

Summer in the Spirit

The Speaking Spirit

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July 30, 2017

1 Corinthians 14:1–5 (NIV84)

1 Follow the way of love and eagerly desire spiritual gifts, especially the gift of prophecy. 2 For anyone who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God. Indeed, no one understands him; he utters mysteries with his spirit. 3 But everyone who prophesies speaks to men for their strengthening, encouragement and comfort. 4 He who speaks in a tongue edifies himself, but he who prophesies edifies the church. 5 I would like every one of you to speak in tongues, but I would rather have you prophesy. He who prophesies is greater than one who speaks in tongues, unless he interprets, so that the church may be edified.

1 Corinthians 14:13–18 (NIV84)

13 For this reason anyone who speaks in a tongue should pray that he may interpret what he says. 14 For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my mind is unfruitful. 15 So what shall I do? I will pray with my spirit, but I will also pray with my mind; I will sing with my spirit, but I will also sing with my mind. 16 If you are praising God with your spirit, how can one who finds himself among those who do not understand say “Amen” to your thanksgiving, since he does not know what you are saying? 17 You may be giving thanks well enough, but the other man is not edified. 18 I thank God that I speak in tongues more than all of you.

The Holy Spirit is a Speaking Spirit.

He expresses himself through people.

His Body is Christ's Body and we are His Temple.

We ought to learn to communicate to one another, calling attention to His abiding presence. We don't have a right to, "Give you a piece of my mind." When what is in our mind, won't build someone else up.

Ephesians 4:29–30 (NIV84)

29 Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. 30 And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

3 New Testament rules for use of prophecy with other believers:

1. Strengthening- This word means to build up. Literally the construction of a house or dwelling. When you speak to someone this way, you are helping to expand and deepen their spiritual house.
2. Comfort- To come alongside someone to help carry them. This word contains the Greek word “paraclete” or Comforter built into it. You are saying, “You can make it, because “We (you, me, and the Spirit) are together!
3. Encouragement- It means to cheer, stir up, and strongly urge. Encouragement increases courage to face challenges, see options, and creates hope for the future. Stirring people to what can be, instead of focusing only on the present reality.

Tips for your Tongues

1. It is a language - not gibberish. Acts 2:5-11
2. It is the language of the Spirit. Acts 2:4, Acts 10:44-46, Acts 19:1-6
3. It is unhindered by our own understanding. I Cor. 14:14-15
4. It is a grace used privately to edify personally. Jude 20
5. It can be a gift used in public when coupled with interpretation. I Cor. 14:26-33
6. Paul indicates he used private tongues profusely. I Cor. 14:18
7. Tongues used privately can be interpreted for personal edification as well. When this is practiced, as always, Scripture is the first, and the final authority. I Cor. 14:13

Church Announcements:

1. **School Supplies Drive, July 23-Aug 13** Light House is collecting funds for a School Supplies Drive. The funds will go to purchase school supplies and be distributed to various Gloucester schools.
2. **Men’s Breakfast, Aug 5** For all you hungry guys out there, come out on August 5th at 8:30 a.m. in the Family Life Center for some good food and a good word from the Lord.