

THE LOCAL CHURCH
Our Services: All Things Must Edify

- I. **Through our gatherings the church should be being edified-It's the theme of much of this chapter-1Cor14:26-How is it then, brethren? when ye come together, every one of you hath a psalm, hath a doctrine, hath a tongue, hath a revelation, hath an interpretation. Let all things be done unto edifying. TPT-Beloved friends, what does all this imply? When you conduct your meetings, you should always let everything be done to build up the church family. Whether you share a song of praise, a teaching, a divine revelation, or a tongue and interpretation, let each one contribute what strengthens others; GNV-What is to be done then, brethren? when ye come together, according as every one of you hath a Psalm, or hath doctrine, or hath a tongue, or hath revelation, or hath interpretation, let all things be done unto edifying.**
- A. What is to edify?-To strengthen, to give boldness or courage, promote spiritual growth-(NOTE:G3618-Strong's-To be a house builder, that is construct or figuratively confirm (make more firm; to add strength to; to strengthen): - build, edify (Instruct and improve the mind in knowledge generally and particularly I moral and religious knowledge, in faith and holiness), embolden (to give boldness or courage); Thayer-To build up, to establish, to promote growth in Christian wisdom, affection, grace, virtue, holiness, blessedness; G3619-Strong's-Architecture, that is a structure; Confirmation; - building, edify; Thayer-The act of one who promotes another's growth in Christian wisdom, piety, happiness, holiness; Edifying)
1. Edifying is the feeding of your faith (give boldness, courage)-You can receive something in a service that makes your faith strong; Faith is how you win-1Jn5:4; Faith is how you please God-Hb11:6; Faith is how you receive from God-Hb6:12; Faith is you resist the devil and see him flee-1Pt5:9
 2. Edifying is the strengthening of your spirit-You can be strengthened inside-Eph3:16; You can receive something in a service that strengthens you inside, joy is stirred, quickenings come inside (life jolt) and maybe you were a little low, a little weak, maybe you were even thinking about quitting, but strength came to press on, to fight, to resist
 3. Edifying includes spiritual growth or maturity-You can receive things in a service that cause you to grow in knowledge and in understanding and affect your thinking and cause you to come out of baby stage or a childhood stage; You can hear things that stretch you and cause you to come up to a new place spiritually
- B. In church ALL THINGS done publicly or from the platform must edify the church
1. Things can happen in a service that don't edify the church-People can be sincere, but be wrong
 2. Publicly or from the platform-The focus of the church is on what the Lord is doing through them
 3. The platform is about what God wants to do through someone to edify the church-Not about the person on the platform
- II. **Propheying or speaking in tongues without the interpretation-One will edify the church and the other won't; In talking about propheying and speaking in tongues the Lord is teaching us that what is done in an assembly must edify; His main topic is the church being edified in our gatherings NOT prophecy and tongues-1Cor14:1-Follow after charity, and desire spiritual gifts, but rather that ye may prophesy. ²For he that speaketh in an unknown tongue speaketh not unto men, but unto God; for no man understandeth him; howbeit in the spirit he speaketh mysteries. ³But he that prophesieth speaketh unto men to edification, and exhortation, and comfort. ⁴He that speaketh in an unknown tongue edifieth himself; but he that prophesieth edifieth the church. ⁵I would that ye all spake with tongues but rather that ye prophesied: for greater is he that prophesieth than he that speaketh with tongues, except he interpret, that the church may receive edifying.¹⁴For if I pray in an unknown tongue, my spirit prays, but my understanding is unfruitful.**
- A. Desire to prophesy-Prophecy is not superior, but in a church gathering for ministry it's more effective than some things
- B. What is prophecy?-Prophecy is God inspired utterance or speech in a tongue you know
1. Speaking in tongues is inspired utterance in a tongue you don't know-The Holy Spirit is inspiring these words that are coming from my heart in a language I don't understand; The words are not coming from your head
 - a. We speak and the Holy Spirit gives the utterance or the ability to speak-Ac2:4-They were all filled with the Holy Ghost and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance (speak forth, act of utter words)
 2. Prophecy is inspired utterance in a tongue you know-The Holy Spirit is inspiring these words that are coming from my heart in a language that I do understand; The words are not coming from your heard
 - a. Foretelling is one aspect of prophecy-All prophecy is inspired utterance, but all prophecy is not foretelling-Prophecy-G4395-To foretell events, speak under divine inspiration; Thayer-Speak forth by divine inspiration, to predict; To utter forth a thing which can only be known by divine revelation; Under like prompting to teach, refute, reprove, admonish, comfort; G4396-Inspired speaker; Thayer-One who moved by the Spirit of God, solemnly declares to men what he has received by inspiration, especially concerning future events; In the religious assemblies of the Christians, they were moved by the Holy Spirit to speak, having power to instruct, comfort, encourage, rebuke, convict, and stimulate their hearers
 3. Prophecy is equal to tongues-In that it comes out of the same place in the spirit, but the expression is different

