

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!"



WHACKED out **WORSHIP**

HONORING GOD REVERENTLY...

AND RELEVANTLY



SPIRITUAL
GIFTS



*...an eight week study of 1 Corinthians 12-14
discovering God's desire for you and the church!*

PREVIOUSLY ON

**The Sermon Series:
SPIRITUAL GIFTS...**

Unity in Grounded in Diversity

1 Corinthians 12:4-7

⁴There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit.

⁵There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord.

⁶There are different kinds of working,
but the same God works all of them in all men.

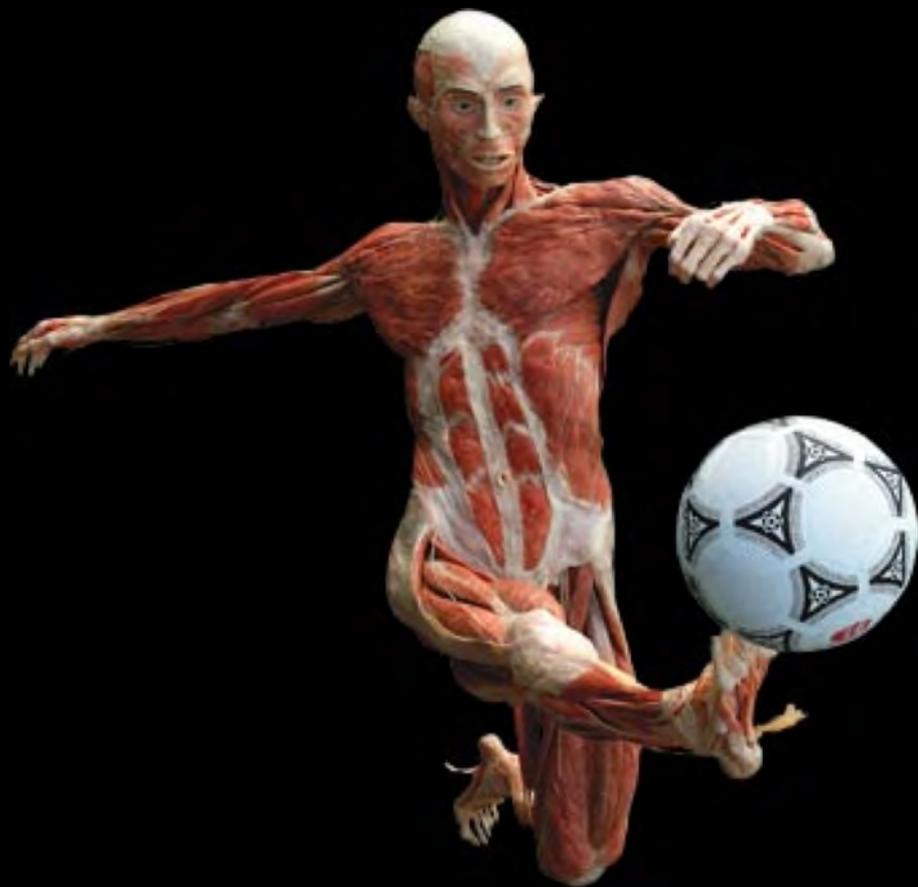
⁷Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit
is given for the common good.



The listing of Spiritual Gifts

1 Corinthians 12:7-11

⁷Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. ⁸To one there is given through the Spirit the message of wisdom, to another the message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, ⁹to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, ¹⁰to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he gives them to each one, just as he determines.



1 Corinthians 12:12-27

²⁶If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it. ²⁷Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.



1 Corinthians 12:31-13:13

³¹ But eagerly desire the greater gifts. And now I will show you the most excellent way. ¹If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. ²If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. ³If I give all I possess to the poor and surrender my body to the flames, but have not love, I gain nothing.

1 Corinthians 12:31-13:13

⁴Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. ⁵It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. ⁶Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. ⁷It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. ⁸Love never fails.

1 Corinthians 12:31-13:13

But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away. ⁹For we know in part and we prophesy in part, ¹⁰but when perfection comes, the imperfect disappears. ¹¹When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put childish ways behind me. ¹²Now we see but a poor reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known. ¹³And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

Our Definition of Love:



Chipotle®



Other-Centered Gifts of Speech

1. Love = Eagerly Desiring Spiritual Gifts

1. Love = Eagerly Desiring Spiritual Gifts

1 Corinthians 14:1-5

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.

What is “Speaking in Tongues”?

What is “Prophecy”?

**a. The Gift of Prophecy in the New Testament
was a sign that we are in a new era**

a. The Gift of Prophecy in the New Testament was a sign that we are in a new era

Acts 2:14-21

¹⁴ Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: “Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say. ¹⁵ These men are not drunk, as you suppose. It’s only nine in the morning! ¹⁶ No, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel:

¹⁷ “In the last days, God says,
I will pour out my Spirit on all people.
Your sons and daughters will prophesy,
your young men will see visions,
your old men will dream dreams.

