

Hearing God While Praying for Others



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Welcome

As a person involved in the healing ministry of the Spirit for a few years, I am blessed to spend time with fellow prayer ministers who are in the same ministry.

The healing ministry of Jesus is rolling out perhaps more so today than at any other time. You and I have been called into this continuous mission and are privileged to participate in things that angels long to see (1 Peter 1:12).

It is my prayer that you will be refreshed, cleansed, empowered, and filled with the Spirit this day - and that our time together will further focus God's purpose and pleasure over your life, and deepen your call to the community of Faith in which you are called to serve.

Fr. Bill

I First Things First



The "Musts" of a Prayer Minister

If you believe you are called to expand Kingdom ministry to others (both Christian and non-Christian), or if you are currently involved in his ministry, here are a few "musts" to consider as a prayer minister:

- ✦ You must be in **UNITY** with the leadership and/or pastoral oversight of your church.
 - ✦ *I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.*
Ephesians 4:1-3
- ✦ You must be able to see the worst in other people without once ounce of **JUDGEMENT**.
 - ✦ *Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful.* Colossians 3:12-15
- ✦ You must be **COGNIZANT** of your role during ministry. Are you a friend, a counselor, a psychiatrist, a buddy? On your team (assuming you are praying in pairs), are you the leader or co-leader? This has everything to do with your role in the prayer session.
- ✦ You must be committed to the **PACE** of the ministry.
- ✦ You must be **GIFTED** spiritually, skilled, and in the ongoing process of personal sanctification.

✦ You must be sold out to the Lord's **AGENDA** when doing ministry.

✦ *Jesus gave them this answer: "Very truly I tell you, the Son can do nothing by himself; he can do only what he sees his Father doing, because whatever the Father does the Son also does.*

John 5:19

✦ *I don't speak on my own authority. The Father who sent me has commanded me what to say and how to say it.*

John 12:49 (NLV)

The Anointing God Gave to Jesus and Essentially ... To Us

As extenders of the ministry of Jesus, our ministry is best as we *choose* to integrate our life and ministry with life and ministry of Jesus - under the anointing God gave to him. We believe that Jesus is doing the same things today as he was doing 2000 years ago. And, since we are the Body of Christ, he is using us to carry it through. In other words, what's good for Jesus, is good for us because we are in him.

This is what Jesus was (and is - through us) was/is anointed to do.

*The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to **preach** the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to **heal** the brokenhearted, to preach **deliverance** to the captives, and **recovering** of sight to the blind, to set at **liberty** them that are bruised,*

To preach the acceptable year of the Lord.

Luke 4:18-19



What Healing Looks Like

Any one of these things may be happening under your hands as you're praying for others:

- ✦ Salvation - ultimate healing!
- ✦ Filling with the Spirit
- ✦ Anointing
- ✦ Spiritual healing - curses, deliverance, etc.
- ✦ Physical - from toes to cancer
- ✦ Emotional - wounds from the past, addictions, etc.

God may be doing all of these, one of these, or none of these in the person you are praying for. It doesn't have to be a guessing game. This is where the Holy Spirit comes, who reveals the Father's will.

How Does God Speak to YOU?

Think for a bit on the ways God has spoken to you in the past.

While doing ministry the Spirit usually reveals himself in ways that we already understand, or have been wired to understand.

If a person is more "left-brained" (i.e. analytical, concise, logical, ordered) he or she may hear the Lord best through clarity of thinking, or suddenly develop a pristine understanding of the situation or person. When seeking what the Father is doing, a "left-brained" person will want to ask oneself, *What am I thinking? What thoughts are emerging in my head that weren't there before we began praying?*

If a person is more "right-brained" (i.e. touchy/feely, emotional, visual, intuitive-driven) he or she may hear the Lord best through sensations (such as heat, peace, pain, and visions). When seeking what the Father is doing, a "right-brained" person may need to step back and ask oneself, *What am I feeling? What sensations am I physically experiencing, or what images am I seeing in my spirit, that weren't there before we began praying?*

