



“THE GIFTS”

Text Corinthians 14:1-19

Chapter 12,13,14 all deal with spiritual gifts. Chapter 12 confronts the misuse of the gifts. Chapter 13 Paul emphasizes and concludes that the answer to why disunity and division marked this church was their lack of love. Chapter 14 Paul will lay down some principles for worship. In other words how certain gifts are to be used within the church. Paul will deal with two spiritual gifts that were highly prized by the Corinthians: Tongues and prophecy.

Take away for today: _____

**#1 _____ is better than _____
in public worship Vs 1-12**

This would have been some very hard words to hear. Tongues was what this church was known for. And now Paul is telling them for public worship, prophecy is way better than tongues.

Defining Tongues

- The word "tongue" translated in our english bibles means both the _____ and _____. This expression of "speaking in tongues gives the impression of a _____ rather than just speaking _____.
- Some believe that speaking in tongues is _____ or _____ spoken in _____ communication with God that results in a " _____ " tongue that is not _____ by the speaker (I Corinthians 14:2, 14-17, 28).

Questions for further reflection

What challenged your thinking or beliefs from today's teaching?

What about the teaching on tongues or prophecy do you find difficult or hard to understand? How can you see them being used in a worship meeting?

Can you give an example of what you believe was prophecy that was spoken into your own life or the life of someone else? How did it edify you or the other person?

- Others believe that tongues were " _____ " languages that were _____ by those who heard (Acts 2:6). The disciples who were Galileans were speaking in Galilean but yet being understood in many different languages (Acts 2:7). It seems that speaking in tongues may involve _____ in actual _____ languages that are understood by some of those who hear.

The point Paul is making in the text is not if someone is speaking in tongues or not. This is what the Corinthians were doing. They missed the point of the spiritual gifts. We too don't need to get caught up with who is correct and who is right on _____ rather the crucial issue of this text is a simple question. _____? Are the gifts being used in the worship service _____ the believers. If not the gifts are of no use.

Characteristics of tongues in I Corinthians 14

- Tongues are an _____ (I Corinthians 12:3, 7, 10, 11, 14:2).
- Tongues are primarily addressed to _____ - Seems to involve _____ (14:2,14-18,28).
- Tongues are not _____ by the _____ or the _____, unless _____ (14:2, 5, 13-15)
- Those who speak in tongues are to be self _____. Speaking in tongues is not an _____ (14:28, 32).
- The content of tongues appears to be _____ and _____ rather than _____ (14:2, 14-16; also Acts 2:11).
- Tongues are a sign for _____ (14:22)

Defining Prophecy

- In the Bible as a whole, a prophet is one who speaks directly _____, whether in _____ the *future* or _____, proclaiming divine _____ for the *present*. Prophecy is NOT _____ to Scripture or _____ new Scripture. Nor is it the _____ for today.
- In simple terms prophecy is telling _____ that God has _____.
I Cor. 14:30-31, I Cor 14:25
- Prophecy is a sign for _____ I Cor 14:22



Prophecy occurs when a _____ from God is reported in the persons _____ (merely human) _____

Why is prophecy better?

- Prophecy was not addressed to _____, but to _____, while tongues was addressed to _____ (14:2, 3).
- Prophecy _____ the _____, while tongues edified the _____ (14:4).
- Tongues were _____ to the speaker and the hearer while prophecy was _____ by both speaker and hearer (14:2, 3).
- Tongues are inferior to prophecy only when _____ ("unless he interprets," verse 5).

Two examples of the value of interpretation:

- _____ Vs 6-8
- _____ Vs 9-11

#2 The use of tongues in worship.

Without an _____ it is to be done in _____.

- These verses very evidently show that while the gift of tongues may edify the speaker in private, they will not edify in public unless they are interpreted. Without an interpreter the tongues are to be used in private worship. Paul emphasizes this in three ways:
- Vs 13-15 _____ (emphasis on with my spirit and with my mind).
- Vs 18-19 Paul said that he _____ more than the Corinthians, yet there is no record of him ever speaking in tongues in _____.
- In verse 28 Paul instructs the tongues speaker to " _____ " if there is not an interpreter present.
 - This does not mean that tongues _____ . Only if an interpreter is present.
 - Let tongues be reserved for the _____ unless an interpreter is present.