

SCHOOL OF
PROPHETS
AOTEAROA



Receiving an anchoring

WORD FROM GOD

In times of need, let God strengthen and encourage you
with a personal word from His heart to yours.

LYN PACKER

A note from Lyn

Hi, I'm Lyn Packer and I lead the School of Prophets Aotearoa.

In life you can face hard times and you need a word from the Lord to sustain and strengthen you. Or maybe it's the beginning of a new year and you want a word that gives you a firm foundation as you enter the year. Either way, what I share in this guide will show you how you can receive a word from God that becomes a sure foundation that anchors you firmly to His love and grace.

There is nothing like hearing God for yourself, and for me, personally, the time I spend with Him over my holiday is especially precious. During that time in early January I usually ask the Lord for a word for the coming year. Over the years the words He has given me have been an anchor of hope and promise, in good times and hard.

Jesus is our hope and anchor who will keep us in the midst of storms. He is the one who is able to keep us steadfast and unmovable in spite of the things life brings our way.



Heb 6:19 declares, *“Hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast...”*

Receiving words from the Lord that give us promise and hope are both a foundation that anchors us when storms threaten to toss us around, and a framework that we can build upon. They counteract the fear that the enemy of our souls would seek to bring around us in hard times.

I pray that you'll find this guide helpful, and that the revelation you receive from the Lord will feed your spirit and soul all year long.

Bless you heaps

Lyn

LET'S DO IT!



AN INVITATION TO DISCOVERY

God is relational, and when He speaks words of encouragement or destiny over our lives they come as an invitation – one that invites us into a journey of discovery and fulfilment.

It's great to receive a prophetic word through another person, but that should never be seen as a substitute for hearing the Lord for ourselves.

There are many ways that the Lord can communicate with us. The following isn't an exhaustive list, just a few of the most common ways He communicates.

- Through Scripture.
- Through personally speaking to you in your heart and mind – this is known as the still small voice of God.
- Seeing a picture with your mind's eye, or seeing a vision.
- In a dream.
- Something someone says to you.

There are a whole lot of other ways that God communicates to us as well, and no one way of hearing, or receiving revelation, is better or more spiritual than another; they are simply different ways to receive. All revelation from the Lord is an invitation from Him to you, to enter a journey of discovery and relational interaction with Him. So don't be surprised if the word He gives you needs some discussing and unpacking with Him over a period of time.



RECEIVING A WORD

So how do you get an anchor word from the Lord, and what do you do with it once you've received it?

Ask – Ask the Lord to show you His heart and His intentions for you, and believe that He will do so. James says that we have not because we ask not (James 4:2), and John tells us in chapter 16: 23 that if we ask in Jesus' name we will receive.

Look and listen – Revelation can come in any of the ways we mentioned earlier. The Lord may speak to you personally, or through someone else. Sometimes He may share one single word with you, and other times it might be a phrase, a verse from the Bible, or even the words of a song.

Sometimes He has spoken into my heart a single word, such as "trust"; at other times it's been a phrase. Sometimes it's been a Scripture, or a picture in my mind's eye. (I love the variety in the ways God communicates. He is so creative, never boring; He doesn't just stick to one way of speaking.)



Remember that the length of the prophetic word isn't an indicator of its importance. Sometimes the Lord will deliberately say very little, because He is inviting you to ask Him more about what He has said.

In my life over the years these words have been journeys of discovery and growth, as I've learnt the meaning of them in a deeper way, and they have worked themselves into the fabric of my life. They have steadied me and kept me in a place of feeling safely held when storms and circumstances came against me. They have also played out in all areas of life – spiritual, emotional, relational etc. – and have become a major focus of the Lord in my life.

Journal – Keeping a record of what God says to you is wise, and it means that you can look back and be reminded of His faithfulness time and time again.

Journal what the Lord shares with you as you spend this time with Him, but also leave space in your journal to add more as He unfolds it further over time.

You can journal just with words, or you can add pictures, journaling it in art form. Or you can do a vision board where you write the word in the centre of the board and add words and pictures to it as the Lord reveals things over time that add to the fullness of understanding you're growing into. Hang your vision board in a place where you'll see it often.

Test it – Weigh what you received, make sure that what you heard is actually God speaking to you. Test it against God’s nature and His character, especially as shown in Christ, because He was God in the flesh.

Test it against His heart for mankind as revealed in Scripture. Is it encouraging, and does it build you up? (1 Cor 14:3,4). Eph 1:3-5 says, *“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed (spoken good things over us) us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ...”*

God is continually dreaming of possibilities for blessing you. He is speaking good things over your life, many good things, and He plans to make them manifest in your life for two main reasons – to bless you, and to make you a blessing to others.

Ask for insight and understanding – Ask the Lord to give you insight and understanding into that word, and what His purpose is in giving it to you. Remember, all revelation is an invitation to a journey of discovery and relational interaction with the Lord. This understanding may not all be revealed at once, but may come over a period of time.

After hearing the Lord speak, I start to ask Him questions about what that revelation will mean for my life...

- What work (character and faith-wise) do You want to do in me?
- Who do You want to be to me?
- What do You want to reveal to me about Yourself, or Your Kingdom?

I try not to make assumptions that I know what the Lord is meaning; asking questions to gain clarity is wise. Often the meaning of the word, and how it applies to your life, doesn't become clear until you do some processing and discuss it with the Lord.



Write a declaration, or crafted prayer – Use the insights gained in that conversation to write a declaration that you can speak over your life, or write a crafted prayer. This will help you discover even more of the treasure hidden in the word.

For example, a word the Lord gave me one year was 'listen'. As you can imagine, that needed me to ask the Lord some questions to gain a deeper understanding and clarity. I felt that He was inviting me into a deeper place of listening – to Him, to others, and even to nature; to go beyond just listening to the words and sounds around me to hearing the heart and the call, or cry, beyond the words spoken. So I turned that clarity and understanding into both a declaration and a crafted prayer.

As a declaration – *"I am called to 'listen', to hear beyond the words said, to hear the heart of God, those around me, and even nature itself. This sensitivity will increase my prophetic capacity and understanding of the heart of God for this work and its people. As a result, I will declare the heart and word of the Lord with greater compassion and understanding."*

As a crafted prayer – *"Lord I commit myself to listen. Draw me through Your lovingkindness to a deeper place of communion with You. Give me the ability to hear beyond the words people say, to hear their heart. Increase my understanding of the cry of all creation as it longs for the revealing of the sons of God, and as it suffers under the dysfunctional relationship we've had with it. Give me wisdom to know what my part is in the restoration of all things back to You – both mankind and nature. Teach me how to be sensitive and aware of Your drawing and nudges."*

([Here's a good article by Graham Cooke on crafted prayer](#))



Feel free to share it with trustworthy people –

Consider sharing what the Lord showed you with a couple of people you trust, and ask them to help you remember it and encourage you with it when needed throughout the year.

Look back over it – During the year, and at the end of the year, look back over what that word has meant to you. Review your journal or vision board, celebrate what the Lord has done, and thank Him for all you've been through and have learnt.



IN FINISHING

God's goodness and mercy are actively pursuing you in order to bless you – that's what Psa 23 tells us.

And... He wants your year to be crowned with His goodness and provision (Psa 65:11).

I pray that as you spend time waiting on the Lord, He will fill your life continually with an increasing revelation of that goodness.

Arohanui - much love

Lyn

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Thank you

For allowing me to walk alongside
you in your growth journey.