

STUDENT KEY MANUAL

THE FATHER'S VOICE

Ministering by the Gift of Prophecy

"For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy." – Revelation 19:10b (NKJV)

WELCOME

Welcome, beloved. Over the next three hours, we will journey together into the heart of the Father and the gift of prophecy – what it is, why the Father gives it, how we grow in it, and how we steward it faithfully. This manual is your companion for the journey. It contains the key Scriptures, teachings, and space for your personal reflections and notes.

This is not a test. This is a table. The Father has invited you here because He loves you, and He loves to speak to His children. Come with an open heart, a willing spirit, and an expectancy for encounter.

"My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me." – John 10:27 (NKJV)

COURSE SCHEDULE

Time	Section
0:00–0:10	Welcome and Opening Prayer
0:10–0:55	Session One: The Foundation – Why We Prophecy and the Testimony of Jesus
0:55–1:05	Break
1:05–1:50	Session Two: Character Before Gifting – Posturing Ourselves Before the Lord
1:50–2:00	Break
2:00–2:45	Session Three: Walking It Out – Practical Wisdom, Symbols, and Activation
2:45–3:00	Closing: Commissioning Prayer and Benediction

SESSION ONE: THE FOUNDATION

Part A: What Is the Spirit of Prophecy?

Key Scripture: Revelation 19:10 (NKJV) – "And I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, 'See that you do not do that! I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren who have the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.'"

Key Teaching: At the core of all authentic prophecy is one Person: Jesus. The spirit of prophecy is the testimony – the witness, the declaration, the revealing – of who Jesus is. Every genuine prophetic word points to Christ. Prophecy is not about us. It never has been. It is the Father revealing His Son by the power of the Holy Spirit through willing, surrendered vessels.

From the Fathers of Faith: Charles Haddon Spurgeon (1834-1892) – "A sermon without Christ as its beginning, middle, and end is a mistake in delivery – because Christ is the beginning, middle, and end of all things."

Part B: Why We Prophecy — The Father's Heart

Key Scriptures

- John 10:27 – "My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me."
- Jeremiah 33:3 – "Call to Me, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know."
- 1 Corinthians 14:3 – "He who prophesies speaks edification and exhortation and comfort to men."
- 1 Corinthians 12:7 – "The manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all."

Key Teaching

We prophesy because the Father is a Father who delights in speaking to His children. From creation to Christ, our God has always been a speaking God. He is not reluctant to speak. He is not hiding. Hearing the Father's voice is not reserved for the elite – it is the inheritance of every child of God.

We prophesy because the Father's children need to hear Him. Many have never received a personal word of love, encouragement, or affirmation from the Father. The world is full of voices telling people who they are not. The Father longs to speak through His children with words that say: "I see you. I know you. I have not forgotten you."

We prophesy because it reveals the Father's family. Prophecy is the Father speaking to His children through His children. When a brother or sister carries the Father's words to us, the love of God is made tangible through human relationship.

The purpose of prophecy is defined by love:

- **Oikodome (edification):** To build up, to strengthen faith
- **Paraklesis (exhortation):** To call alongside, to encourage forward
- **Paramythia (comfort):** To console, to soothe grief or distress

From the Fathers of Faith: George Muller (1805-1898) – "I seek at the beginning to get my heart into such a state that it has no will of its own in regard to a given matter."

Brother Lawrence (1614-1691) – "There is not in the world a kind of life more sweet and delightful than that of a continual conversation with God."

Part C: Old Testament Prophets and the New Testament Gift

Key Scriptures

- Numbers 11:29 – "Oh, that all the Lord's people were prophets and that the Lord would put His Spirit upon them!"
- Joel 2:28-29 – "I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy..."
- Acts 2:16-18 – Peter declares at Pentecost: "This is what was spoken by the prophet Joel..."
- 1 Corinthians 14:31 – "For you can all prophesy one by one, that all may learn and all may be encouraged."

