



## **How to Translate God to People Around You**

**Doug Addison with Shawn Bolz [Episode 40]**

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Hey, everybody! Welcome to another *Spirit Connection* podcast. You know, we're entering into an entirely new season both as individuals, in Church, nations, the world. We are in a time right now that we must hear the voice of God for ourselves and those around us.

You know, there are aspects of hearing God that are really important, and I want to go through some of those. Also, I have a special guest on the show later on, who is really good at hearing God. You're going to really love this episode.

But right now, we pray, "God, in the name of Jesus, open things up. Open the heavens right now, that we can hear Your voice more clearly. Lord, I pray whether it's dreams and visions, speaking through the Word, speaking through sounds and music on the radio and friends, I ask right now ... You're unlimited, Lord ... so now open up the heavens for us to hear Your voice, in Jesus' name. Amen."

Well, you know, the aspects of hearing God that are really important is valuing what God says. Too many people don't even take time to actually write down what God says. And when you don't value it, it will actually start to go away. According to Matthew 13, Jesus says that, "Those who have will be given more, and those who do not have, even what they have will be taken from them." Now, He was talking about understanding parables, and that is hearing the voice of God.

So, we need to really come into a time right now where we are valuing what God is saying. I really recommend capturing it—writing it down, whatever you need to do—but you need to get that down so that you can follow up. I found that God speaks over time, all the time.

Another thing is to make sure that we're getting a correct interpretation of what God is saying. Most people suffer from what I call *prophetic shipwreck*. That's when we misunderstand or we misapply what God is speaking to us. You know, understanding how He speaks and His timing will really get us into the place where we can actually hear His voice and start trusting these things.

So, when God speaks it is really important to do something practical to activate what He is saying to you. This means that if maybe you feel God calling you to a particular ministry, job or, you know, whatever it might be, then you can do something. You know, if God has spoken to you about it, you can read a book, you can study the subject, you can talk to other people, get prayer.

These are small things that I call *activation*. You take what God is saying to you. You don't have to go out and fully launch what He is saying. If you do little bits and pieces towards it, then you are going to find that He is going to start to speak to you more and you'll find out, you know, is this for you or not.

So, I've been hearing God most of my life, but I hadn't realized it all along. You know, I've misunderstood and misapplied what God is saying many times. Hind sight is a great teacher. And that's why I journal, so that I can look and see how God spoke to me, and how it's working out now.

So, as I look back I can see that God has been speaking to me most of my life. Let me share my first encounter with the gift of prophecy. Now I've been hearing God, but the gift of prophecy ... In 1988, I had just come back to the Lord. I had been in the occult previously, and God was cleaning up my gifts. I had come back to the Lord, and my sister invites me to her church because there was a man with a gift of prophecy.

So, he calls everybody up. And he is prophesying over everyone, and he says to my brother-in-law who was next to me, "You need to lose weight." And I'm thinking, "Well, that's not really prophetic. Maybe it's a discernment of the obvious." He was quite heavy.

Then he said to me, "The woman you're with is not the one." Umm, I was with a woman, and we were going to get married, even though my friends, my family and even my pastor didn't agree. But, again, I was coming back to the Lord—I was new in the faith, and I hadn't learned these things that I needed to know—but I went through and got married. I thought it was the right thing to do. You know, I was thinking logically.

You know, we had been together seven years. We weren't in the same place, but maybe a lot of people out there are feeling this. I just wanted to be married, you know? I wanted someone to be close with and those types of things. But I didn't listen to the Lord and, see, God was trying to give me a confirmation here.

I want to tell you something: I married the woman, and one year later my brother-in-law died of a heart attack, and the woman that I had married left me for someone else. So, listen. God got my attention with prophecy back in 1988. I went through a very painful season of my life with the divorce. I don't recommend going outside of what your friends and family, and especially your pastor, might be helping you along in some cases. But do you know what? God absolutely redeemed it all in my life, even though it was painful.

I have been now married for 22 years to my wife Linda. And, yes, we actually got together after hearing the voice of God and responding. So, this is really important for relationships. It's important for ministry, businesses, any aspect of your life. You know, we can go through seasons of our life where God might be talking more strongly than in other seasons. And there are other times when He seems silent.

But, you know, this is not God punishing you or rewarding you. This is part of a process that we go through called *maturing*. God will speak to us, and He will give us a word, or He will give us a dream—and it is to draw us closer to Him.

In 1991, just a couple of years after that encounter that I had with the gift of prophecy, I was given another very powerful prophetic word. Now, I had already been growing at this point. But it was pretty much the things that I am doing right now in my life, many years later. At that time, my life was opposite of what the prophetic word stated.

This prophet began to prophesy that I would have a ministry. I would be traveling all over. I would be sought after. I would come into dreams and visions, and all these different types of things. You know, the people who knew me knew that I was still struggling with my soul, and they thought this guy was a false prophet or missed it.

But, you know, prophecy can be for a season down the road. And it can be designed actually to encourage us to press in and grab hold of what God has for us. You can actually accelerate your process of learning by finding someone who is doing what you want to do, and they're doing it well.

Since 1991 I have studied, I've journaled, I've written books. I have run study groups, I even mentored with some people who could hear the voice of God very clearly. And I'm not trying to name drop or anything. I don't want to discourage you. But I'm just saying, I pressed in. This was not automatic.

In 2001 my wife and I, we sold everything we had except our personal belongings, and we launched our ministry, *InLight Connection*. And now we train people to hear the voice of God, develop their prophetic gifts, experience the supernatural and find their destiny. But, you know, it didn't happen automatically. And it took some effort.

