



The Mystery of the Word of Knowledge

INTRO:

Does God really know everything? God speaks in so many different ways, but does He speak clearly? So many of the times He spoke in the Bible it was by parables and mysteries. Jesus often spoke through stories. But there were also times when He spoke in specifics like names and information. He often used words of knowledge so people would know that He knew about them and who they were. It became a game changer.

“Pursue love, and desire spiritual gifts, but especially that you many prophesy” (1 Cor. 14:1).

This is one of the least understood or practiced of all the spiritual gifts. Words of knowledge help us to understand times and seasons. It shows you what God is doing for that person right now. Words of knowledge have been important throughout history and throughout the Bible.

TEACHING 1

- Words of knowledge today are mostly seen with the healing gifts.
- A word of knowledge causes awe in God, and helps someone to connect with God wherever they presently are.
- Words of knowledge help us understand what God’s desire is and His original thoughts for us that we are just catching up to now.
- Some words of knowledge go back into our past and reinterpret it. For instance, you might get God’s view on something as simple as a job opportunity or as complicated as a relationship issue that you had years before. God reveals to you what He was doing in that situation for you.
- Words of knowledge bring us to a place that reveals how massive his love is for us.

TEACHING 2

- Words of knowledge are an exceptional gift for all of us.
 - Especially for those who don’t know God. (Read 1 Cor. 14:24–25.)
 - They also can prepare our hearts for prophetic words.

- There's a difference between words of knowledge and discernment.
 - Discernment is when we get a spiritual feeling or inclination about someone or something, and it is a conversation starter with God. It's not the end result or prophecy; it's usually a feeling about something negative or positive that's happening in the world and you start getting a spiritual understanding about it. As a Christian, we're constantly discerning good and evil or the intentions of someone's heart.
 - A prophecy is when God tells you about what you're discerning. For years, many people have been using discernment without prophesy. Or they haven't taken it to that extra step to find out what God is saying about that discernment. This is very different from words of knowledge because a word of knowledge is God actually speaking right now something about a person's life relevant to the encouragement, edification and comfort of that person.
 - In 1 Cor. 13, when it describes these gifts, it's always for the love, building up and for that person to feel like God is here.
 - We need to ask God for words of knowledge so that no matter where we are, we can look at somebody and think, he has a son, or he has a daughter and then get spiritual information about them because God loves their love for their child so much that He wants to affirm them as a parent. These are the kind of moments that create an eternity in someone's heart.

TEACHING 3

- The process of getting a word of knowledge is different with everyone. It's a very creative process.
 - Prophecy develops as we increase our intimacy with God.
- We can also glean from each other's processes.
- Here are some of Shawn's processes:
 - Shawn spent a lot of time getting trained and equipped.
 - He hears God in his heart, but also gets downloads to his mind.
 - Impressions—where you just know some kind of information somewhere inside of you about somebody.
 - ◇ Because it is one of the most common ways we hear, it almost sounds like the voice of our own conscience. We have to learn to distinguish it from our own thoughts.
 - You will develop your own language to deliver a word of knowledge. Shawn uses comfortable questions because he doesn't always know if he's right. But you must be willing to take risks.
 - Sometimes people are more comfortable with something more absolute such as, "God told me ..."

- Until you get comfortable with your own process, it is hard to know if it is God speaking.
- The less you know about prophesy the more faith it's going to require.
- The more comfortable you get with hearing from God; he makes it a bit more challenging so that we always need to have faith. He always requires faith.
- Sometimes Shawn gets a word association. Be aware that God is trying to speak to you a lot.
- The more time we spend with Him and learn how He speaks to us, the more we will see the fruit of it in our lives.
- Sit down with God and pray; writing down everything you think might be a word of knowledge. Keep a record because you might not meet these people till much later.
- Words of knowledge make amazing things happen in your life. (Read Proverbs 18:16)
 - Shawn's gift has taken him all around the world.
 - He is an example of what's available for us.
 - God wants to bring radical words of knowledge to your life.
 - Practice getting these words and give yourself permission to make mistakes. And take responsibility if you miss it.