

The Gift of Prophecy

Speaking God's Truth with Grace | Romans 12:6

Understand the Gift

Main idea: God gives the gift of prophecy to proclaim and apply His revealed Word for the good of His people. It must be exercised faithfully, humbly, and in dependence on the Holy Spirit.

1. Its nature: communicate the Word entrusted to us. This message distinguishes the revelatory ministry of biblical prophets from the continuing proclamation of Scripture. God equips people to explain and apply the truth He has already given. Aaron's role as Moses' spokesman illustrates the responsibility to deliver an entrusted message faithfully (Exodus 4:10-16; 7:1).

2. Its purpose: help people respond to God. First Corinthians 14:3 describes upbuilding, encouragement, and consolation. Verses 24-25 also show God's truth exposing sin and drawing an unbeliever to worship. Faithful ministry strengthens the discouraged and confronts what needs to change. After hearing the Word, consider what God calls you to believe, confess, or obey.

3. Its standard: faithfulness to Scripture. The sermon understands 'in proportion to our faith' as agreement with the faith entrusted to God's people. A speaker's confidence or popularity cannot establish that a message is true. Those who speak in God's name must be accountable to His Word (Romans 12:6; Jude 3).

Learn from Peter

Peter proclaimed Christ boldly, acknowledged his own sin, needed correction, and continued serving through opposition (Acts 2:22-24; Luke 5:8; Mark 8:31-33; Acts 5:40-42). His life illustrates both useful strengths and failures requiring grace. Strong convictions need humility; these examples are not a personality test for identifying a gift.

Discern How You Are Serving

The sermon warns against quick judgments, harshness, withholding forgiveness, and exposing failure without seeking restoration. A gift received by grace must be used with grace, in the Spirit's strength (Ephesians 5:18).

Grace-shaped service	Misuse to recognize
Accountable to Scripture	Treating personal opinions as authority
Seeking restoration and growth	Exposing failure to prove a point
Listening and receiving correction	Assuming motives and insisting on control

Key Quotes from the Message

“Aaron wasn't responsible for inventing the message. His responsibility was to communicate faithfully the message that God had entrusted to him.”

“So church, never confuse a gifted communicator with a faithful proclaimer. Never confuse a tremendous speaking ability with speaking the truth.”

“Be willing to correct others, but also be equally willing to receive correction yourself.”

Reflect & Respond

Where am I treating an assumption as biblical truth? When I correct someone, what outcome am I seeking? What truth have I heard that I still need to put into practice?

Two Ways to Put This into Practice

Receive the Word. Revisit Romans 12:6 and 1 Corinthians 14:3. Name one response: a sin to confess, a promise to trust, a command to obey, or a person to encourage. Ask God to help you follow through.

Prepare one gracious conversation. Before offering correction, listen, examine your own heart, and identify what Scripture actually says. Seek the person's growth and remain willing to receive correction yourself (Ephesians 4:15; Galatians 6:1).

Prayer

Father, thank You for Your Word and for saving grace in Jesus Christ. Give us teachable hearts, faithful words, and compassion for one another. Fill us with Your Spirit so that we receive Your truth humbly and use what You have given us to build up Your people. Amen.

Continue with Useful by Grace • Living in View of God's Mercy