What matters more than anything when it comes to hearing the voice of God, is Ephesians 1:17 (NIV). This is the foundation for all prophetic ministry:

*I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know Him better.*

The sole purpose of hearing God is that we may know Him better. It's not to get a wild prophetic word, or to wow people with your ability. It truly boils down to a relationship with Him. Then the next verse:

*I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope for which he has called you to, the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and the incomparably power for those who believe.*  
Ephesians 1:18 NIV (paraphrased)

Wow! The closer you get to God, the clearer His voice becomes. And in these verses, the apostle Paul compares wisdom and revelation with riches. These are the true riches that God wants to open up to you, namely, the ability to hear His voice. But also, to know Him better. And we need to base hearing God on 1 Corinthians 14:3 (paraphrased):

*But everyone who prophesies speaks to men and women for their strengthening, encouragement and comfort.*

You know, there is some unfortunate examples out there of prophetic words, or the gift of prophecy being used in a bad way or a negative way, maybe judging people. This is because many times, what we hear comes through a negative filter—or a negative belief system, or an outdated theology—like, that God speaks the same way as in the Old Testament. I believe that the New Testament prophecies should be strengthening, encouragement and comfort.

Yes, we can speak words of direction and even correction into a person's life. But we must use tactfulness. We must use wisdom. In fact, the study that I have done in the New Testament when it talks about, you know, if someone has sinned against you, it never talks about the prophetic gifts. It says to go to that person and work it out. And this is really important.

I had to learn this. As a pastor, I couldn't use my prophetic gift. As a leader of my ministry—and I'm dealing with people under me or who work with me—I have to be very careful that I don't use the prophetic gift in a way ... I can help guide them, but you still need to work it out.

These are the prophetic shipwrecks we see out there right now. And since many people today have a negative view of God the Father, then communicating something negatively might not actually bring them closer to the Lord. It might not let them hear what God intended. God is calling you right now to go beyond just hearing His voice, and take it a step further to understand the love He has and that helps change our lives.

As we're talking about hearing God, there are so many different things that can go through your mind. Most people think about a prophet or maybe the prophetic gifting, that you have to be a prophet or ... You know, we can have a negative filter but, yes, you can have the prophetic gifting. I do. I have a prophetic gifting, and I have been operating in the office of a prophet for only a few years now. But we all can hear the voice of God. *But we **all** can hear the voice of God.* As Jesus shows us, all of the

disciples—and Jesus, Himself—operated in all of the gifts because we have them through the Holy Spirit. You might have one more than another, but we have access to everything.

So, hearing God doesn't have to be mystical. I like to think of natural things, you know, like hearing God in our natural way of life, and it makes us naturally supernatural. So, again, you don't have to be a prophet to hear the voice of God. And we have to be careful that we're not wounding people with the prophetic gift.

And we need to develop the ability to hear His voice because, as we do this, our destiny becomes much more clear. This is why I became a prophetic life coach. Because I saw so many people who didn't know their destiny, and I had the ability to hear the voice of God. So, I put the two together and began to help people years ago.

You know, there are countless benefits to hearing God, including breaking the power of fear in our lives. We can gain insight. We can grow in our faith and even healing. It's important that we understand that God wants to speak to us. It's important that we understand that He loves us, and He's not out to judge us.

You know, these misunderstandings cause misinterpretations, and that has caused the disappointment, or even heartbreak. I call it the *prophetic heartbreak*. "*Hope deferred makes the heart sick*," is what the Bible says. Sometimes I find people who have let go of hearing God because they feel disconnected from His love, and they have had a bad experience. But, you know, we can invite you back right now.

I want you to discover how God is speaking, and His amazing benefits of hearing His voice. And it is amazing to see, when you reconnect with God in this way, oh my goodness, those benefits! One of them—I'll mention it again—breaking the power of fear over us. Fear is a four-letter word that really, it is a terrible thing. It's a demonic spirit that masquerades as if it is the voice of God. Did you know that discernment allows us to break the power of fear and bring perfect peace? It will bring healing.

In Luke 6:18 it says that everywhere Jesus went, they came to hear Him—and they were healed. So, there's an amazing connection between hearing—which is a prophetic gifting—and healing. It's also hearing the voice of God, or the word of God, as well. Healing does not have to be physical only. It can be emotional. It can be relational. Spiritual. We need to bring healing to all of these areas of our lives.

God wants to bring direction to you. In John 10:27 Jesus said, "My sheep will know My voice and they will follow Me." You know, it's not just hearing a prophetic word, but it's also knowing Him, knowing His voice.

It's sad that some people have used prophesy to wound people. It's so sad. So, let's not judge the prophetic ministry based on a bad experience. Prophecy is a function in our lives, in the Church, and in our community and the nation. It is meant to be a function

and not a title. Yes, I'm in the office of a prophet. I don't normally call myself a prophet. I just call myself by my name. But I have become a prophetic coach to help people like you understand this, and to be able to break through the fear of deception. That's the biggest thing I've seen.

People say, "I'm afraid of being deceived." Well, write this down: Hebrews 5:14 (NIV). This will break it:

*But solid food is for the mature, who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil.*

Many people are afraid of being deceived. And actually, it says right here—here is the remedy—by constantly using your gifts, you will break through that. So, it takes practice. One reason many people don't hear God is because they don't consistently practice listening and activating what He is saying.

And too many people today are focused on Satan more than God. There are so many people out there looking at the demons and looking at the way, you know, the enemy's working. I don't want to tell you. If you wanted to learn to discern—that's what I teach, learn to discern—you would actually go and begin to study the real over the counterfeit.

So, this is the important thing. Think about going to work for a bank or the FBI in the Counterfeiting Money Department. You wouldn't study the fake. You would study the real. That way you would know. See, this is why it's really important not to focus on Satan that much, because God wants to speak to you right now. And I think that this is a time like never before, that God is activating things, and He wants to do it. The Bible is full of metaphors, symbolism. God is speaking all the time, and He's looking for those who are hungry.