C. Tongues (without interpretation) edifies you, prophecy edifies the Church

1. When you speak in tongues-1) You speak to God 2) No man understands 3) You edify yourself
2. When you prophesy-1) You speak unto men 2) It's in a tongue you understand 3) You edify the church
3. Every believer can prophesy and speak in tongues-1Cor14:1,5-Desire to prophesy...I would that you all speak in tongues
 - a. Should we speak in tongues?-This is inspired by God-1Cor14:5-I would that you all speak with tongues
 1. When's the last time you heard someone who speaks in tongues bemoan speaking in tongues-The people who bemoan speaking in tongues don't speak in tongues (Ex: Opinion about a restaurant)
 - b. There are degrees of prophecy and different expressions-Any believer can speak by inspiration of the Holy Ghost and edify another believer; This is one form of prophecy
 1. Prophecy edifies, exhorts, comforts-Exhort-To embolden, give strength, spirit or courage; Comfort-Cheer the mind in distress, alleviate grief, give refreshment and rest to the mind or spirit
 2. Prophesying doesn't make you a prophet-You can teach and not stand in the office of a teacher, you can care for brother and not stand in the office of a pastor, you can win someone to the Lord and not stand in the office of the evangelist, you can prophesy and not stand in the office of the prophet

D. The context of his discourse is he is talking about in church gatherings-Things done in a gathering publicly must edify-1Co14:5-I would that ye all spake with tongues but rather that ye prophesied: for greater is he that prophesies than he that speaketh with tongues, except he interpret, that the church may receive edifying. ⁶ Now, brethren, **if I come unto you** speaking with tongues, **what shall I profit (benefit) you**, except I shall speak to you either by revelation, or by knowledge, or by prophesying, or by doctrine? ⁹ So likewise ye, except ye utter by the tongue words easy to be understood, how shall it be known what is spoken? for ye shall **speak into the air**. ¹⁰ There are, it may be, so many kinds of voices (languages) in the world, and none of them is without signification (meaning). ¹¹ Therefore if I know not the meaning of the voice, I shall be unto him that speaketh a barbarian (foreigner), and he that speaketh shall be a barbarian unto me. ¹² Even so ye, forasmuch as ye are zealous of spiritual gifts, seek that ye may excel to the edifying of the church. ¹³ Wherefore let him that speaketh in an unknown tongue pray that he may interpret. ¹⁴ For if I pray in an unknown tongue, my spirit prays, but my understanding is unfruitful.

