

Title: "Suggestion, Misattribution, Memory Errors, and Words of Knowledge"

August 24, 2026

Greetings all,

Just a quick note to let you know about an addendum section that I have just added to the "Discerning Truth in Memory" essay (Available as free download from the "Special Subjects/Advanced Topics" section of the Resources page: <https://www.immanuelapproach.com/special-subjectsadvanced-topics/>).

I have included the intro as an appetizer.

IV. Addendum – Prophetic words of knowledge: The toughest discernment question regarding suggestion, misattribution, and memory errors is what to do with prophetic words of knowledge that include detailed imagery of some kind of abuse situation. For example, consider the following hypothetical scenario of the ministry facilitator getting a possible prophetic word of knowledge:

The facilitator sees an image of the recipient at the age of 8, in pink pajamas, in a small bedroom with bunk beds. She is on the top bunk, it's dark, the lights are out except a small night light to the left of the bottom bunk. There is a green rug on the floor in the shape of a teddy bear, and there is a window across from the bunk bed that is open. It's summer, there is a breeze blowing in the window, and the green curtains are blowing towards her. Her father comes into this scene and walks up to the bunk bed. She experiences fear and dread as this happens, and pretends to be asleep. He begins to fondle her.

If this is truly from the Lord, it can provide very valuable guidance for the facilitator as he makes judgment calls about direction for the session. If he shares this word of knowledge, it could provide an exceptionally powerful memory prompt, helping to clarify the recipient's choices, and helping to overcome psychological defense habits, brain biology ruts, and fallible filing systems.

If this is not from the Lord, and the facilitator shares the details, this could present very real risk of suggestion, misattribution, and memory error that could deeply wound the person receiving ministry and her family.

The thoughts, principles, and practical guidelines below will hopefully provide some tools with which to sort out how to use prophetic guidance and words of knowledge in emotional healing ministry settings.

Blessings,

Dr. Lehman/Karl

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