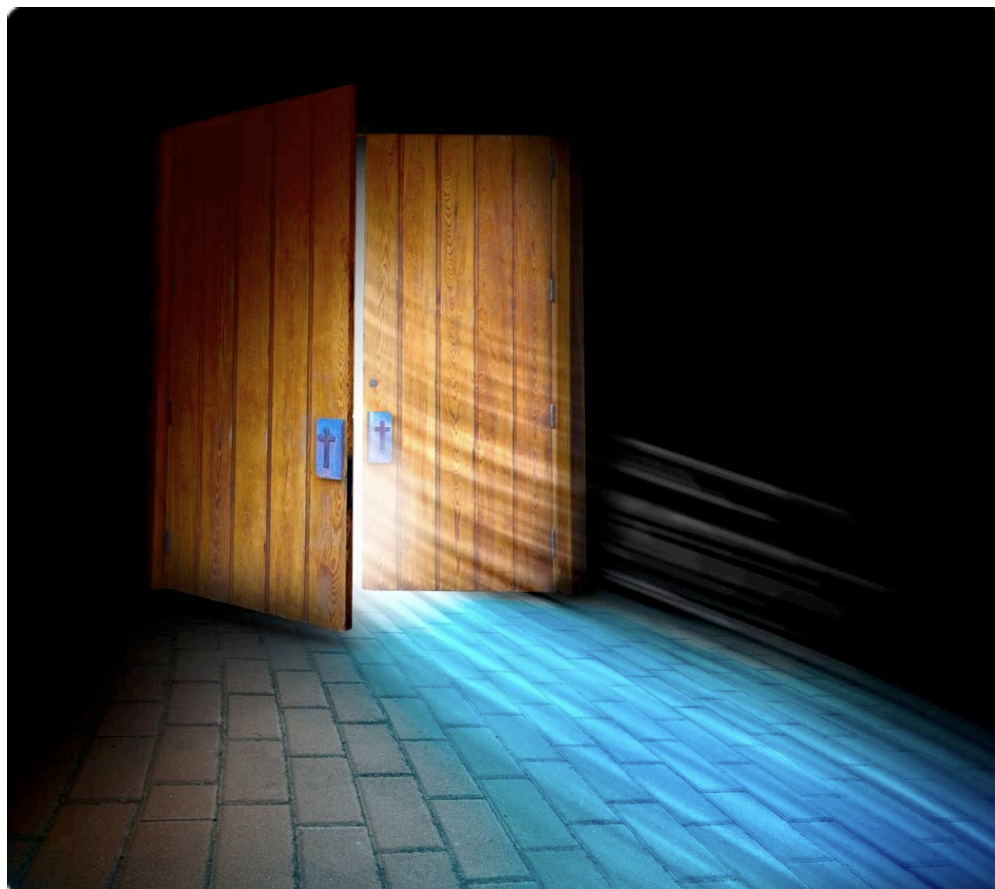
When a person "gets" the way God usually speaks to them and through them to others, a gentle confidence will settle on the prayer minister, which will lend ease to the person, or people, being prayed for.

Hint: God often mixes things up in the way he speaks. Oftentimes he will give you only a portion of what he is doing - which will have you rely on him more so in faith, and be in touch with your teammate, and even the person for whom you're praying with.



II

Revelatory Glimpses of Glory



Prayer ministry rides on God's agenda, the Gifts of the Spirit (especially the revelatory gifts) are crucial. A question every prayer minister needs to be asking is:

"What are you doing here, Lord?"

Things are not always what they seem. Revelation will help you cut to the quick. When a person is sharing their "situation," hold on loosely. Too tight a focus may distract you hearing the Spirit. Too loose a focus may disconnect you from what is being said.

When listening point one ear to heaven, and the other to the person before you.

Revelational Words Defined

A supernatural revelation of facts about a person or situation, which is not learned through the efforts of the natural mind, a fragment of knowledge freely given by God, disclosing the truth which the Spirit wishes to be made, or is highlighting as you pray.

Examples. These are ways wherein God can guide the ministry session into his agenda. Here are a few:

- ✦ Picture
- ✦ A word, or a picture of a word
- ✦ A pain
- ✦ A Bible verses coming to mind
- ✦ A movie scene (i.e. Tarzan)
- ✦ A knowing in your knower
- ✦ A memory
- ✦ A vision
- ✦ "Whisps" or "afterflashes" - many times what we're seeing is an incomplete picture which takes faith and prayer to unpack
- ✦ Feelings of.... about the situation (could be intercession - a revealing of God's heart in the situation)
- ✦ Song lyrics (even songs from the British Invasion)
- ✦ A sudden understanding about the situation
- ✦ Others:



Sharing What God is Sharing

When people come to you for prayer, it takes guts (and a little risky vulnerability, too!). To them, you are the expert. You are the ones through whom God will speak to them. Your presence alone implies spiritual authority.

Much harm has been done "in the Name of Jesus" - most of it unintentional. It is our prerogative to share any "words" we may get in love, selfless compassion, and tenderness. Here are some other things to keep in mind when sharing revelational words:

- ✦ Share **GENTLY** and **HUMBLY**. You may be wrong. Many of us have been spiritually abused by people we've opened our hearts to.
- ✦ Don't get "spiritual." Use your own voice, you're own language, and your transparent true self.
- ✦ Don't make the sharing about you.
- ✦ Don't try to spin the word to make it right if it's not right.