¹⁸ Even on my servants, both men and women,
I will pour out my Spirit in those days,
and they will prophesy.

a. The Gift of Prophecy in the New Testament was a sign that we are in a new era

Acts 2:14-21

¹⁹I will show wonders in the heaven above
and signs on the earth below,
blood and fire and billows of smoke.

²⁰The sun will be turned to darkness
and the moon to blood

before the coming of the great and glorious day of the Lord.

²¹And everyone who calls
on the name of the Lord will be saved.' [Joel 2:28-32]

b. Prophecy can take many forms

b. Prophecy can take many forms

Acts 11:28

²⁷During this time some prophets came down from Jerusalem to Antioch. ²⁸One of them, named Agabus, stood up and through the Spirit predicted that a severe famine would spread over the entire Roman world. (This happened during the reign of Claudius.)

b. Prophecy can take many forms

Acts 11:28

²⁷During this time some prophets came down from Jerusalem to Antioch. ²⁸One of them, named Agabus, stood up and through the Spirit predicted that a severe famine would spread over the entire Roman world. (This happened during the reign of Claudius.)

1 Corinthians 14:3

But everyone who prophesies speaks to men for their strengthening, encouragement and comfort.

b. Prophecy can take many forms

Acts 11:28

²⁷During this time some prophets came down from Jerusalem to Antioch. ²⁸One of them, named Agabus, stood up and through the Spirit predicted that a severe famine would spread over the entire Roman world. (This happened during the reign of Claudius.)

1 Corinthians 14:3

But everyone who prophesies speaks to men for their strengthening, encouragement and comfort.

1 Corinthians 14:24-25

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, ²⁵ and the secrets of his heart will be laid bare. So he will fall down and worship God, exclaiming, "God is really among you!"

**c. Prophecy is NOT as Authoritative
as Scripture**

c. Prophecy is NOT as Authoritative as Scripture

Acts 21:4

Finding the disciples there, we stayed with them seven days.
Through the Spirit they urged Paul not to go on to Jerusalem.

c. Prophecy is NOT as Authoritative as Scripture

Acts 21:4

Finding the disciples there, we stayed with them seven days.
Through the Spirit they urged Paul not to go on to Jerusalem.

1 Thessalonians 5:19-21

¹⁹Do not put out the Spirit's fire; ²⁰do not treat prophecies with contempt. ²¹Test everything. Hold on to the good.

c. Prophecy is NOT as Authoritative as Scripture

Acts 21:4

Finding the disciples there, we stayed with them seven days.
Through the Spirit they urged Paul not to go on to Jerusalem.

1 Thessalonians 5:19-21

¹⁹Do not put out the Spirit's fire; ²⁰do not treat prophecies with contempt. ²¹Test everything. Hold on to the good.

1 Corinthians 14:29

Two or three prophets should speak, and the others should weigh carefully what is said.

**d. Prophecy is a Revelation of God
through a Person**

d. Prophecy is a Revelation of God through a Person

1 Corinthians 14:30-31

³⁰And if a revelation comes to someone who is sitting down, the first speaker should stop. ³¹For you can all prophesy in turn so that everyone may be instructed and encouraged.

Paul is simply referring to something that God may suddenly bring to mind, or something that God may impress on someone's consciousness in such a way that the person has a sense that it is from God. It may be that the thought brought to mind is surprisingly distinct from the person's own train of thought, or that it is accompanied by a sense of vividness or urgency or persistence, or in some other way gives the person a rather clear sense that it is from the Lord.¹⁶

16Although we argued above that the authority of prophecy in the New Testament church is far different from the authority of Old Testament canonical prophecy, this does not mean that everything about New Testament prophecy has to be different. With respect to the form in which the revelation comes to the prophet, there may be not only words or ideas that come to mind, but also mental pictures (or visions, Acts 2:17) and dreams (Acts 2:17) as well. Figure 53.1 illustrates the idea of a revelation from God that is reported in the prophet's own (merely human) words.

