

**SERIES: God's Dream Team**  
**Message: Let Your Love Be Genuine!**  
**The Functional Gift of Prophecy**

**Text: Romans 12: 6, 9**

*"Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith ... 9 Let your love be genuine. Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good."*

**You have a gift to share! 1 Corinthians 12:7** *"To every Christian is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good."*

**I. CASE STUDY OF A N.T. PERSON WITH THIS GIFT: PETER**

Acts Chapters 1-10, I and II Peter

**A. What does a Prophet Proclaim?**

- 1) The INCARNATION
- 2) The CRUCIFIXION
- 3) The RESURRECTION
- 4) WITNESSING
- 5) The HOLY SPIRIT

**B. God's Required Response From the People: (Acts 2:38)**

REPENT and be BAPTIZED!

**C. God's Promise to Those Who Properly Respond: (Acts 2:39)**

**"You too shall receive the GIFT of the HOLY SPIRIT!"**

**II. 12 DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS OF A PERSON WITH THE FUNCTIONAL GIFT OF PROPHECY**

1. Is able to VERBALIZE the basic points of our faith in clear, concise words and phrases.
2. Is almost without FEAR and possesses a new BOLDNESS and frankness.
3. Their talk is STRAIGHT, their standards are STRICT.
4. Repeatedly uses SCRIPTURE to validate the truth.
5. Has the ability to DISCERN the evil character and motives of others.

6. Also has the ability to pinpoint, identify and define that evil.

7. Has a burning desire to break the SELF-WILL of others.

8. Insists upon listeners giving some kind of outward EVIDENCE of their acceptance of the truth proclaimed.

9. In exercising the other ministerial gifts, does it in the same bold and frank way.

10. A prophet almost totally ignores the CRITICISM of others. He is very thick skinned.

11. He is almost totally UNAWARE of the personal feelings and needs of others.

12. At times appears downright "HARDHEADED", and will compromise with no one.

**III. THE COMMON DANGER TO ALL WHO HAVE THE GIFT OF PROPHECY:**

Being PROPOSITIONAL, rather than RELATIONAL.  
For example, Great talker, poor listener ...

**IV. GOD'S ANSWER FOR THIS DANGER: Romans 12:9**

**"LET YOUR LOVE BE GENUINE!"**

**Point:** Unless the boldness and frankness and insensitivity of a person with the functional gifts of prophecy is tempered with the love of Jesus Christ, he/she will do more harm than good! But when this person does learn to temper his/her proclamation of the Gospel with love, he/she is God's most powerful weapon against evil and for good.

**1 Corinthians 13: 1-2** *"If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers and understand all mysteries and all knowledge and if I have all faith so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing!"*

**CLOSE: Quo Vadis?**