Some people say this. I hear it often. They say, "Well, if God wants to speak to me, He will have to speak to me clearly." Well, actually, Jesus didn't even do that. He spoke in hidden ways. In Matthew 11:25, you will see that things are hidden, and we have to go after it and ask the Lord to reveal it.

I want to encourage you to take some steps of developing your ability to hear God, and activate what you hear. Write it down ... what you're hearing. Do a little bit of research. Google it. Look it up in the Bible. Find supporting Bible verses. Begin to pray and ask God to speak to you. Look for some type of confirmation. Talk to other people. Maybe take a class. Do something.

It's so cool that we have the internet right now, and you can do things online. Do something practical towards it, and watch to see if God opens a door for you for any of the things you're hearing right now. Again, you don't have to be a prophet, but God wants all of us to hear His voice through the Holy Spirit.

*[Music and Female Voice]*

*Have you ever dreamt that you're flying or falling, running or being chased? Maybe you've had a dream where you're naked in public, or are having a baby, or even losing your teeth. Believe it or not, they are great dreams that each have a significant spiritual meaning. Because one of the amazing ways God can speak to you is through your dreams at night.*

*Doug Addison is an expert dream interpreter who has interpreted more than 30,000 dreams. Doug developed the The Dream Crash Course, an online video course, to help you learn the prophetic meaning of your dreams in four quick steps. In The Dream Crash Course, you'll discover how easy it can be to understand what God may be saying to you at night, from short dreams to those wild, complicated dreams that feel like they came out of a movie scene. You'll also learn what different numbers and colors mean in a dream, too.*

*Check out The Dream Crash Course today, and get started on interpreting your own dreams and helping others understand theirs. Plus, you'll get 20 percent off today with Coupon Code: DOUG20. Go to [www.dougaddison.store](http://www.dougaddison.store) today.*

Hey, everybody, I have a special guest on the *Spirit Connection Podcast*. He is a good friend of mine, Shawn Bolz, who is ... I mean, he is one the pioneers of the prophetic ministry. He is a producer, a minister. He lives here in Los Angeles with us. Of course, we don't live together, but we minister in the same stream here.

You know, Shawn has been around for a long time. It doesn't mean he's old, but it means that he is really seasoned in the Lord. He focuses on helping people connect with God, and especially in the entertainment industry, social justice ... there is so much that he brings. He ministers as a coach around the world.

Doug: Anyway, welcome Shawn.

Shawn: Hey, I'm so glad to be on the program. Thanks so much for asking me.

Doug: Yes, wow! We've been trying to connect for a while, and I knew that when we would, something would happen. There would be a synergy.

Shawn: Absolutely. I just love what you represent in God and who you are. I was laughing when you were saying, "Shawn is this," you know, "a veteran of the prophetic ministry," however you said it. I was like laughing when, "You're a pioneer." You're way more of a pioneer than I am.

Doug: Oh, man. Well, you've got the goods. That's what I know. I've been around you a long time. And we've done some events, and even shared a cabin up in Alaska once. I remember that.

Shawn: Totally.

Doug: It was like camp. It was like church camp.

Shawn: I know. We were ... Yes. That was a pretty wild cabin. We laugh about that sometimes. You and me, and I think it was Jamie Galloway and Will Hart.

Doug: Yes. It was a great time. Well, why don't you just tell our listeners a little bit about yourself and your ministry?

Shawn: My wife and I have a ministry. We had a church for 10 years in Los Angeles. And we just gave the senior pastor over, about two years ago, to one of our best friends. We still oversee it, but we started a ministry alongside of that called Bolz Ministries.

We have two main arms. One is to help people just have a real connection to God, especially through the prophetic ministry or through prophetic gifts, to hear His voice. You grow so much faster when you're in direct communication with someone, you know? Then the second area is just a maturing vehicle for people to really take on their life journey with God and to just kill it. Just win it. Just win at life.

So, we have been ... My wife and I both have been just teaching, and sharing, and doing a lot of stuff. We have developed curriculums for kids, curriculums for adults on hearing God's voice, and doing a lot of media. We have ecourses, that kind of stuff. And then I have a podcast as well, which hopefully you're going to be on soon.

Doug: I'd love to.

Shawn: And so ... Yes, we really enjoy our space that God's put us in.

Doug: Yes. So, you've been around for a long time, as far as all types of ministry. And you, just so people know, you know, came out of ... You grew up in Kansas City, the ministry there.

Shawn: Yes. Well, I moved there when I was 19, and I was there for 12 years. So, I was there right after the first wave of a lot of prophetic ministries that had burst out of there had left. So, I got there right at the same time as a few people who were kind of landing, and it was a great experience. I learned so much through just their environment of what they had pioneered. But also, we were able to kind of bring some reformation, and there were some new ways of thinking about the prophetic.



And Mike Bickle was just dear to my heart. He was just such a great leader for us. It was a very messy place in the sense that there were, like, 4 or 5,000 people in the church that were all growing at the same time in different areas. I mean, it grew so fast that I think it was hard to manage. But luckily, I wasn't the manager.

So, I ended up moving from there and being a part of a ministry with a man called Paul Keith Davis. And Bobby Conner, and Bob Jones, and Rick Joyner was often kind of an over ... adviser to us, and we started ministry together. We did over 30 conferences together. And talk about restoring what it looks like to really walk in union with God! Like, what does it look like to walk in deep connection with God?

And I went from that mystical kind of season to LA, to a very normal church plant where we were just, you know, going after the entertainment industry and the poor, and trying to see the Kingdom of God really engage the culture around us. So that has been the last 12 years of my life, just really trying to engage culture.

