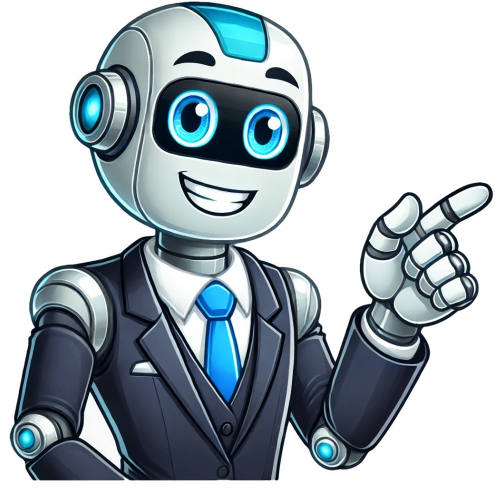


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You believe that God has called you to be a prophetic intercessor? Intercessory prayer simply praying on behalf of others. And when this is teamed up with a prophetic gift it can be powerful. Prophetic prayer occurs when we pray with insights (prophetic revelation) received from the Holy Spirit. We may receive these insights during prayer, or pray about the revelation that has already been received. We can all pray prophetically. However, a prophetic intercessor is not only equipped with insight from the Spirit. The prophetic intercessor becomes the vessel through whom the Spirit Himself prays. In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God." (Rom 8:26-27) The Ministry of the Prophetic Intercessor I looked for someone among them who would build up the wall and stand before me in the gap on behalf of the land so I would not have to destroy it, but I found no one." (Ezek 22:30) Anna is a Biblical example of a prophetic intercessor. She poured years into her God-given assignment of praying in the temple, leading up to Jesus the Messiah's birth. (Luke 2:36-38) It has often been said, that not all intercessors are prophets; but all prophets are called to intercede. Following are some of the signs that I have observed (and personally experienced) in those who have a calling to the ministry of prophetic intercession. The first three signs are common to all of those who have a calling to the ministry of prayer: You believe that God has called you to pray and you love to pray more than most people do You place a high value on prayer and sometimes wonder why (or get frustrated when) others do not share it You have seen significant answers to your prayers Specific Signs Related to a Prophetic Intercessory Prayer Gift If you are called to the ministry of a prophetic intercessor, you will relate to some of the following traits: You tend to pray more at times when you feel urged by the Holy Spirit. You may know this as a "burden" of prayer. Prayer is easy for you when you sense that the Holy Spirit has given you a specific burden or assignment. However, you find it harder to pray when people assign prayer to you as a task or give you lists and times to pray. (Unless you feel drawn by the Spirit to these). In the past, you may have been intimidated by those who are "task intercessors". These happily spend hours praying over lists! [2] However, God is calling you to embrace your particular gift and calling and see it as He does—highly valued and influential. You receive revelation from the Holy Spirit concerning what to pray and how to pray. You may receive prophetic insights concerning the situation you are praying about, to pass on, or to pray further into. You may be more spontaneous in the expression of your prayer gift than others who are gifted in prayer. You have a strong sense of intimacy with the Holy Spirit when you pray—and this fuels your prayer life. Travel is familiar to you—a sense of birthing the purposes of God—and you may have experienced wordless groans or weeping in your prayer times. In this, you can identify with Hannah (1 Sam. 1:10-13) and Elijah—who prayed for rain in the birthing position (1 Kings 18:41-44). You do not always need to have specific knowledge about what you are praying for. Sometimes you pray in the realm of "mystery" (1 Cor 14:2). It is enough for you to know that the Spirit has called you to pray. When you have a prayer assignment, it may feel as though you are personally involved and invested in the situation. You may have a sense of identification in the Spirit with those you are praying for. Perhaps, you feel what they are feeling, or sense God's heart towards them, such as compassion, grief, or mercy. You know the "secret place" of prayer. Your prayer life is often hidden, and sometimes not understood or appreciated by people. However, your reward is found in the Presence of God. (As with all prophetic gifts and ministries, the ministry of prophetic intercession flourishes in the local church community and benefits from oversight. It is a temptation for those with a prophetic prayer ministry to isolate themselves, especially if they feel misunderstood.) You experience a deep sense of satisfaction in prayer—especially in being at the right place and time for your God-given assignment to pray on behalf of a person, group, region, or situation. You may be sent by God to be in certain places at particular times to intercede on behalf of a situation, person, or region, especially if you are a prophet-intercessor operating in a "prophetic office" ministry. Your journey has been lonely at times. Even those around you who love prayer do not always understand the dynamics of prophetic intercessory prayer. You may have experienced some unusual manifestations of the Holy Spirit whilst praying (Rom 8:26-27), that others do not understand. (Note: It is very important that we focus on the fruit and message of the prayer, rather than the manifestations when communicating to others.) One of your challenges has been to learn to fully release the burden of the Spirit in prayer—not to hold onto it. You have also had to learn not to personalize or hold onto the emotion that identification (point 11) can sometimes bring with it. You prefer prayer meetings that have some room for listening to and being led by the Holy Spirit in prayer. (Note: This does not mean that other types of prayer are wrong, but that the Holy Spirit is not always present in every type of prayer meeting.) As mentioned in point 14, above, a prophet-intercessor may be stationed or sent by God to specific places to pray and make prophetic declarations. A prophet who is an intercessor will have a greater authority in prayer and prophetic ministry, than a prophetic intercessor. He or she may be used by God to minister through prophecy and intercessory prayer in significant arenas. These may include nations or regions, governments, education, business, and church movements. Is Intercessory Prayer a Spiritual Gift? Is prophetic intercession, or intercessory prayer, a spiritual gift? I personally believe so. The prophetic intercessor is graced and anointed to pray. One way of looking at this is to see