Red Flags



Not everything in your head is from God. Hearing God can be very subjective. We are told to test the spirits (1 John 4:1). Not everything we think is from God is from God. First and foremost, revelation needs to fall in line with the trajectory of Scripture. Secondly, when - and if - shared, it will usually hit home, or be confirmed among those in the prayer circle (but not always).

Open the Eyes of My Heart, Lord. Oftentimes we short circuit ministry by not recognizing revelatory words, hearing them but immediately discounting them, or by even refusing to believe them.

When Theology Flies in the Face of God. *Additionally, way we discount what we're hearing by using our own theology against him as an argument for not acting out on what he's telling us to do or say (like Peter in Acts 10:9-16).*

Myths of Ministry

Myth: God is always speaking and has a word for all the people I pray with.

Fact: It's true that God is always speaking, but he isn't obligated to give you a word for everyone you pray with. Sometimes he is silent. (And sometimes in those silent places is where the best ministry happens.) If he's not speaking, he's not speaking. Plain and simple.

Myth: I need to be a week without sin in order for God to give me a word of knowledge for someone.

Fact: Good luck with that. While we need to have clean slates and be walking in the light of the Gospel, these things are not a prerequisite for hearing God. He is bigger than our sin and can even use a donkey to get his word out. When seeking words of knowledge, our faith doesn't lie in our ability to hear God (or any other thing we have to do). It lies in God's ability to speak.

Myth: I can never do this stuff. I've never been trained. I've never been to seminary. I'm not good enough. And who am I to share words of healing to others when I have so much stuff in me that needs to be healed?

Fact: If you have the Holy Spirit in you, you can do the stuff. That's all it takes. Say it with me, *That's all it takes. Here's a verse to prove it:*

When they saw the courage of Peter and John and realized that they were unschooled, ordinary men, they were astonished and they took note that these men had been with Jesus.
Acts 4:5-13

Lessons From the Laver



Before and after engaging ministry for the sake of others, the Priests of the Hebrew Scriptures were instructed to wash at the Laver.

The brass Laver was a ministry station in the Outer Courts of the Tabernacle of Moses, the First Temple (of which there were 12 of them), and other worship spaces of old.

The Laver in Moses' tabernacle was a free-standing ministry station. (It's dimensions remain unknown.) It was made of brass and formed to be filled with water. The interior of the Laver was lined with looking glasses - which no doubt created a prismatic atmosphere to any priest who was to wash his hands and face. The looking glasses (or mirrors) also served to reveal to the priest exactly where the water needed to be appropriated, where cleansing needed to happen.

In short (and speaking prophetically), the Brass Laver was a place where the priests were:

- **CLEANSED** from the residue of ministry
- **REFRESHED** in God's call for their life
- **EMPOWERED** to do it again (the next day!)

The waters that flow in the Laver speak to the washing of water through the Word of God (Jesus) - also to the Holy Spirit, who anoints us and reveals the love of the Father to us.

It is always recommended to get some "Laver time" after doing ministry. This can be done as a prayer of thanksgiving for the ministry you were involved in, a prayer of protection against the devil who absolutely hates work done on behalf of God's expanding Kingdom, or just a short rededication to Jesus as your Master Rabbi.

A Prayer Model

The following prayer is adapted by Fr. Francis MacNutt and is recommended for all who have been engaged in ministry.

Lord Jesus, thank You for sharing with us Your wonderful ministry of healing and deliverance. Thank You for the healings that we have seen and experienced today.

We realize that the sickness and evil that we often encounter are more than our humanity can bear. So cleanse us from any sadness, negativity or despair that we may have picked up.

Please sever any ungodly soul ties that may have been built and strengthen all godly soul ties.

If our ministry has tempted us to anger, impatience, lust or judgment of others, cleanse us of those temptations and replace them with love, joy, peace and unity. If any evil spirits have attached themselves to us or oppress us in any way, we command you to depart now and go straight to Jesus Christ, for Him to deal with as He will.

Come, Holy Spirit, renew us, fill us anew with Your power, love and joy. Strengthen us where we have felt weak and clothe us with Your light. Fill us with life.

And, Lord Jesus, please send Your holy angels to minister to us and to our families, and to guard and protect us from all sickness, harm and accidents. Guard us on a safe trip home and grant us a peaceful night's rest.

*We praise You now and forever, most wonderful Father, Son and Holy Spirit.! **Amen!***





For more information on the teachings and music from Rev. Bill Blomquist visit his website
www.blomquistian.com