Prophetic Ministry in the Local Church

A. What is prophetic ministry?
   1. Using the revelatory gifts of the Holy Spirit to benefit the body of Christ
   2. Holy Spirit is a person
      Speaks – prophecy, tongues, interpretation of tongues
      Thinks – Word of wisdom, word of knowledge, discerning of spirits
      Acts – Activates faith, manifests healings and miracles
   3. Prophetic ministry may include forth telling of future events
      Usually this is reserved for a prophet, not always
      Amos 7:14 – "I am not a prophet of the son of a prophet…"
      Dream: GTC, Sam Storms leaving, training center closing
      Amos 3:7 "the Lord God does nothing unless He reveals His secret counsel"
   4. Share difference between prophecy, prophetic ministry, office of prophet
   5. Rev. 19:10 'Testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy"
      Amp. *"the substance of the truth revealed by Jesus is the spirit of all prophecy…"*
   1. So since both Jesus and the Holy Spirit are welcome in our midst, we should expect prophetic ministry on a regular basis

B. Types of prophetic ministry
   1. Public platform and speak words – rare, must be proven minister
   2. In private ministry settings – very common
      Praying for the sick
         Identify problem – depression Lutheran lady, generational spirit
            Healing won't come until forgiveness given
      Confirm an action – DH @ cross-roads, Lord pointing straight ahead
      At the altar in our Lutheran church in SD
      Attacks from the enemy – Jim/Joyce G in Africa
      Small prayer groups – direction to pray for the body, etc.
   3. All of these are revelatory, all are for the edification of the church
      (Demonstrate here??)

C. Satan hates prophecy – I Cor. 14:3 – *"One who prophesies speaks to men for edification and exhortation and consolation."*

Satan Wants to:	God Wants to:
1. Tear down	1. Build up – to edify
2. Discourage	2. Exhort – to encourage
3. Cause fear/anxiety	3. Comfort/console

One way to judge prophecy (I Cor. 14:29) is by what it does (above comparison)

D. Some things to be watchful for:
   1. Hurt Sheep – Heard prophetic words on their own – 4 women, one man

2. Unrealistic expectations/use common sense – Go to conf., God will pay bills
3. Valuing the prophetic gift over other gifts, serving, teaching, praying for sick
4. Interpretations can be mistaken – I Cor. 13:9 – We are not 100% accurate
   Give example: Lady, about 40 yr old, visitor, out-of-town, persistent,
   ringing in left ear [woman, 39, first time at MCF, SD, 20 yr, rt ear]
   5 of 6 = 83% accurate, but not 100%
5. Revelation => Interpretation => Application: All important
   Our word about leaving SD – Misinterpreted

1. Prophecy can be a mixture: God and the vessel, sort it out
2. Prophecy is not equal to scripture. It should never contradict scripture.

E. Summary

1. Prophecy, when properly given and administered, is a tremendous blessing to the Body of Christ
2. It is much needed in all aspects of the Church – God wants to run His church
   Jer. 29:11 – CTC praying as a congregation for God's revealed plan
3. Prophecy confronts people with the reality of God – the Harvest
   Taking it to the marketplace – waitresses, store clerks – we are asking
   Black man, downtown in bus, revelation, accepted the Lord
   Teresa Lee – on the way to the restroom, man on the phone

1. People are encouraged
2. We have the sense of being in God's will
   Like Jesus, we are not acting on our own initiative. Jo. 8:28

Possible Ministry Time??