

# { Day 307 }

Follow the way of love and eagerly desire spiritual gifts, especially the gift of prophecy. For anyone who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God. Indeed, no one understands him; he utters mysteries with his spirit. But everyone who prophesies speaks to men for their strengthening, encouragement and comfort. **—1 Corinthians 14:1-3**

There is the natural tendency in some of us to try to systematize spontaneous experiences. We sometimes think that if we discover the method-key, then we can control it. If people are successful in their ministry (or only appear to be), then they might start using the methods to manipulate people as well. People who are perceived as anointed men or women of God possess a potential for the power of suggestion. Whether it is being suggested that people will fall down, get a prophetic word, or speak in tongues, this is manipulative power of suggestion. Ministers with power and prophetic giftings who are not in relationship with a balanced local church team often allow their method-as-power tendencies to dominate their ministry. It is simply much more difficult to get away with manipulation and pretense when you relate closely to a balanced team of people who live in the real world.

## { PRAYER STARTER }

Holy Spirit, I love the spontaneity of Your revelations to man. Keep me from manipulation or predictability in the use of the spiritual gifts You have given to me. And cause me to allow others the liberty to express Your words whenever and however You choose to use them.

**The gifts and manifestations are  
given as the Holy Spirit desires.**