Even hearing God's voice, and a lot of what we do is hearing God's voice. We're like you in that we're in the same stream where it's like, you know, Christianity is only as powerful as the people who translate God to the world around them. So, we're looking to really engage, you know, not only just normal culture. But what does it look like to do family with God's original plan and design, and that kind of thing.

Doug: Yes. Wow. Now, you guys showed up here in Los Angeles. Now, we had started InLight Connection in LA back ... We left about 2005, I think. We came in ... I always say, "We took the beach," you know? We took a lot of fire. And then we moved over there to Moravian Falls, that side, for a while. And then when we came back, you had moved to LA. When did you move here?

Shawn: It was 2007.

Doug: Yes, and you came here to plant a church?

Shawn: Yes. It was just what everybody does, right? Everybody comes to LA to plant a church, you know? We came because I had a calling since I was ... I grew up in California, and I was called to the entertainment industry. But I left that and actually went ... I felt like God asked me to come to ministry and learn ministry in the Midwest, which is a great departure from where I grew up in the arts and a lot of culturized ... you know, different West Coast liberal mindset.

I went to the Midwest, and I think when we came back ... I feel like, you know, the whole ministry world that I was involved in before helped train me for even how to deal with just influential people, and people in the entertainment industry, people who were business entrepreneurs, and how ... You know, because a lot of the prophetic people, the apostolic people in the church can be, you know, can have some level of celebrity or some level of narcissism.

Doug: Yes, exactly.

Shawn: So, I felt right at home in Los Angeles where we were ministering, especially the young entertainment people. So, we came here. We felt like Jesus said, "I'm homeless in Hollywood. Would you build Me a home?" So, a group of 18 of us came, and we started kind of just a ministry on Tuesday nights that turned into a church.

And we've always had a regional focus. We've done a lot of events. We've done a lot of ... We did anti-human trafficking ministry for 7 years. We were leading groups in that. We transitioned our group, they ended up moving to Atlanta, but we just have done a lot of city-focused stuff.

Our goal is like, how do we engage our city? Like, we've had conversations with the mayor and with the fire department chiefs, and relief ... disaster relief, and things like that. "How do we help you guys? Like, how do we stand with you for the greatness of what this city is supposed to be from a Christian perspective?" And the city loves that conversation. So, we've been doing it for about 10 years.

And then Jona and Jennifer took over 2 years ago, and they're having those same conversations. And we really love justice, and even Kingdom social justice—which a lot of people don't see social justice as a Kingdom thing—but we love the issues of justice. Like, we run after relief. We have schools in war zones. We have bases in different countries that are anti-human trafficking.

I've been to so many red-light districts—for the right reasons, not the wrong reasons—because we're going after people and, like, really seeing transformation and change in people's lives. The gifts of the Holy Spirit, especially the prophetic, have been right and central to that, although we do a lot of normal, regular humanitarian relief as well.

Doug: Yes, that's amazing. Now, what I really love about you guys is that you change the environment everywhere you go. You bring, like, a spiritual atmosphere shift and, like you just said, it's on all sides—both the social

justice, the Kingdom—everything pulled together. I've seen you, I've watched you, and I'm just so amazed of all that you guys are doing.

Shawn: Well, I love, I love, kind of your background, not to put the focus and attention on anybody. But I love how you've helped us to think outside of the box of the Church. And, like, how do you use everyday, friendly language where people understand? How can you have emotional intelligence for the people you're connected to, as opposed to being irrelevant? You have this incredible God inside of you, but you don't know how to be emotionally aware or socially intelligent.

So, for me personally, because I'm a second-generation Christian, my parents were hiding us from the world trying to ... because it was all evil, it was very dualistic. And for me, like, I grew up going, "I feel like I want to impact the video game industry, and musical theater and the arts. And I feel if we can touch popular culture, we can touch all culture." My parents were scared to death of that conversation. They were like, "What are you talking about?"

As a matter of fact, they resisted for many years for our desire. I actually hid my desire to go to Los Angeles and minister to the entertainment industry. Now they're fully on board. They've been re-indoctrinated with, like, healthy theology. They're awesome and our cheerleaders.

But for a lot of years they represented, like, a generation of Christianity that is not necessarily old. There are young people doing this too. There are people who are disengaged from the world, and have no spiritual intelligence in how to touch the world around them.

So, part of the reason why I think we even had favor ... like I've had a great breakout of favor in the last three years. And so, I've had opportunities that a lot of people would wait a whole lifetime for, and they're not even that exciting for me. Like, I'm grateful for them, honored by them.

But, I mean, I feel like God's given me favor so I can actually go in and deconstruct some of the wrong ideas that have been in these industries of the prophetic ministry or, you know, apostolic ministry or these kinds of things, movement leaders and these kinds of things.

I've been actually helping to deconstruct—and maybe reform or bring some reformational ideas—for the reality is that Jesus came to the earth for *everybody*. And He preached so successfully for 3-1/2 years to people who weren't even believers. You know, like ... this is so funny compared to today, the world, like how we feel like we have to do everything. And, you

know, you have to almost sign a contract to be part of a church sometimes. And He was just so inclusive in His love. His love accepted everybody.

So, I really feel like, I love the favor that God has brought into our ministry because I get to have these really intense conversations. That usually people in those conversations are bitter, or they're jaded, or they're frustrated. They have a life that they're hiding in sin, or they're whatever, and I'm actually, you know, not any of those things. I'm really happy. So, it's a fun ... It's a fun space to be in.

Doug: Wow! Yes. You know, there was a shift happen. We were doing an event in Hollywood together a couple of years ago, and I was standing there. I hadn't heard anything from anybody. I just saw this giant angel behind you, and I prophesied that. And then I saw, wow, there has been a major shift in the prophetic over you. Do you want to talk about that a little bit?