Comparison

Old Testament Prophets	New Testament Gift of Prophecy
The Spirit came upon select individuals	The Spirit is poured out on ALL flesh
Spoke as the direct mouthpiece of God to the nation	Speaks edification, exhortation, and comfort to the Body
Carried governmental authority	Functions within the community of believers
Standard: absolute accuracy	Given "in part"; subject to testing
Few were called	All may prophesy

The Office of the Prophet (Ephesians 4:11)

- A five-fold ministry calling given by Christ
- Not everyone is called to this office
- Recognized and confirmed by mature leadership over time
- Not self-appointed

The Gift of Prophecy and Three Levels of Operation

The Gift of Prophecy (1 Corinthians 12:10; 14:1-5)

- Available to every Spirit-filled believer
- Purpose: edification, exhortation, comfort
- Exercised in love, humility, and submission
- Subject to testing by the Body

Three Levels of Prophetic Operation

1. **The Spirit of Prophecy** – Any believer in worship may receive an impression (Revelation 19:10)
2. **The Gift of Prophecy** – A recurring gift; this is what this training addresses (1 Corinthians 12:10)
3. **The Office of Prophet** – A governmental calling recognized over time (Ephesians 4:11)

Personal Notes – Session One:

(Space for notes)

Break One (10 Minutes)

Reflection: "Father, what has my relationship with Your voice looked like? What do I believe about Your willingness to speak to me?"

SESSION TWO: CHARACTER BEFORE GIFTING

Part A: The Foundation of Character

Key Scriptures

- Galatians 5:22-23 – "The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control."
- Matthew 7:21-23 – "Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name...' And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you.'"
- 1 Corinthians 13:1-3 – "Though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge... but have not love, I am nothing."

Key Teaching: Before we learn to prophesy, we are invited to learn to love. Before the gift, the fruit. Paul placed 1 Corinthians 13 between chapters 12 (the gifts) and 14 (how to operate in them). Love is the bridge. Gifts are given by grace. Fruit is grown through relationship. Character is the vessel that holds the gift.

From the Fathers of Faith: A.W. Tozer – "What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us."

E.M. Bounds – "What the Church needs today is not more machinery or better, not new organizations or more and novel methods, but men whom the Holy Ghost can use – men of prayer, men mighty in prayer."

Part B: Posturing Our Hearts

Key Scriptures

- Micah 6:8 – "What does the Lord require of you but to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God?"
- James 4:6b – "God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble."
- John 15:4-5 – "Abide in Me, and I in you... for without Me you can do nothing."
- Psalm 27:4 – "One thing I have desired of the Lord... to behold the beauty of the Lord."

Five Heart Postures for Prophetic Ministry

1. **Humility** – The soil in which every spiritual gift grows in a healthy way. Humility says, "I may be wrong. I offer this humbly and invite it to be tested."
2. **Love as the Motive** – "Pursue love, AND desire spiritual gifts." Love first. Always love first.
3. **The Secret Place** – The most powerful prophetic words are born in the most hidden places, in the quiet, unseen moments of daily communion with God.
4. **Accountability and Community** – The gift functions within the Body, and the Body provides accountability, correction, and encouragement.
5. **Purity and Direction** – Not perfection, but direction. Are we moving toward holiness?

Andrew Murray – "Humility is not so much a grace or virtue along with others; it is the root of all, because it alone takes the right attitude before God, and allows Him as God to do all."

David Brainerd – "I love to be alone in my cottage, where I can spend much time in prayer."

Smith Wigglesworth – "I am not moved by what I see. I am not moved by what I feel. I am moved only by what I believe."

Heart Posture Reflection

Take a few minutes to reflect honestly before the Lord:

1. What is my honest motive for wanting to operate in the gift of prophecy?
 2. Is there any area of pride, unforgiveness, or unconfessed sin that the Holy Spirit is gently highlighting?
 3. Am I in accountable relationship with mature believers who have permission to speak into my life?
 4. What does my secret life with God honestly look like?
 5. Am I willing to be corrected?
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Personal Notes – Session Two:

(Space for notes)

Break Two (10 Minutes)

Reflection: "Father, what area of my character are You inviting me to grow in? And how does that growth serve the people You are calling me to love?"

