



Preach Like a Lady



Module 2

The Call & Beginning Steps

Finding Light on the First Steps
of Your Ministry Path

Unit 2

DREAMS, VISIONS & FINDING GOD'S WILL

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DREAMS, VISIONS & FINDING GOD'S WILL

But rise and stand on your feet; for I have appeared to you for this purpose, to make you a minister and a witness both of the things which you have seen and of the things which I will yet reveal to you.

Acts 26:16, NKJV

NOTES

LESSON 1: DREAMS AND VISIONS

One of the most well known passages on dreams and visions is found in the Old Testament in the book of Joel. Long before its fulfillment, the prophet foretold what God had in mind for his people.

And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions: And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my spirit.

—Joel 2:28–29

Gifts and ministry that in Old Testament days had been given to select prophets would one day be given to all believers. Jews and Gentiles, men and women, young and old would personally receive the Spirit of God and speak prophetic words.

To be clear, however, prophesying was not an exclusively male activity. In the Old Testament era, **women did prophesy**, and Miriam, Deborah, and Huldah were specifically identified as prophets. What would be new was that the experience would one day be available to every believer. It wouldn't matter if a person was young or old, rich or a servant, male or female. The Lord said in the last days his people would receive his Spirit, and when they did, they would prophesy, dream dreams, and see visions.



⇒ Throughout time God has spoken to select men and women through dreams and visions, but the opportunity **became available to every believer on the day of Pentecost.**

On the day of Pentecost, the people of Jerusalem thought the Christ-followers were drunk, but Peter spoke to them, and when he did, he quoted Joel:

These are not drunken, as ye suppose, seeing it is but the third hour of the day. But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel; And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams.

—Acts 2:15–17

⇒ As a Spirit-filled believer, you can expect to hear from God any time, any moment, in any place.

HOW DREAMS AND VISIONS COME

Before people prophesy, God first impresses dreams, visions, or words into their minds. These divine communications impart knowledge or the will of God



the prophet speaks forth on behalf of God. Prophetic dreams, visions, and words can come when believers are asleep or awake.


The terms “dreams” and “visions” are sometimes used interchangeably. Dreams certainly do include “night visions” received while a person sleeps, but they are not limited to them. A prophetic dream or vision is **an image or idea that originated with God**. This can

be a word or foretelling of some event meant to be delivered to the church by God’s spokesperson, but it can also be a personal dream—God’s desired direction for an individual’s life.

God gives prophetic dreams and visions to his people to build and guide his church as a whole, but also to direct individuals. He causes people to see and feel things that inspire them to speak and act according to his direction.

Spiritual dreams and visions can come to you while you sleep, worship, pray, or meditate on the things of God. They are more than images in your mind. They are perceptions or revelations that come as:

- **pictures** in your mind
- **oracles** (sayings or commandments) or
- **prophecies** (telling things in advance).



For our discussion, both words—“dreams” and “visions”—refer to the revealed plan of God, and specifically his will for your life.

⇒ God has a dream for your life. Dream it with him.

Whatever method the Lord uses to impart a divine communication to you, that perception, revelation, or picture is your dream—and your vision for future action.