Shawn: Yes. I mean, it actually came out of a season ... I was in a time where I was feeling rather un-empowered in that side of the ministry. Well, the Charismatic-Pentecostal ministry world. I was feeling like I had some ... I did have a little bit of jadedness and a little bit of frustration.

I was at a prophetic conference, or actually just a prophetic weekend, with a local church where I prophesied, literally, their building. I said, "It's behind a Safeway. It's boarded up. It used to be a bar. You don't know this, but they're keeping it because they don't want another bar to move in. So, they've condemned it, but it's actually fine. If you guys go in and engage the city, they're going to help you get into this building for pennies on the dollar." And they got this million-dollar building for like, you know, \$150,000. They found it. They literally went and found it.

So, but, I mean, I love that. I love the prophetic because that's the kind of stuff that happens. God gives you options you wouldn't have had if you didn't hear from Him. But what I didn't like is the public meetings. I go in there then and help them christen the building, and it was just like ... I just didn't want to be in that space anymore because it felt very like ... They were great, but it felt very just "not me" anymore. I just felt I was in an identity conflict or crisis that was really about me, not about them.

So, I did the first meeting, and it was just terrible, and it was my fault. I was complaining to God and I said, "God, you know, I don't want to be in this prophetic space anymore. I'll always prophesy. I'll always share whatever You show me because, I can't help it, but I don't like doing the public ministry or being known in this world, like 'I'm the prophetic.' Because it feels very, it just doesn't feel very authentic to me."

So, as I'm saying this, and I'm complaining to God—I was really intense, but complaining to God—I hear Him laugh. And I heard Him in my left ear really clearly, and I hear Him say 12 things to me. Like, bypass my conversation. He doesn't address me at all. He doesn't answer the fact that I'm saying, 'I'm quitting, basically, that part of ministry.'

He says, "These are 12 things I'm going to do in your lifetime." And basically says, "I'm going to use the prophetic as one of the vehicles that bring about these 12 things." I won't tell you the 12 things because they are very private, and it would probably make me sound delusional.

But I didn't believe Him. I said, "I'm so sorry, God. If this is You ..." (this is such a clear voice, you know, an internal audible voice) ... "If this is You, I'm so sorry. I can't believe You. These are too lofty to believe in, and I feel like I'm complaining. This can't be You. Like, this just sounds weird, you know?"

And He laughs again and says, "Tomorrow I'm going to speak through you in a way that causes your heart to reattach to your vision, and you're going to start to believe what I've said because it's going to come through you."

Now at that point there were a couple of word of knowledge guys specifically, who had gotten caught for researching on the internet. They were reading people's birthdays and names, whatever, but they were researching ahead of time. And I was actually part of catching one of them. So, I was like, I didn't know that the next day was really about words of knowledge. But I wasn't super ... I was pretty suspicious, unless it was like one of the old-school guys. I was pretty suspicious towards words of knowledge.

And so, the next day I'm at Starbucks in a Fred Meyer's grocery store in this little town, and I look across the Starbucks, and I hear that voice again. There's a bakery across in the grocery store part, and I hear that voice again in my left ear, just so full of love. "There's a Diane who works in the bakery, and she has a daughter who died two years ago. I want you to go and tell her that I have put a book into her heart. And she is going to write this book, and it's going to help a lot of people get healed of grief."

So, I'm like, "This is radical." And I run over to the bakery, and I'm like — there's a young teenage guy standing there—and I go, "Is there a Diane who works here?" He's working behind the counter, and he goes, "No." I said, "What, there's no Diane here?" He goes, "No, not at all." And I'm like, "Oh, my gosh." I was devastated. I thought, "I'm delusional. I'm hearing voices. I'm going to admit myself to the mental hospital or something. I need a psychiatric evaluation." You know?

And I get in the car, and I go to the church. And they had told me the wrong time, so I got there right in time to preach. Well, I'm not a verbal processor in this context, but I got up on the stage. Right as I walked in, they pulled me up. It's a small church. I said, "You guys, I'm so sorry. I'm a little disappointed because I stepped out in the prophetic, specifically with some words of knowledge in Fred Meyer's, and I thought there was a woman who ran the bakery named Diane. And there was no Diane, and it really hurt my heart that it didn't happen. I'm so sorry, but I'm a little discouraged as I'm standing up here. But it's good to try, you know? It's okay to try and miss it."

And the pastor goes (it's a woman pastor), "Diane's my best friend. She runs the bakery. She just wasn't there today because she was supposed to be here, but she ended up going and helping a family that just lost their son." I said, "Did Diane lose a daughter two years ago?" And she was like, "Yes." I said, "Was her name Alison or Allie?" And she starts crying, and she is like, "Yes."

"God's giving her a book." No one knew about the book except for her best friend, the pastor. And I'm like, "God's given her a book. She is going to write this book that heals people in grief." And I give this whole word, and it just shifted everyone in the church into full faith. I was in full faith. I'm going like, "This is amazing!" But I thought it was a one hit wonder. Like, I thought ... I gave a few words that day.

And I told my wife, "Honey, we have to believe these 12 things. God's healed my heart. I can't believe I was jaded towards, you know, His people. I don't know what's going on with me. Like, that's so bizarre that I let this suddenly creep in."

I just went through this transformation and I thought, I thought the prophetic was like for one day. It was like this high-level encounter that was like, just to seal my encounter with God that He gave me. But it just kept going, and He just kept telling me things like in restaurants and in airports.

You know, my friends would come over, and I had to ask about family members randomly. And I get a lot of birthdays and anniversaries because God loves it. He planned our birth. You know, He loves our marriages. He loves it. I get all kinds of ... I get days about people, what's in their drawers at their houses, you know? Like, "You have a contract in your third drawer of your desk," you know?