1. 5-In a gathering prophesy is more beneficial than tongues-Unless the tongues are interpreted then they are equal
2. 6-9-Speaking in tongues without an interpretation won't edify the church-It may edify me, but it won't profit you
3. 10-11-It's like going to a Spanish church-The Word is preached but you don't understand it so it doesn't edify you
4. 13-If you speak in tongues pray that you may interpret so the church can be edified

III. **A corporate setting is not a private setting; Things are different when you're alone versus when you're with others-1Cor14:15-What is it then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will pray with the understanding also: I will sing with the spirit, and I will sing with the understanding also. ¹⁶ Else when thou shalt bless with the spirit, how shall he that occupieth the room of the unlearned say Amen at thy giving of thanks, seeing he understandeth not what thou sayest? ¹⁷ For thou verily givest thanks well, but the other is not edified. ¹⁸ I thank my God, I speak with tongues more than ye all: ¹⁹ Yet in the church I had rather speak five words with my understanding, that by my voice I might teach others also, than ten thousand words in an unknown tongue. ²⁰ Brethren, be not children in understanding: howbeit in malice be ye children, but in understanding be men. ²⁶ How is it then, brethren? when ye come together, every one of you hath a psalm, hath a doctrine, hath a tongue, hath a revelation, hath an interpretation. Let all things be done unto edifying. ²⁷ If any man speak in an unknown tongue, let it be by two, or at the most by three, and that by course; and let one interpret. ²⁸ But if there be no interpreter, let him keep silence in the church; and let him speak to himself, and to God. ³² And the spirits of the prophets are subject to the prophets. ³³ For God is not the author of confusion (instability, disorder, commotion), but of peace (join, one, harmony), as in all churches of the saints. ³⁹ Wherefore, brethren, covet to prophesy, and forbid not to speak with tongues.**

- A. 15-Don't get rid of one, but discern the setting and time-CEV-Then what should I do? There are times when I should pray with my spirit, and times when I should pray with my mind. Sometimes I should sing with my spirit, and at other times I should sing with my mind
- B. 16-There are things you do in a private setting that you don't in a public setting-Not for shame but because they won't edify
 1. You can do something public in a service, you can do something private in a service-Something that is public puts you on the platform and attention of the people is on you; Something private is just between you and the Lord
 2. What you do privately doesn't have to edify the church, but when it is public it must edify the church-Not just you
 3. 17-You can do things publicly that edify yourself and do nothing for others in the room-Isn't supposed to happen
 4. If you're doing something publicly in a gathering that's not edifying the church, then it's not the spirit of God

- C. In a public setting you're not by yourself so don't act like you are-We don't want what we're doing to pull someone's attention and focus away from Jesus and onto us; Anything that pulls people's attention away from Jesus is not edifying them
 - 1. When your expression of worship pulls peoples focus and attention off of Jesus it's no longer worship
 - 2. Make room the Spirit, not silliness-We want the Spirit, not wild and fleshy silliness that we call being spiritual; Whatever is The Spirit we want and we don't care how it's perceived by people, but if it's just the flesh, even from well meaning believers, we don't that in our services because that stuff can confuse, scare and turn people away
 - 3. 18-19-Yet in the church-He's not knocking tongues, he prayed in tongues a lot, but in a gathering He's not alone and so what he does publicly needs to edify the others and so he picks prophesy because the purpose is edifying
 - 4. 20-Don't be immature in understanding-Excited and ignorant-**Rm10:2**-*They have a zeal of God but not according to knowledge*
- D. 26-28-When you come together let all things be done to edifying-If it doesn't edify, then keep it to yourself
 - 1. 28,32-You are in control of what you do in a service-The Lord does not possess you and overtake you
- E. 33-God is the author of peace-Unity is big in a service; If the Lord is moving in a certain way we will go there together
 - 1. If there is instability, disorder, commotion God didn't author it-There should be zero confusion in our services

IV. There should be order in the service-1Cor14:40-*Let all things be done decently (decorously, behavior suitable to time and occasion) and in order (right order, established mode of proceeding, orderly manner).*

- A. Let all things be done decently-There are things not suitable for corporate services
- B. Let all things be done in order-God oversight of the service to see to it that it proceeds in the manner the Lord wants
 - 1. You don't take a platform that's not given to you in a service by the leadership-You don't talk over the leadership
- C. The platform is a holy place-It's given you place to minister into the hearts of God's people; Guard the platform