prophetic intercessory prayer as an expression of the prophetic gift. Our God who created the snowflake and fingerprints gifts His people in many unique ways. Those of us who are prophetic intercessors know when we find others who have a like calling, that we have found one of our own "tribe." Intercessory prayer is a significant ministry—and eternity will reveal the fruit and power of the hidden work of prophetic intercession. Notes: [1] Some examples: Moses interceded for Israel (Exodus 34:8-9), Daniel for the Jews (Dan 9:3-19), Jeremiah for Jerusalem (Jer 14:20-21) and Elijah prayed for the drought he prophesied to begin and end (James 5:17-18) [2] For insights about different prayer gifts, I highly recommend Intercessors Discover Your Prayer Power, by FEMRITE, T. ALVES, E. KAUFMAN, K. 2000. Ventura : Regal Prayer Warriors! The School of Intimacy and Prayer is Open When I began to experience a significant anointing of the Holy Spirit for prophetic prayer 20 years ago, I did not know how to navigate many of the encounters with God I was having. I saw miracles and breakthroughs in answer to prayer, but I also made mistakes and had a lot of "growth pains" as a prophetic intercessor. Since then I have been a prayer leader, have been a minister on a prophetic team, and by God's grace have developed in ministry as a prophet and teacher. Now I'm passionate about helping others on the same journey I've been on. And this week, a long-held dream has come to reality. I've just launched the Enliven School of Intimacy and Prayer with the first series of topics, and I extend you a warm welcome to join me! Currently on the Prayer School are self-paced video lessons on Intimacy with the Holy Spirit Introducing Prophetic Prayer Praying the Mysteries of Heaven The Gift and Ministry of Prophetic Intercession Angels and Encounters Bonus mini-eBook on Prophetic Dreams You can find out more or enroll in the School of Intimacy and Prayer here. Alternatively, you can view all online courses, including the Prophetic School, here. More help for prophetic intercessors: Prophetic Intercession, Its Power and Pitfalls Signs You May Have a Gift of Prophecy 8 tips For Personal Intercessors © 2016 Helen Calder - Enliven Ministries: Prophetic ministry for a revival generation Helen Calder is a prophetic minister and writer, and founder of Enliven Ministries. Helen has a unique gift of equipping in prophetic ministry and prayer. She is known for Enliven Blog (est. 2009), an online resource that reaches thousands of people globally. Reading Time: 2 minutes In prophetic intercession, the Spirit of God pleads the covenant promises made throughout history to be enacted in our day. This inspired form of intercession is the urge to pray, given by the Holy Spirit, for a situation or circumstance about which you may have little natural knowledge. But you are praying the prayer request that is on the heart of God. As much as any time in history, it is time for believers in Jesus to take up the call to pray what is in the heart of God to be enacted for this generation! How Does Prophetic Intercession Work? He nudges you to pray so that He can intervene. The Holy Spirit Himself directs you to pray in a divine manner to bring forth His will on earth as it already is in heaven. In other words, prophetic intercession is the ability to receive a prayer request from God and pray it back to Him. God's hand comes on you, and He impacts His people through you. He calls you to pray, and you respond. He gives you the words to say, and you speak them. He opens your eyes to see things that are hidden from you, and you see them. He gives you the strength to stand firm in the face of opposition, and you stand firm. He gives you the wisdom to know when to stop, and you stop. He gives you the courage to go forward, and you go forward. He gives you the peace to rest in His arms, and you rest in His arms. He gives you the joy to praise Him, and you praise Him. He gives you the love to love others, and you love others. He gives you the faith to believe in Him, and you believe in Him. He gives you the hope to wait on Him, and you wait on Him. He gives you the patience to endure, and you endure. He gives you the kindness to forgive, and you forgive. He gives you the gentleness to submit, and you submit. He gives you the self-control to resist, and you resist. He gives you the purity to flee, and you flee. He gives you the peaceable disposition to pursue, and you pursue. He gives you the lowliness to exult, and you exult. He gives you the meekness to conquer, and you conquer. He gives you the forbearance to overcome, and you overcome. He gives you the long-suffering to persevere, and you persevere. He gives you the steadfastness to remain, and you remain. He gives you the endurance to finish, and you finish. He gives you the strength to run, and you run. He gives you the power to prevail, and you prevail. He gives you the might to break down strongholds, and you break down strongholds. He gives you the ability to pull down fortifications, and you pull down fortifications. He gives you the power to throw down bulwarks, and you throw down bulwarks. He gives you the power to overthrow towers, and you overthrow towers. He gives you the power to pull down walls, and you pull down walls. He gives you the power to tear down foundations, and you tear down foundations. He gives you the power to demolish strongholds, and you demolish strongholds. 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understanding transcending your consciousness. These moments are more than just random thoughts; they are divine downloads, imparting wisdom or knowledge about specific people, situations, or events. This extraordinary experience marks the first sign of stepping into the realm of prophetic intercession. The second sign is characterized by an unwavering commitment to prayer. This isn't just regular prayer; it's a spiritually charged communication guided by the Holy Spirit. As a prophetic intercessor, you might find yourself immersed in prayer, losing track of time. Hours may pass, yet it feels like moments. This deep connection and commitment to prayer are not burdensome; it's a source of spiritual nourishment and joy, a clear indicator of your evolving prophetic role.