So, I get a lot of words of knowledge. And it's hard to get words of knowledge in an information age, because it's the information age, so a lot of information is available. So retroactively, a lot of times people get

discouraged with words of knowledge because they'll figure it out. Like, "Oh, if he just went to their Facebook page you can find this."

But the reality is, that you can't if you've just met the person, you know, at Starbucks that moment. And so, it's beautiful. So, what I tell people is like, "Try it. See what God will do. Like, ask God for words of knowledge and go for it."

But over the last 4, I guess it's been 5 years now since that has happened. I mean, I have been brought into boardrooms with chairmen of multinational companies. And I've been to some of the dumps and terrible worst places of the world. And in both places, God will birth revelation or bring revelation that changes everyone's options, and lets them know that there's a God who loves them where they're at. And it's ... I mean, the most rich people and the poorest people all need to know what's in the Father's mind right now. And it's beautiful.

Doug: Yes. Wow! Every time I hear that story I well up with tears. It's just so much of my heart because I've been there. You know, I got jaded in the prophetic ministry, especially when you go in and it's kind of like, "What do you want, diet or regular?" They hand you the mic and, you know, we're expected to prophesy. And I'm trying to tell people, "No, things are shifting. They are. I know I used to prophesy over everybody twice, you know, but things are shifting." So, there is a shift right now, right?

Shawn: Yes. I think it's not quantity anymore, it's quality. And the Lord wants us to get out of like, really basic encouragement, which is like the same thing as saying, "Your hair's pretty today." You know, it's like, that's okay to spiritually encourage each other, always. If someone is doing something that you're inspired by, "I love the way you talk, I love the way you do ministry." That's great.

But when you're actually saying, "The Lord is showing me something," or "I feel like God is showing me something," it should carry not just spiritual encouragement—or like just natural encouragement in a spiritual way—but it should carry true spiritual encouragement. Which means the person moves forward in their spirit and their life, or there is resolution to spiritual issues. There's breakthrough. There's a culmination. There's advancement.

And that's the difference of what true prophetic words bring. They bring some sort of before-and-after-moment. And a lot of the stuff that the Church was satisfied with, at least the Charismatic-Pentecostal Church, was really tongues. It wasn't the gift of prophesy. It was actually my way that I hear from God, and I'm actually responsible to interpret the way I hear from God. So, it's actually useful to the world around me.

So, I feel that God has shown me, like this year, 2018 specifically, is going to be a really transitional year for maturity in the Body. I feel like God has shown me like, He's all about maturing people. And He's giving us like—and I use that word *spiritual intelligence* not lightly—like, He's giving us intelligence and words of wisdom which are revelation on what to do with what He's already told us.

He's giving us revelation to build a road map for what He's promised. He's giving us revelation to build a strategy, and to get that kind of revelation we have to believe for another encounter with God, just like the encounter that got us in this place in faith.

So, our miracle needs a miracle. And that's really hard for people to go after. Especially when your miracle needs a miracle, you get through to the place where sometimes you're jaded or you're like, "God, are You really going to come all the way through?"

And we serve the God of miracles. He's like, "I want to make your result dependent on Me again. So, I prophesy to you. I've given you the hope or the faith for something. And now I want to give you even more faith and more hope. But it's going to come through another encounter, that is actually going to take more faith to believe in and through."

Doug: Yes. This so powerful. You know, as you're talking about this I'm thinking, wow, you know ... There seems to be this, you know, this kind of a hopeless cloud out there—the discouragement. And so, what you're saying is, this is part of what's going to break things through for us this year.

Shawn: Yes. I do. I think ... I don't know ... I just feel like when people get in touch with their identity, and then they get in touch with what God's saying to them in a real way that's authentic—and you get past some of the emotional baggage that can come with disappointment or with confusion or with ... "I have heard enough to believe with God, and believe what He's saying to me. But I haven't heard enough to be satisfied."

It's like, a lot of people just get, "Well, I haven't heard enough to be satisfied, so I'm going to stay here, and camp here and just get disappointed." I'm like, "No. Okay, if I haven't heard enough to be satisfied, 'Blessed are the hungry for they shall be filled.'"

Doug: Yes. Wow. Wow. Now, did you want to shift anywhere? Is there anything that you wanted to talk about specifically?



Shawn: You know, I'll talk about what awakened in the prophetic for me now, because it's like I feel I'm in a transition, and it may help people.

Doug: Yes. That would be great.

Shawn: So, something has happened to me. I know you do this podcast, and I started to do a podcast called *Exploring the Prophetic*. And over the last two years specifically, I've been around a lot of probably more gifted people in different industries—whether its entertainment, or politics, or business, or whatever. They are people who are a lot of prophetic-type people and also, of course, the Church.

I thought, "You know, I'm going to do a podcast. And I want other people to hear the stories and be part of the conversation I'm having." So, when I started doing this, what I didn't realize is that I've had basically a limitation or a cap on what I have faith for.

So, I'm listening to people like Dan McCollum up in Vacaville, if you've heard of him. But he started a people finding team a couple of years ago, where they're actually working with local police and the FBI, and actually praying for words of knowledge on where missing children are, and they're actually finding them. They've had seven cases that they've helped close. Two got their children back, and I'm like, what? You know, wait a minute. This is what's available.

This is in the Bible. There's, you know, there's about 150 operations of why the prophetic appears in the Bible, and one of them is finding missing people and missing things. I think like, in hearing people's stories, what I realized is that although I consider myself a mature Christian—I'm mature in my ministry or whatever—that I think sometimes when we ...

