

THAT AIN'T ENGLISH

The prayer in tongues

Today: We look at one of the most often misunderstood aspects of the baptism of the Holy Spirit. The Prayer in Tongues

Different kinds of Tongues

1 Corinthians 12- Different application to tongues

Clarification:

We are not looking at a message in tongues... the type of tongues used by the Holy Spirit in Acts 2:4

- **⁴All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages as the Spirit enabled them.**
 - Distinct human languages... to minister to those present
 - Remember... all the different people from all over the world present

This is not tongues that need interpretation 1 Cor. 12... in a public setting or a church service... also a message from God... interpreted so people can understand the message

Today we are not discussing a message in tongues ... **but the prayer in tongues...** discussed in 1 Cor 14 ...that is meant for every believer as part of our daily prayer life

Myths about tongues

Myth #1 - If it's real... Start speaking fluently the first day you are baptized in the Holy Spirit

- No one starts speaking in their native tongue fluently from day 1

Myth #2 – You can't control it...and you'll be embarrassed.

1 Cor 14:14-15 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. (NirV)

- Act of your will
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1 Cor 14:27 (Bringing order to Messages in tongues in the church)

No more than two or three people should speak in another language. And they should speak one at a time. (NirV)

- Regulated and controlled... Why would God gives guidelines if it was not controllable

Myth #3 – If he sees fit... he will give it to me...without my consent

- **Luke 11:13**- God will generously give the Holy Spirit to **anyone** who asks Him (NLT)
 - You are baptized in the Holy Spirit now by faith begin to yield your tongue to use this tool
 - As a tool we must pick it up and put it to work on purpose

Truth about tongues

Prayer Tongues....It's a language

- Tongues are: A language that is **understandable by God**...
 - **1 Cor 14:2**... **Mysteries to God**... God understands them... out mind is unfruitful but God gets it perfectly

It's a language in the Spirit

- Only language in the universe without gossip... slander.... Cursing...evil intention... Backbiting... evil speaking... it's heavenly.

It's for every believer

Acts 2:39- For the promise [of the Holy Spirit] is to and for you and your children, and to and for all that are far away, [even to and for as many as the Lord our God invites and bids to come to Himself. (AMP)

1 Cor 14:5 – My desire is that **everyone** spoke in tongues and prophesied (NASB)

Cor 14:18 - Paul's testimony – I thank God that I speak in tongues more than all of you. (NIV)

***In the NT there was no such thing as a church that did not speak in tongues
He started it the way he wanted it and he wants it the way he started it***

Tongues are to be a regular part of our devotional prayer Life

1 Cor 14:14 – What is the Conclusion... **I will pray with the spirit, and I will also pray with the understanding.** I will sing with the spirit, and I will also sing with the understanding. (NKJV)

- a part of our regular prayer life
 - Back and forth – native tongue and Spiritual language
 - Part of our personal prayer life

Tongues is a prayer of our spirit

1 Cor 14:14 – If I pray in another language, **my spirit prays.** But my mind does not pray. (NIV)

Human spirit- As **opposed to our mind-** our understanding

- Intelligible thought

1 Cor 14:2-3- 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.** (NIV)

- Mysteries **with our** spirit- prayed into the atmosphere

TCC Our spirit prays... God set it up this way

- Our Human spirit has the capacity to pray apart from our cognitive mind

University of Pennsylvania study- science has shown... when a person prays in tongues we use a completely different part of our brain than when we pray in our common language

- Cognitive frontal lobe of our brain- controls our ability to understand... No activity...***But there is voluntary activity***
- **Yet it is almost as if something or someone else is working in them**

TCC- This prayer is intended to be a prayer of **our re-born human spirit**.

- Our heart expresses to the father the deep-seated prayers of the Holy Spirit.

Tongues is praying in the Holy Spirit

Jude 20....Build ourselves up... praying in the Holy Spirit...

Tongues is a Prayer of edification of the Believer

Jude 20 - **But you, beloved**, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit, NKJV

- TCC- When your Spirit is strong then the rest of you is strengthened

Tongues is part of the armor of God

Eph 6:17-18 – And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God; ¹⁸ praying always with all prayer and supplication **in the Spirit**, (NKJV)

1 Cor 1:5 - I wish all of you spoke in tongues...

Tongues is subordinate to loving people (Perspective)

1 Cor 13:1-3- Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I have become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal. ² And though I have *the gift of prophecy*, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. ³ And though I bestow all my goods to feed *the poor*, and though I give my body to be burned,* but have not love, it profits me nothing. (NKJV)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Q. What does it mean to pray with my spirit and pray with my understanding?

Q. How does praying in the spirit benefit my prayer life?

Q. We broke down some common myths today surrounding the gift of tongues. Share your experience of receiving this gift.