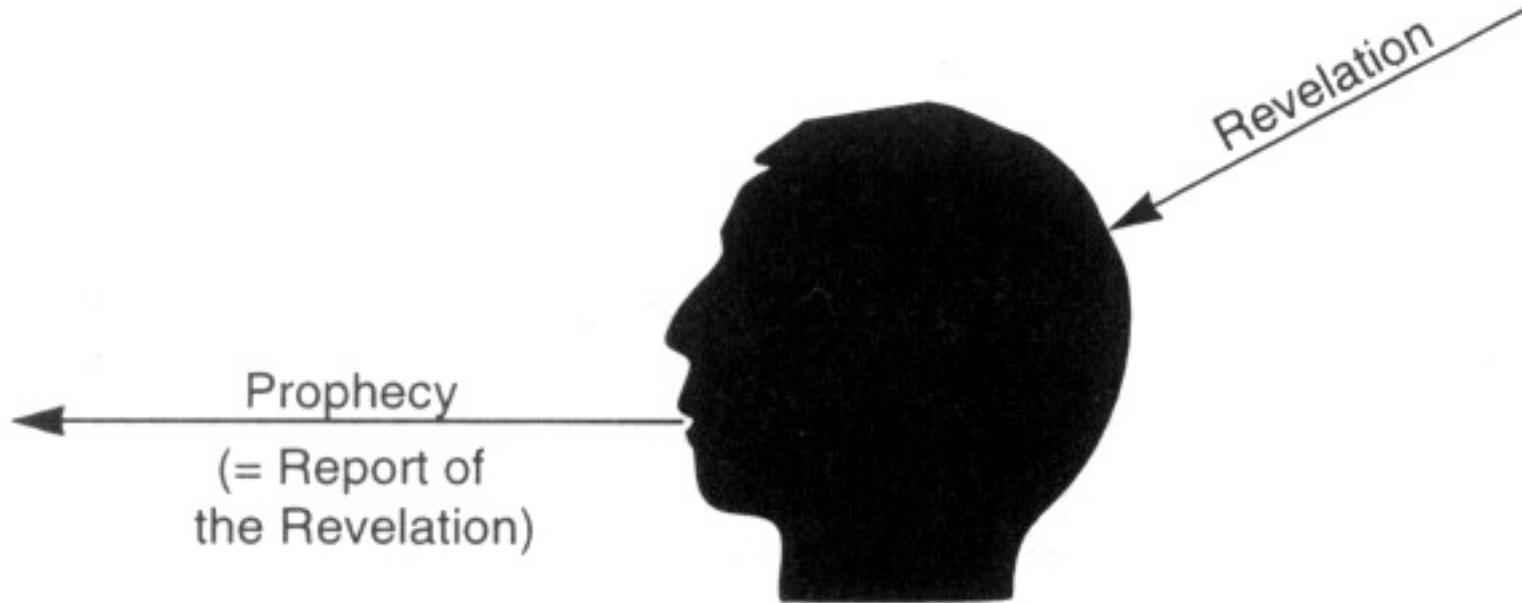


Figure 53.1: Prophecy Occurs When a Revelation from God Is Reported in the Prophet's Own (Merely) Human Words

Thus, if a stranger comes in and all prophesy, “the secrets of his heart are disclosed; and so, falling on his face, he will worship God and declare that God is really among you” (1 Cor. 14:25). I have heard a report of this happening in a clearly noncharismatic Baptist church in America. A missionary speaker paused in the middle of his message and said something like this: “I didn’t plan to say this, but it seems the Lord is indicating that someone in this church has just walked out on his wife and family. If that is so, let me tell you that God wants you to return to them and learn to follow God’s pattern for family life.” The missionary did not know it, but in the unlit balcony sat a man who had entered the church moments before for the first time in his life. The description fitted him exactly, and he made himself known, acknowledged his sin, and began to seek after God.

~ Wayne A. Grudem, *Systematic Theology : An Introduction to Biblical Doctrine*, page 1056.

1. Love = Eagerly Desiring Spiritual Gifts

1 Corinthians 14:1-5

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.

2. The power of words

1 Corinthians 14:6-12

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?

2. The power of words

1 Corinthians 14:6-12

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.

a. What's the point of talking? To hear your own voice? NO! So that others would be benefitted!

Ephesians 4:29

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.

b. The *power of the message* of the gospel

Romans 1:16

I am not ashamed of the gospel,
because it is the power of God
for the salvation of everyone who believes...

c. We are God's mouthpiece

2 Corinthians 5:18-20

¹⁸ All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: ¹⁹ that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. ²⁰ We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God.

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

1 Corinthians 14:13-17

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.

4. Stop thinking (and acting) like children!

1 Corinthians 14:18-21

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,”
says the Lord. *[quoting Isaiah 28:11,12]*

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

1 Corinthians 14:22-25

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!"

So, bottom line...

So, bottom line...

Eagerly seek Spiritual Gifts!



So, bottom line...

Eagerly seek Spiritual Gifts!

BUT

**NEVER ELEVATE GIFTS
ABOVE GIVER!**

Matthew 7:21-23

²¹“Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. ²²Many will say to me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and in your name drive out demons and perform many miracles?’ ²³Then I will tell them plainly, ‘I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!’