

THE TRUTH ABOUT TONGUES

Forbid Not To Speak With Tongues

1 Corinthians 14 is a correction for trying to minister to people in a gathering by speaking in tongues with no interpretation. If not read in context it skews your understanding of tongues. Many even try to use this chapter to devalue tongues.

I. Follow after love, desire spiritual things, especially to prophesy-V1

- A. Follow after love-Always keep one hand on love; This will help you to avoid a myriad of mistakes-Speaking in tongues with no interpretation in gatherings and the speaker is edified but others weren't-NOT LOVE
 - 1. Love is the main thing NOT the only thing-People read this like "get the love and forget the rest"-**1Co12:31,13:13**
- B. Desire spiritual things-Don't be satisfied with just a natural existence-(**BBE**-The things which The Spirit gives-**CJ**-The things of The Spirit-**YL**-Spiritual things-**DAR**-Spiritual manifestations)
 - 1. They were zealous but ignorant-V12,V20-Don't get rid of the desire (or the spiritual things) get rid of the ignorance; Many because of the ignorance of some have thrown away spiritual things-**1Co12:1**
- C. Desire rather to prophesy-Greater degree-**CJ**-Pursue love! However keep on eagerly seeking the things of the Spirit and especially...to prophesy.

II. (FOR) Desire especially to prophesy because in ministering to people in a gathering inspired utterance in a known tongue edifies the church and inspired utterance in an unknown tongue only edifies the speaker

- A. Tongues vs. Prophecy-Tongues: Speak by inspiration in an unknown tongue, talk to God NOT men, no man understands, speak in the spirit, speak mysteries, edifies speaker; Prophecy-1.Speak by inspiration in a tongue known 2.Speak to men 3.Edifies, exhorts, comforts the hearers-**V2-4**
- B. Prophecy is greater than tongues without interpretation in a service-Tongues with an interpretation is equal to it both edify the church-**V5**
- C. Speaking in tongues, without interpretation to another person doesn't profit them-It doesn't work/ineffective, they don't understand-**V6-9**
 - 1. A trumpet has to make a distinct sound for battle-Otherwise people won't get ready because they don't know the meaning of the sound
- D. In ministering to people unless you speak in a tongue they can understand, it's wasted words-It won't minister to them-**V9-11**
- E. Even so you-In their zealousness they are speaking in tongues in a service and no one understands it and no one is being edified-**V12**
 - 1. In their desire for spiritual things they got off and did something that wasn't The Spirit and they think it is-You can desire something right and miss it in the execution-**V12**
- F. Don't quit seeking spiritual things seek to the edifying of the church-**12**
- G. He charged them if they speak in tongues in a gathering pray to interpret-Because tongues with no interpretation won't edify the church-**V12-13**

III. **He's not trying to get rid of tongues-He's trying to get rid of them speaking in tongues in a service without an interpretation because it doesn't edify**

- A. I would you that you all spoke in tongues-V5-He makes it clear he's not trying to get rid of tongues
- B. If you have a tongue pray to interpret-That's not getting rid of tongues
- C. I'll use both tongues and my understanding-When others are in the room, when I'm trying to minister to others I use my understanding-Tongues when others aren't in the room or when I'm not ministering to others-**15-17**
- D. Tongues are not bad (gave thanks well)-Speaking in tongues they weren't doing something wrong/bad, but at the wrong time, the wrong way-**V16-17**
- E. He is for tongues-Many have a negative connotation about tongues-**V18**
1. I thank God-Tongues are from God
 2. He spoke in tongues more than them all not in church, but somewhere else-Knew when tongues without interpretation was appropriate-**V19**
- F. They're off because they're using tongues the wrong way NOT because they spoke in tongues and tongues are bad-Immature in understanding-**V20**
- G. Tongues are not a sign a for the believer (it didn't say tongues weren't for the believer)-For the believer tongues are for edification
1. Not all tongues serve the same purpose-1.Sign-Unbeliever 2.Tongues & interpretation-The church 3.Private-Sing, pray, bless, edify
 2. What won't minister to anyone in a gathering are tongues with no sign or an interpretation-If you speak in tongues to an unbeliever with no sign he calls you crazy; If you speak in tongues to a believer with no interpretation it won't minister to him; **Prophecy is inspired utterance in a language everyone can receive-V24-25**
- H. Let all things be done to edifying-This is the big point (V3-5,12,17,26)and it wasn't to get rid of tongues
1. He's not saying this is the way it should be (everyone should have something), but this is how it was with them-Make sure everything is done to edifying and everybody shouldn't be saying something
- I. Let him keep silence in the church-He didn't forbid tongues that had no sign or interpretation, but he forbode those kinds of tongues in a public setting to minister to people; There's a time/place for tongues without an interpretation, but it's not in church-**V27-28**
- J. In the whole chapter He never: 1.Forbidden people to speak in tongues in church 2.Forbidden people to speak in tongues privately 3.Never said tongues were bad, were evil and weren't of God --- **Because tongues are the will of God**