You know, I was listening to a statistic by Ministries Today, and the pastor who wrote it is a psychologist. And he said 90 percent of all ministers believe that they're the top 10 percent of speakers and thinkers in Christianity in any country. This is a statistic that he can prove.

I was like, "Oh, my gosh, just because I have a ministry and because I have a voice, and I have some level of authority in some part of me, I have become an expert. And when you come as an expert, you stop learning and growing."

So, in the last couple of years, I've been dismantling anything in me that feels like it is an expert, and saying, "There's so much to learn." And I've come back into the hunger for just pure, beautiful, childlike-encounter faith with God. Like, "God, You want to do some things in me."

And I'm celebrating the little moments, not just the big moments. I'm celebrating, you know, the behind-the-scenes stuff that no one ever gets to see that are so beautiful, where God does things.

And I feel like ... It's funny, because a friend of mine—and I'm going to name drop him, but not to be name dropping—but Bill Johnson, he just had a week off and he ended up listening to a bunch of my stuff. I consider him my pastor, you know?

And he said, "The thing I love about you is that you're childlike, and you give us the ability to believe that God can do anything. But I haven't really realized that I'm supposed to anoint the same childlikeness because, the more mature you get, the less childlike you get, typically."

When he said that, I was like, very honored by it. Because I feel like I just got my childlikeness back, and I felt like after (this was in December) ... I felt like after he said that, like God really put an emphasis on me for 2018, to really proclaim the undiluted gospel that comes to childlike people. And the encounter and visitation that will come to people who aren't experts anymore, but people who are like, maybe in the top of their field but say, "This isn't enough. God, the immeasurable God, wants to bring an encounter with the world that no one's ever seen before."

It's Isaiah, I think it's 43:19, where it says, "Behold, I do a new thing, something you have never seen before." So, you can't say, "I've been there and done that and won the t-shirt." I'm at this place where I'm like I feel I've been reset in my expectations. And it makes me so much more excited because when I'm listening to people, it's like I can listen to them and it's so fresh. Like, I don't have anything to compare it to.

I'm not going, "Oh, I've had that happen," or "I believe that," you know? It's just like beautiful rawness of just authentic childlike faith when I hear stories, that it causes me to listen with a different way. I'm not entertained by it. I'm not just like, blessed by it. But I'm actually going ... I'm looking for God and I'm going, "How does that apply to *my* faith and *my* life? And how can I have more of You that way?"

Doug: Yes. You carry this strong anointing for this. And I just have ... I was just reminded all of a sudden that five years ago, when you began to move in this new ... the words of knowledge and things ... and I was sitting in that meeting in Hollywood. We were in a studio or something. I was sitting in that meeting and, you know, I was really battling jealousy and, you know, things like that.

You know, there were things in my soul being activated. But you said something in the meeting. You said, “You know, just like when our kids come, and they want to be like one of our other kids—like one of them is a dancer and one isn’t—and they ...” you know, you said ... “You know, what I would tell my kids is that you just need to be you.”

Shawn: Yes.

Doug: And that started a process of being, you know, for me to be healed of any of that self-seeking stuff that I had.

Shawn: Well, and the other thing is that we get the same benefit that everyone else gets, and God just applies it differently. I think that is one of the things ... Like, whenever I come to a place where all of a sudden, I’ll have jealousy rise up, or I’ll have like, just that normal thing of like, “Oh, I can’t believe they have that.” You know? Like, I’ve been with some people where I’m like, you know—whether it’s money, or fame, or fortune, or gifting, or whatever it is—and you’re with them and ...

You know, I was flying on a private jet a couple of years ago for my first time. On the level of jet it was, and I remember just going, “Oh, my gosh. God, this is available to somebody in the world. Like, I’m so like ... I hate flying, but I would like to fly in this jet all the time.” It wasn’t even like an evil, like ...

All of a sudden it was kind of like a ... I just wish I had this. I kind of, like, was in the place where, “This is available?” And I remember, just God saying, “I have the same benefit for all of my children. I don’t love or respect any of them differently, but it manifests differently for each one of your lives.”

So, I started to ask God, “What’s my jet?” You know, “What’s the thing You have given me that’s beautiful and extravagant? And how can I celebrate that and not be demotivated by what you’ve given someone else, but actually be motivated by what’s available for me?”

I think that helps people to go, “Wait a minute. Like, there’s so much more for me, and I could be triggered, or I could be like, ‘Wait, I recognize this emotion. But I can actually apply this to actually an incentive to ask the Father for more.’”

Doug: Yes, exactly. I credit you for helping me bring healing in my heart. Because I used to get, you know ... I didn’t know I had jealousy in my heart. I didn’t know I had these things. And I’d get around someone who is like, really walking in this. And I’m like, wow, like your books and things, you know?

And I was struggling with my books and all the things, by the way. All those things that I was struggling with previously, ever since those moments—and where I have watched you, and then received from the Lord from you—it's brought healing now, so that this season of my life right now in 2018, I'm able to step in and be who I am.

Shawn: That's awesome. That's so amazing to hear. I love it.

Doug: And you bring that to people. And you bring it to the world. And it's just packaged in such a way that's so normal. I love your language, the way you can just speak it, you know? And we can just cut through all this, you know, a lot of the religious and theological things that we're ... I call them ticks, "theological ticks," where we're kind of thrown off on things.

Shawn: Totally.

Doug: That's so wild. Yes. So, is there anything that you feel like, that you want to release right now?

Shawn: Well, just to the people. I love what you do daily, especially giving a *Daily Prophetic Word*. And I just think you're helping to define God in our day. You know, like we're a people of anticipation that He speaks, and that we should include Him and anticipate Him in our day. I read it personally. Like, when you started releasing it I was like, "It's so brilliant."

