

The Church at Corinth - 1 Corinthians

Chapter 14 Part 1 – What's Up With Tongues

Prophecy

- What is prophecy: speak forth by divine inspirations
 - It is dangerous to speak forth false prophecy (Eze. 13:4-9)
 - Prophecy is for the edification of the Body of Christ – 1 Cor. 14:3; Eph. 4:11-12
- Paul instructs them to follow after (pursue) love and to desire spiritual gifts
 - Note: God says that we should want the gifts of the spirit to operate in our lives. So, why is it that so many of us reject and fight them? 1 Cor. 12:31; 14:39
- Note the purposes of prophecy:
 - Edification – 2 Cor. 10:8; 12:19
 - Exhortation – to implore, invite, invoke – 1 Tim. 4:13; 2 Tim. 4:2
 - Comfort – to console and encourage – John 14:1

What Are Tongues

- Glossolalia – (according to Webster's Dictionary) a ecstatic utterance of unintelligible speechlike sounds, viewed by some as a manifestation of deep religious experience
- A spiritual language in which your communication is not with man, but God
1 Cor. 14:2; Jude 1:20
- Without the spiritual gift of interpretation, no man can understand this spiritual language – vs. 5, 1 Cor. 12:10

Tongues vs. Prophecy

- Tongues builds you up – Jude 1:20
- Prophecy builds up the Church – vs. 4

- It's would be good if we all spoke in tongues but even more so that we all would learn how to speak forth the Word of God!

Seek to benefit the Church

- We should be less gift greedy and more Church centered in our approach
 - Should operate in love – 1 Cor. 13
 - Should seek not to benefit ourselves – 1 Cor. 13:5
- Paul spoke in tongues more than a lot of people (vs. 18) but was more concerned about edifying the Church than himself

Tongues as a sign to unbelievers

- Mark 16:17
- Acts 2:4-7

QUESTIONS FOR THOUGHT

- What are you allowing to stop you from receiving spiritual gifts from God?
- Are you willing to surrender you to God to receive?
- Once you do receive, can God trust you not to get caught up in the gifting?