12-16; 4:8-9, Titus 2:7-8, Rom 5:1-5, Col. 3:17)
- 3. Accountability** Being a prophetic community means we are in communion with the Body and those God has placed in our lives for personal and prophetic accountability and responsibility. Prophecy is a stewardship. With stewardship comes a responsibility to remain accountable for what we do and say. We are responsible for what comes out of our mouths and must be willing to receive feedback. If we get it wrong, we admit it and apologize. (Prov 27:17, Mt 12:36-37, Rom 14:12, 1 Cor 14:29-33, Heb 10:24-25; 13:17)
- 4. Submission** *"The Spirit of the prophet is subject to the prophet" 1Cor 14:32 NKJV*  
*"Remember that people who prophesy are in control of their spirit..." 1Cor 14:32 NLT*  
We live in submission to the Lord at all times. When administering prophecy, it is the responsibility of the prophet/prophetic person to speak in a way that represents the heart of God, honoring Him and His people. (Heb 13:17, Eph 5:21, 1 Pt 5:6) Prophecy is for the purpose of building the church. Submission in this context means coming under the authority of the established leadership in whatever place or among whatever people we are ministering. They have been given a mission from God in their sphere of influence. Unless we are the Senior Leader in that context, our responsibility is to honor the leadership by submitting to the mission they have been given and the protocols they have established. Disrupting or distracting the flow of service through abrupt or aggressive ministry does not represent the Father appropriately. We risk offending people, discrediting prophetic ministry, and quenching the Spirit not only in the place we are ministering but also in our own lives.



## **SAMPLE PROTOCOL**

1. Communicate regularly with Leadership regarding availability, questions, and opportunities to minister in or outside the home church.
2. Notify Leadership immediately if a conflict arises involving prophetic ministry with one another, church members, etc.
3. Gossip, criticism, judgment, condemnation, and divisive behavior are forbidden and will bring correction. If, after being corrected, the behavior persists, dismissal from the team will occur for further growth in discipleship, healing, and deliverance.
4. Corporate prophetic words received during Church Services, Conferences, and Seminars
  - a. Write the word and submit it to Pastoral Leadership to determine the timing, priority, and release protocol.
  - b. Do not disrupt service or Sr. Pastor inappropriately by interrupting during message, speaking loudly during quiet or silent moments, or otherwise bringing attention to self.
5. Personal Prophetic Ministry
  - a. Always reflect the heart and tone of The Holy Spirit and \_\_\_\_\_ Church
  - b. Do not use overly religious language or phrases
  - c. Do not attempt to interpret the word; if you have not received the interpretation, only give what The Spirit gave.
  - d. If a personal prophetic word received is correcting, revealing something negative (like sin), or a warning of judgment or trouble coming, submit to leadership first for further guidance and accountability.
  - e. Always ask permission of the one receiving ministry before laying hands, anointing with oil, or performing various prophetic acts which may invade personal space (i.e., blowing, kissing, brushing off body parts, clapping, etc.).
6. When Visiting other churches, conferences, and seminars:
  - a. Ask The Holy Spirit if the word is to be shared or if it is a call to intercession only
  - b. Seek out and submit to the prophetic protocol established by leadership and those who have authority in that sphere of influence before ministering prophetic words to individuals or groups
  - c. Seek appropriate leadership to submit the word and receive permission and guidance before giving a public declaration



## Healthy Prophetic Community PT II

### Handout #8

To build a thriving and healthy prophetic community, we must be willing to be responsible for words given and received.

As the one receiving, we are responsible to 1) live by “every word that proceeds from the mouth of God”- written first, and then prophetic, 2) take receiving of a “word of the Lord” seriously, 3) judge a word and give honest feedback regarding its accuracy and import 4) submit to The Lord for the timing and actions related to the application of a word to life and ministry.

Here are my personal best practices for ministering responsibly in the prophetic:

### 4 C's

- Stay Committed to personal spiritual growth and development in your gifts and call and, more importantly, in intimacy with The Lord.
- Stay in Communion with the Body and those God has placed in your life for personal and prophetic accountability and responsibility.
- Stay Clear regarding the mission and call on your life.
- Stay Clean regarding personal habits and lifestyle, offenses, and division. Remember character counts

### 8 Be's

- Be intentional about attending to purity in your life and lifestyles
- Be willing to use your gifts to strengthen, encourage, and comfort others at all times
- Be willing to risk being wrong and grow from every success and failure.
- Be available to hear honest evaluations and constructive critiques
- Be willing to own your mistakes, admit your part and apologize
- Be ready to submit to those God has placed in leadership and oversight over you
- Be instant in repentance and forgiveness, humility and love, service and celebration.
- Be transparent about your life, struggles, and dreams.