I love that because it causes us who are listening to go, and reading, to go, "Okay, what do You want to say to me now, God? Thank You for what You just spoke through Doug, and that applies to me. But what do You want to say to *me*?" Like, it gives people an opportunity to listen.

What I would say, is that I feel like in some of the small ways, God is more quiet than ever. Being like, you know, you had mentioned earlier you used to prophesy over everybody twice. You know, in a lot of the small ways, God is quieter. But in a lot of the biggest ways, God is available and wants to encounter us.

I just want to put anticipation in the listeners, that for me, I'm pretty normal. I wasn't normal under any special sign, or star or whatever. I wasn't ordained a prophet at two, you know? I don't have a background. I just pursued hearing God's voice and connecting to Him. So, I want to encourage the listeners. Like, it's an attainable goal to hear God in powerful ways. And He wants to speak to you as powerfully as you want to listen.

So, you want to listen in a powerful way. Like, re-gear yourself to listen in a more substantial way, and what that looks like is *listening prayer*. Like, I went from my devotional times—of like, crying out to God and telling Him what I needed and wanted—to actually say, “What do *You* want, and what do *You* need? Like, what’s in *Your* heart right now?” And just changed the format of how I pray.

It’s frustrating at first, but I just feel like God ... I’m telling you, it’s not just a general statement. In 2018 something is available on God’s heart that He destined for this time. And a lot of it involves us encountering Him in a way that gives us the faith, and the courage, and the identity to believe for the greater things that He has called the world to right now. So, yes. So, I just feel like, you know, this is that season. Like, let’s *believe* Him right now.

Doug: Yes. It really is. I feel that as well. Well, there’s a strong anointing. It just kind of blew in like a wind. I want you to release that over us, a prayer of activation over everyone.

Shawn: Yes. Jesus, thank You so much for everyone who is listening. I thank You so much for Doug and his whole ministry. God, we pray that You would speak ... Lord, anything that Doug and I have, impart to everyone who is listening, Lord—anything that we have on our lives, any faith that we have, any childlikeness, any prophetic gifts or abilities—we just impart to everyone listening, God.

Thank You, that You are the God who multiplies. You don’t take away, and You don’t make small. You don’t minimize. You don’t isolate. You actually make everything bigger, grander, multiply it, more beautiful, spread it out. But You’re a God who is contagious. And I pray that, as everyone is listening, that they would have anticipation to hear You in a way they have never heard You before.

God, I’m expecting that for me and Doug, that we’re going to hear You in ways in 2018 that not only we’ve never heard You before, but they will bring a different result than we have ever had before in our lives.

Thank You that, when You speak and when You bring relationship, it’s like when Job said, “I long for the days when intimate friendship was like a light on my path and shone upon me.” Lord, we pray that Your intimate friendship would come and speak to us. And that it would create light around us to where we have more of a plan, more of a blueprint, more of an understanding, and more of an awareness of what You want to do.

But also, that the world around us would see that as well, and would open doors that no other man could have opened for us except for Your divine

favor. And we just release that faith, we release that connection now, God, in Jesus' name.

Doug: Amen. Wow! I'm feeling it. I'm just feeling really full. Every time I get around you I feel, I feel encouraged.

Shawn: Aww.

Doug: And full. And full of faith and full of ... You know, we can do this. We can really do this.

Shawn: I love that.

Doug: And there's such an activation anointing on you. So why don't you just share with us about how to get a hold of you, anything that you have that might help.

Shawn: Okay. Yes. We have our *Exploring the Prophetic* podcast. I would love for you guys to come and listen to that. Doug will be on it soon. I have an *Exploring the Prophetic* devotional that came alongside of it, and it is just a 90-day challenge to activate yourself in hearing God's voice. We go through some of the materials I have in some of my more popular books like *Translating God* and *God Secrets*.

My favorite thing that we have is for kids from 7 to 12 years old. It's called *Growing Up with God*. It's a curriculum. It's great for home schools or churches. It's also great for individual home use. And we have a novel, a coloring book, a workbook that is for kids. And then also a teacher's guide that's for parents or teachers.

So, these are some of the materials we have. But we just want to empower and activate people, so we have empowering and activating materials.

Doug: Now, here's a man who has children, I see.

Shawn: I do. I love kids.

Doug: How many kids do you have? What are their ages? We just had two. We have a 3-year-old and a 4, almost 5-year-old. But I have done foster care for years and years and years, so I had a foundation in kids, you know? So now we have our own little ones which is really fun.

I love this, Shawn, the fact that you, like your book *Translating God*, you're translating it into children. You're translating it into us. You're in the Hollywood scene, behind the scenes. You're in the CEO boardroom and,

like you said, even down on the street and in skid row. No matter where you go, God is there. And people need Him.

Shawn: Oh, yes.

Doug: I so love that about you guys. Wow!

Shawn: Well, I appreciate you. Thank you so much for letting me be on the podcast.

Doug: Yes. Now, your website or ...

Shawn: Oh, it's [BolzMinistries.com](http://BolzMinistries.com). I'm on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. And our Facebook, on our public Facebook, we release a lot of media. And we even model because right now, we're really there helping people to understand words of knowledge. And so, we model a lot. I send out videos of what I prophesy over people, so we would have a model of how to do it. We only do that to show that it's available, it's there, and you can do it too.

So, we have lots of people, literally thousands of churches, have gone through our *Translating God* and *God Secrets* curriculum. And people are like ... We get the best reports. Like, my email box is filled with the best reports all the time.

Doug: Wow! That's so good. All right. Hey, everybody, it's been a great time. Check out Shawn and his ministry online. And I look forward to seeing you again soon. Thanks so much, Shawn.

Shawn: Bless you, Doug. Thank you!

Doug: Bless you, everybody!

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