

# Are You Praying in the Language of Faith?

The Flathead Electric Co-op Annual Meeting is not a really fun place to spend an entire Saturday morning, but that is where my daughter and I trudged off to at 8:30 last Saturday. They were doing a drawing at the very end of the meeting for two \$500 scholarships for graduating seniors, and we figured it was worth a few hours of our time to take a chance on her winning one of those.

For the entire meeting I kept looking at the last line on the program that said "drawing for scholarships." We had seen about a dozen cards in the drawing box, so we felt the odds were good for her to win.

I remembered what I heard a woman say before she played a game once.

"My strategy is to pray for luck," she said.

And I thought, "*Do prayer and luck go together?*"

Should I pray for my daughter to be lucky in this drawing? *Do God and odds mesh?*

In Isaiah 48:17 God says:

*Thus says the Lord, your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel: I am the Lord your God, who teaches you to profit, who leads you in the way you should go.*

In the end, Jayme didn't win the scholarship, although she received a beautifully engraved pie server that says Flathead Electric on it. I'm sure this will become a family heirloom.

On the way home I told her, "It would be a really, really

depressing life if all we had was luck. Just beating the odds by chance. Very depressing.”

But we have God.

## GOD DIRECTS.

Luck is random.

GOD DOES WHAT IS BEST FOR YOU.

Chance isn't a someone who cares.

God plans a specific way my daughter should go. A specific college. A specific way to pay for it. A specific best plan for her in a specific direction.

One time I was doing something in the vicinity of my pastor, and I said, “Third time's a charm!”

He looked at me very sternly and said, “We are not people who believe in charms.”

Maybe the best secret to trusting God with our lives is to start using language that expresses a trust in God. We need to ditch any expressions that have to do with luck or chance and start practicing expressions like “If the Lord wills” or “We will attend the electricity meeting and see what the Lord does in this situation.”

What do you hope for? What do you need?

Do you speak of it with *the language of luck* or *the language of faith*?

What a joy to have the Almighty God of the universe purposefully managing our lives. And I do believe he has a bit of a flare for beating the odds.

*Epilogue: My daughter will finish college in two semesters,*

*and she has yet to take out any student loans. That's God's doing right there.*

*Christy Fitzwater is the author of A Study of Psalm 25: Seven Actions to Take When Life Gets Hard. She is a blogger, pastor's wife and mom of two teenagers and resides in Montana. Visit for more information about her ministry.*

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## Did 2014's Prophetic Words Ring True?

In the days and weeks ahead, **prophetic** voices around the world will release prophecies for 2015. You'll read a handful of them on the "Prophetic Insight" section of .

But before we charge ahead to weigh **prophetic** mandates, directives and warnings for 2015, let's take a minute to look back at the **prophetic words** declared over 2014. After all, you can't always limit God's words to a 12-month timeline.

As I've said before, it's possible that some 2014 prophecies won't be relevant for years and others will remain relevant for years to come. So, again, before we move on to the next new **prophetic word**, let's review what prophetic voices declared last year and respond according to His Spirit.

### **An Unlocking and Shaking**

About this time last year, Chuck Pierce released a prophetic word that indicated a clock was ticking and gave a three-year timeline on this utterance. "You'll hear of shakings from North to West! You'll hear that I have come from Alaska to Maine to shake but it will be the center of this nation that I

now shake, saith the Lord," Pierce declared. "And I will cause that which has been hidden and controlling the forces of this land to shake down!" When you read the entire prophetic word, you'll find it's at the same time sober and encouraging. Some of it is purely in line with Scripture and appear to be unfolding. Some portions of the prophecy remain to be seen. Clearly, there's a shaking going on. Are you prepared for what may happen in the next couple of years?

### **The Righteous Shall Never be Shaken**

With regard to 2014, the Lord told Jennifer LeClaire (that's me) that the righteous will never be shaken. We saw plenty of shaking going on not only in the world—but also in the body of Christ—as high-profile leaders (and unknown pastors) fell one after another to sexual immorality and various other unrighteous scandals. We also saw several denominations defy God's Word as apostasy in the church continued rising. Those involved in unrighteous activities were shaken—and shaken hard. It seems judgment continued in the house of God this year.

### **The Year of God's Goodness**

Matt Sorger prophesied 2014 would be a year where the body of Christ walks into the manifest goodness of God. "The Lord spoke to me that He was closing old doors and opening new ones. The doors of your past, He is closing and sealing with the blood, never to be opened again. And He is opening a new door in front of you, a door that will lead you into the goodness of God," Sorger said. "This year will be a year where you not only believe by faith to see the negative turn for your good, but you will walk into the manifestation of it. This will be a year where the goodness of God is manifested in your life." Did you see the goodness of God manifest in your life in 2014? I know I did.

### **2014 Is a Roller Coaster Year**

Rick Joyner said when he prayed over 2014 he saw a roller coaster: "This means we will have ups and downs this year. I realize that hardly takes a **prophet** to predict, but the encouraging thing about this vision was that the ride ended at the highest point," he said. "We're going higher this year! So don't be discouraged by the dips. Hang on, and know that we will be going up again soon." There's more to the prophecy than that, but the roller coaster vision is telling. Did you experience a roller coaster year? I know I did.

## **A Second Phase of God's 'Prophetic Breath'**

Bishop Bill Hamon, founder of Christian International, delivered a prophetic word for 2014 about a second phase of God's prophetic breath during what many called the Year of the Open Door. Watch the video and decide for yourself if this prophetic word manifested in 2014. I know I witnessed a number of young prophetic voices rising up in the past year.