3-Sensitivity to the Holy Spirit's Promptings

Thirdly, a heightened sensitivity to the Holy Spirit's promptings is a crucial sign. You might experience an inner urge to pray for specific individuals, communities, or global issues without having any prior knowledge about them. This sensitivity isn't coincidental; it's a divine nudge guiding you to intercede where your prayers are most needed. The fourth sign involves carrying deep, empathetic burdens for the well-being of others. These aren't ordinary concerns but intense, spiritually induced burdens that compel you to stand in the gap and intercede fervently. These burdens might come unexpectedly, but they carry a purpose - to drive you to prayer and action for those in need.

5-Impactful and Powerful Prayers

Finally, the fifth sign is witnessing the powerful impact of your prayers. This isn't about simple coincidences; it's about seeing tangible, often extraordinary, outcomes from your intercessory prayers. Whether it's a person you've prayed for experiencing a breakthrough or a situation improving that you've been interceding for, these results are affirmations of your alignment with God's will and your growing power as a prophetic intercessor.

To sum it up, recognizing these five signs can be a profound revelation for anyone on the prophetic journey. If you identify with these experiences, embrace them as affirmations of your spiritual calling. For those seeking further guidance or mentorship in this prophetic awakening, I am here to help. Visit [Virtual Prophetic Mentorship](#) to connect with me for prophetic mentorship. Keep nurturing your spiritual gifts, and stay tuned for more insights. Remember, your journey is unique, and your calling is sacred. Subscribe to my blog for more content to guide and enrich your prophetic path. I'd love to hear about your experiences. Are any of these signs resonating with you? Share your thoughts and stories in the comments below, and let's foster a supportive community. Remember to subscribe for more empowering and insightful content on your prophetic journey.

P.S. Read our revised version [this blog post here](#).