SESSION THREE: WALKING IT OUT

Part A: How God Speaks and Prophetic Wisdom

Key Scriptures

- 1 Corinthians 14:3 – "He who prophesies speaks edification and exhortation and comfort to men."
- 1 Thessalonians 5:19-21 – "Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise prophecies. Test all things; hold fast what is good."
- 1 Corinthians 14:33 – "For God is not the author of confusion but of peace."

Ways God Speaks

1. Scripture (always primary and authoritative)
2. The Still, Small Voice / Inner Witness (1 Kings 19:12; Romans 8:16)
3. Dreams (Job 33:14-16; Acts 2:17)
4. Visions (pictures or scenes; Acts 2:17)
5. Prophetic Impressions (a sudden knowing, a sense)
6. Scripture Illumination (Ephesians 6:17)
7. Circumstances and Confirmations
8. Other Believers

The Six Testing Filters

Filter	Question	Scripture
Scripture Test	Does this contradict the Bible?	2 Timothy 3:16
Jesus Test	Does this glorify Jesus Christ?	Revelation 19:10
Character of God Test	Is this consistent with God's nature?	James 1:17
Fruit Test	Will this edify, exhort, or comfort?	1 Corinthians 14:3
Peace Test	Do I have peace about delivering this?	Colossians 3:15
Heart Condition Test	Am I in the right heart condition?	1 Corinthians 14:32

What We Embrace and What We Avoid

What We Embrace

1. Always minister from a heart of love
2. Stay within the boundaries of Scripture
3. Speak with gentleness, humility, and respect
4. Offer words with open hands: "I sense the Lord may be saying..." / "I believe the Father wants you to know..." / "Please test this and take it to the Lord."
5. Invite words to be tested
6. Minister under authority and within community
7. Speak to build up, encourage, and comfort
8. Steward what God gives – no more, no less
9. Follow up with prayer

What We Avoid

1. We do not use prophecy to manipulate, control, or coerce
2. We do not prophesy out of personal agenda
3. We do not give unsolicited directional words about major life decisions
4. We do not use fear, shame, or condemnation
5. We do not casually claim absolute divine authority for our words
6. We do not prophesy dates of death, curses, or doom over individuals
7. We do not minister in isolation without accountability
8. We do not make people dependent on us – we point people to Jesus

How to Deliver a Prophetic Word — Seven Steps

1. Prepare your heart (pray, check motives, confirm peace)
2. Get permission ("May I share something I believe the Lord is saying?")
3. Use humble language ("I sense..." not "God told me to tell you...")
4. Deliver clearly (measured pace, focused, no filler)
5. Stop when finished ("That is all I have")
6. Invite confirmation ("Does this resonate with you?")
7. Offer to pray (close with a brief prayer)

 **Key Principle:** Separate revelation (what you received) from interpretation (what you think it means) from application (what the person should do). You are responsible for the first. The second invites humility. The third usually belongs to the Holy Spirit and pastoral leadership.

Part B: Common Biblical Symbols

Symbol	Common Biblical Meaning	Scripture
Water	Holy Spirit; Word of God; cleansing	John 7:38-39; Ephesians 5:26
Fire	Presence of God; Holy Spirit; purification	Exodus 3:2; Acts 2:3
Trees	People; growth; fruitfulness	Psalms 1:3
Mountains	God's presence; kingdoms; stability	Exodus 19; Daniel 2:35
Eagle	Prophetic vision; renewal; strength	Isaiah 40:31
Lion	Jesus as King; authority; courage	Revelation 5:5
Dove	Holy Spirit; peace; gentleness	Matthew 3:16
Lamb	Jesus; sacrifice; innocence	John 1:29
Door	Opportunity; access; transition	Revelation 3:8
Key	Authority; access	Matthew 16:19
Bread	Word of God; Jesus; provision	John 6:35
Oil	Holy Spirit; anointing; healing	1 Samuel 16:13
Seeds	Word of God; potential; faith	Luke 8:11

Colors: Gold (glory, refinement), White (purity, holiness), Red (blood of Christ, sacrifice), Blue (heavenly revelation), Purple (royalty, authority), Green (life, growth)

Numbers: 3 (Trinity, completeness), 7 (completion, rest), 12 (government, foundation), 40 (testing, transition)

Interpretation Principles

1. Scripture first
2. Context matters
3. Ask the Holy Spirit
4. Ask the recipient
5. When unsure, wait

Practice Exercises

Exercise 1: Listening Prayer

What I received during listening prayer:

Exercise 2: Partner Practice

What I shared with my partner:

What my partner shared with me:

Reflection

Personal Notes – Session Three:

CLOSING WORDS

- Character before gifting. Always.
- Love before words. Always.
- Humility before ministry. Always.
- The secret place before the public space. Always.

