

Message Notes

Scripture Passages

"Spiritual Gifts-part 7 (Tongues/Prophecy)"

(taken from the New International Version)

Introduction - "We've come a long way, baby..."

This week: Others-Centered Gifts of Speech

1. Love = Eagerly desiring spiritual gifts

1 Corinthians 14:1-5

What is "speaking in tongues"?

What is the "gift of prophecy"?

- a. *The Gift of Prophecy in the New Testament was a sign that we are in a new era*
Acts 2:14-21
- b. *Prophecy can take different forms*
Acts 11:28
1 Corinthians 14:3
1 Corinthians 14:24-25
- c. *Prophecy is NOT Scripture*
Acts 21:4
1 Thessalonians 5:19-21
1 Corinthians 14:29
- d. *Prophecy is a Revelation of God through a person*
1 Corinthians 14:30-31

2. The power of words

1 Corinthians 14:6-12

- a. *What's the point of talking? You? NO! Others!*
Ephesians 4:29
- b. *Speaking intelligible words*
Romans 1:16
- c. *We are God's 'mouthpiece'*
2 Corinthians 5:18-20

3. It ain't about you alone...

1 Corinthians 14:13-17

4. Stop thinking (and acting) like children!

1 Corinthians 14:18-21

5. If you say you care about other people, then care!

1 Corinthians 14:22-25

Application - "Will you eagerly seek spiritual gifts FOR the benefit of Hope? Will you make it your duty to NEVER exalt Gifts above Giver?"

Matthew 7:21-23

1 Corinthians 14:1-25

¹Follow the way of love and eagerly desire spiritual gifts, especially the gift of prophecy. ²For 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. ³But everyone who prophesies speaks to men for their strengthening, encouragement and comfort. ⁴He who speaks in a tongue edifies himself, but he who prophesies edifies the church. ⁵I 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. ⁶Now, brothers, if I come to you and speak in tongues, what good will I be to you, unless I bring you some revelation or knowledge or prophecy or word of instruction? ⁷Even in the case of lifeless things that make sounds, such as the flute or harp, how will anyone know what tune is being played unless there is a distinction in the notes? ⁸Again, if the trumpet does not sound a clear call, who will get ready for battle? ⁹So it is with you. Unless you speak intelligible words with your tongue, how will anyone know what you are saying? You will just be speaking into the air. ¹⁰Undoubtedly there are all sorts of languages in the world, yet none of them is without meaning. ¹¹If then I do not grasp the meaning of what someone is saying, I am a foreigner to the speaker, and he is a foreigner to me. ¹²So it is with you. Since you are eager to have spiritual gifts, try to excel in gifts that build up the church. ¹³For this reason anyone who speaks in a tongue should pray that he may interpret what he says. ¹⁴For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my mind is unfruitful. ¹⁵So 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. ¹⁶If 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? ¹⁷You may be giving thanks well enough, but the other man is not edified. ¹⁸I thank God that I speak in tongues more than all of you. ¹⁹But in the church I would rather speak five intelligible words to instruct others than ten thousand words in a tongue. ²⁰Brothers, stop thinking like children. In regard to evil be infants, but in your thinking be adults. ²¹In the Law it is written:
"Through men of strange tongues and through the lips of foreigners I will speak to this people, but even then they will not listen to me," [Isaiah 28:11,12] says the Lord.
²²Tongues, then, are a sign, not for believers but for unbelievers; prophecy, however, is for believers, not for unbelievers. ²³So if the whole church comes together and everyone speaks in tongues, and some who do not understand or some unbelievers come in, will they not say that you are out of your mind? ²⁴But if an unbeliever or someone who does not understand comes in while everybody is prophesying, he will be convinced by all that he is a sinner and will be judged by all, ²⁵and the secrets of his heart will be laid bare. So he will fall down and worship God, exclaiming, "God is really among you!"