

Set Prophetic Boundaries

It's important to set boundaries as a prophet, both for yourself and for others.

Hubie Synn gives advice from his experience:

“When God accelerated the use of my gift, [my wife] Vicki had a number of different reactions. First, she was happy and relieved to see her husband coming along in his walk with God. Recall that when we were first married, neither of us was walking with the Lord. When we came back to church, Vicki often asked God, “Is Hubie going to have the same love and passion and desire to serve You that I do?” Seeing me grow in the Lord and be used by Him was a big relief for her. It also fulfilled her to see me becoming the head of household and leading our family in a godly way.

But when I started prophesying more frequently, including to women, Vicki was tempted to feel threatened, jealous, and insecure. I was spending a lot of time on ministry trips with people she barely knew, and of course it wasn't a welcome sight to see me interacting with women who were attractive and single. Even less did she like the idea of women calling or texting me later with follow-up questions.

I mentioned earlier some of the boundaries we established: I don't minister to people one-on-one in private. I don't hug women if I can help it, and I cut communication short if they later try to text or call me. I'm not saying everyone has wrong motives, but Vicki and I are determined to go the extra mile to protect our marriage and ministry from even a hint of scandal. I told Vicki when we got married, “We're doing this once.” I meant it then, and I mean it now.

We also established an open text and e-mail policy. Vicki is free to pick up my phone at any time and read my texts and e-mails. A couple of times she has done this and said, “Ugh, I wish I hadn't read that,” because people text me all sorts of issues they are having. Again, I rarely call people back or continue a conversation beyond what is necessary. And Vicki can see whatever communication I have with them. I encourage you, go to great lengths to protect your marriage and family relationships. Set boundaries further out than they need to be so everyone knows you are serious about having integrity and protecting the most important relationships in your life.”¹

Set the boundaries you are comfortable with, and enforce them. These, however, must not drive clients away. You must operate within your set boundaries with love, grace, mercy and with Father's heart.

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