## **The Year of the Quantum Leap**

Jane Hamon prophesied 2014 would be the "year of the quantum leap." "I think we have all come to realize that God's 'suddenlies' don't always happen suddenly," she said. "But we are now in a quantum leap 'suddenly season,' where we will see those things we have prayed over, decreed to, quoted Scriptures for, prophesied into and warred a good warfare for suddenly come to pass." This was absolutely true in my own life. What about yours?

## **5 Prophetic Insights for 2014 and Beyond**

James Goll prophesied it's a time of fire, a call to all watchman to be on the alert, a coming increased detail in the word of knowledge, the release of redemptive interpreters and hope ambassadors, and restoration. "This is part of what I have been hearing, sensing, seeing and knowing that the **Holy Spirit** is doing in this hour. We each only see in part, and

even the best only prophesy in part,” he said. “But when we each bring our piece of the puzzle to the table, we will see with greater clarity the vision of things to come.” Did you see any of this in 2014? Are you expecting it in 2015?

Stay tuned in the coming days and weeks as we’ll share more **prophetic words**. In the meantime, review these decrees, announcements, insights and directives. Grab what rings with your spirit even as you prepare your heart to receive what God has for you in the new year.

**Jennifer LeClaire** is senior news editor of Charisma. She is also director of Awakening House of Prayer in Fort Lauderdale and author of several books, including Satan’s Deadly Trio: Defeating the Deceptions of Jezebel, Religion and Witchcraft, and The Spiritual Warrior’s Guide to Defeating Jezebel. You can visit her website [here](#). You can also join Jennifer on Facebook or follow her on Twitter.

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## **When God’s Timing Doesn’t Synch With You**

“Therefore comfort one other with these words” (1 Thess. 4:18).

As I have meditated on the wondrous nativity story this Christmas, I have been struck by Elizabeth’s response to her pregnancy after a lifetime of being barren. In Luke 1:25 she bears witness, “The Lord has done this for me. ... In these days he has shown his favor and taken away my disgrace among the people.”

Through her words I glimpsed a lifetime of pain. Of

humiliation. Of agonizing tears. A lifetime of heart-rending, unanswered prayers. Yet through it all she had been “righteous before God, walking in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord blamelessly” (Luke 1:6). She trusted the one whose will is always best, even when she didn’t understand.

God’s purpose for Elizabeth involved withholding children from her. Not because He didn’t care or was mean or was deaf to her pleas, but because He had singled her out to be the mother of a man who would be the first prophet in Israel after 400 years of heaven’s silence. Elizabeth’s son was the cousin of Jesus and the forerunner to the Messiah. A man Jesus said was as great as any man who was ever born. Her son was John the Baptist. If we could ask Elizabeth today, I believe she would say the son God gave her was well worth the wait. Sometimes God withholds from us that for which we are desperate. Because He has some greater, unseen purpose.

☒ This week, He withheld life and breath from my dear friend and colleague Caryn Sadowski Lavin. Caryn was the co-producer of every one of our domestic Just Give Me Jesus Revivals, beginning with Knoxville, Tennessee, in 2000, and ending with Indianapolis in 2012. When changes on our ministry team occurred leaving me with no director for our two last revivals, which were already in process, Caryn stepped in with her co-producer, Dan Brunelle, guaranteeing that all would be well. And it was. Tens of thousands of people have come to the cross and had a personal, fresh encounter with God because of Caryn’s faithfulness to “do the work” with heartfelt excellence, as unto the Lord.

Caryn was a spectacularly beautiful child of God inside as well as out. When she was rushed to the hospital on Nov. 14 in a medical emergency, our prayers ascended to the gates of heaven in a spiritual tidal wave of desperate love and concern. We were specific. Earnest. Persistent as we pled for God’s mercy. But our prayers for her healing went unanswered.

Caryn's faith became sight on Dec. 22 when she opened her eyes to the face of Jesus. She has moved to our Father's House. And we are left trying to make sense of the senseless. Why? Which is one reason Elizabeth's words keep coming to my mind, along with those of Jesus to Martha: "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?" (John 11:40) My response? I believe! I believe God has a greater purpose than that which I can see. This is a time to trust Him when I just don't understand. And it's a time to pray for God's presence, peace and comfort for her husband, Tom, and those she has left behind.

So with tears on my face, I am praising Elizabeth's God for the baby of Bethlehem who brings blessing from brokenness ... and hope from grief ... and life from death. In His time.

*Anne Graham Lotz is the founder of AnGeL Ministries. She is also the author of several books, Heaven: God's Promise for Me and Heaven: My Father's House.*

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## **LISTEN: A Look at 2014 Through a Prophetic Lens**

What were the biggest issues in the church and what does that mean going forward? What can we expect in 2015? *Charisma* senior editor Jennifer LeClaire looks back and ahead as the year comes to a close.

[Click here to listen.](#)

*Jennifer LeClaire is senior editor of Charisma. She is also director of Awakening House of Prayer in Fort Lauderdale and author of several books, including Satan's Deadly Trio: Defeating the Deceptions of Jezebel, Religion and*

*Witchcraft, and The Spiritual Warrior's Guide to Defeating Jezebel. You can visit her website [here](#). You can also join Jennifer on Facebook or follow her on Twitter.*

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## **WATCH: Jane Hamon Explains How to Interpret Your Dreams**

Are you a dreamer? Do you have dreams by night and visions by day? Jane Hamon, bishop Bill Hamon's daughter-in-law, comes from a community of prophetic people and has studied biblical dream interpretation for many years. Glean from her experience and get a better understanding of how God speaks to us through dreams.