From the Fathers of Faith

Smith Wigglesworth: "God has a plan for every life, and when we yield ourselves to Him and His will, we are of the greatest importance to the Lord."

Andrew Murray: "God is ready to assume full responsibility for the life wholly yielded to Him."

Corrie ten Boom: "Every experience God gives us, every person He puts in our lives, is the perfect preparation for a future that only He can see."

COMMISSIONING BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24-26 (NKJV)

"The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face shine upon you, and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up His countenance upon you, and give you peace."

Go in the peace and power of the Holy Spirit, beloved. The Father's voice goes with you.

PERSONAL JOURNAL PAGES

Date: _____

What I heard from the Lord today:

Scriptures the Holy Spirit highlighted:

Areas of growth the Father is inviting me into:

People I am praying for and words I am stewarding:

A Letter to You, Child of God

Dear one,

The Spirit is stirring in you and you are not imagining it. You stand in a long line of saints who carried this same fire.

Irenaeus testified that *"many brethren in the Church have prophetic gifts, and through the Spirit bring to light the hidden things of men and declare the mysteries of God."* This was the normal life of the early Church. It is your inheritance too.

Chrysostom taught that *"prophecy is not merely the telling of things to come, but also the revealing of things present — things hidden from men, disclosed."* Sometimes God gives you eyes to see what no one else can see. That is His gift working in you.

Gregory the Great said, *"The Spirit of prophecy does not always illuminate the minds of the prophets. As the Holy Spirit breathes where He wills, so He illumines when He wills."* The quiet days do not mean He has left you. His timing is perfect.

This gift flows through you but it is not for you alone. Catherine of Siena heard the Father say, *"I will send them the spirit of prophecy, not for their own consolation only, but for the building up of the body of My Church, for the good of souls."* You are a vessel carrying living water to thirsty people.

Hildegard of Bingen, one of the most powerful prophetic voices in history, called herself *"a poor little figure of a woman"* and said, *"The words I speak are not my own. I merely recount what I received in a heavenly vision."* Heaven poured through her because she stayed low. God does not need your strength. He needs your surrender.

Teresa of Ávila knew visions and locutions firsthand and left us this anchor: *"The true test of any prophecy or revelation is whether it leads the soul to greater humility, greater obedience, and greater charity."* If it makes you more like Jesus, receive it and walk in it boldly.

Thomas Aquinas bowed before this truth: *"The prophet's mind is moved by the Holy Spirit as an instrument by its principal cause, enlightened by God to know things that surpass natural knowledge."* You do not need to be clever. You need only a yielded heart. He does the rest.

John of the Cross warned lovingly: *"God gives visions, revelations, and locutions for the purpose of teaching the soul, but the soul must not dwell on their outward form — seek only the spirit and the fruit they bear."* Chase the fruit, not the feeling. Chase His face, not just His hand.

Abba Antony said, *"Through love the Spirit grants what is needed — at times a word of knowledge, at times a word of prophecy — always for the building up of the brethren."* Love is the soil. Prophecy is the seed. Edification is the harvest.

Basil the Great reminds you of what is yours right now: *"Through the Holy Spirit comes our restoration to paradise, our confidence in prayer, and the distribution of spiritual gifts — one receives the word of wisdom, another the gift of prophecy."* It is yours because He is generous.

Be humble. Be faithful. Be loving. Be patient. Be brave.

The same Spirit who spoke through prophets and apostles, through desert fathers and cloistered mothers across two thousand years lives in you right now.

You are seen. You are called. You are not alone.

Trust Him.

"If you have a heart, you can be saved. And if God opens the ear of that heart, you will hear things that the learned of this world cannot perceive." — Abba Pambo