

Order in Worship

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1 Corinthians for Beginners / Gift of Tongues / 1 Corinthians 14:5–40

A lesson teaching how the various spiritual gifts are to be used in a public worship setting.



Review #1. The guiding principles for conduct in Christian worship are propriety and orderliness.

- True

- False

Purpose of Tongues

1. For Instruction

1 Corinthians 14:6 ESV

⁶ Now, brothers, if I come to you speaking in tongues, how will I benefit you unless I bring you some revelation or knowledge or prophecy or teaching?

1 Corinthians 14:7–8 ESV

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⁷ If even lifeless instruments, such as the flute or the harp, do not give distinct notes, how will anyone know what is played? ⁸ And if the bugle gives an indistinct sound, who will get ready for battle?

1 Corinthians 14:9–11 ESV

⁹ So with yourselves, if with your tongue you utter speech that is not intelligible, how will anyone know what is said? For you will be speaking into the air. ¹⁰ There are doubtless many different languages in the world, and none is without meaning, ¹¹ but if I do not know the meaning of the language, I will be a foreigner to the speaker and the speaker a foreigner to me.

Review #2. Which of these was not a purpose of the gift of tongues?

- Revelation
- Teaching
- Position
- Prophecy

1 Corinthians 14:12–17 ESV

¹² So with yourselves, since you are eager for manifestations of the Spirit, strive to excel in building up the church.

¹³ Therefore, one who speaks in a tongue should pray that he may interpret. ¹⁴ For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays but my mind is unfruitful. ¹⁵ What am I to do? I will pray with my spirit, but I will pray with my mind also; I will sing praise with my spirit, but I will sing with my mind also. ¹⁶ Otherwise, if you give thanks with your spirit, how can anyone in the position of an outsider say “Amen” to your thanksgiving when he does not know what you are saying? ¹⁷ For you may be giving thanks well enough, but the other person is not being built up.

1 Corinthians 14:18–19 ESV

¹⁸ I thank God that I speak in tongues more than all of you. ¹⁹ Nevertheless, in church I would rather speak five words with my mind in order to instruct others, than ten thousand words in a tongue.

Review #3. The first purpose for the gift of tongues was to provide instruction in a miraculous way.

- True
- False

2. For a Sign

1 Corinthians 14:20–22 ESV

²⁰ Brothers, do not be children in your thinking. Be infants in evil, but in your thinking be mature. ²¹ In the Law it is written, “By people of strange tongues and by the lips of

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foreigners will I speak to this people, and even then they will not listen to me, says the Lord.”²² Thus tongues are a sign not for believers but for unbelievers, while prophecy is a sign not for unbelievers but for believers.

1 Corinthians 14:23–25 ESV

²³ If, therefore, the whole church comes together and all speak in tongues, and outsiders or unbelievers enter, will they not say that you are out of your minds?²⁴ But if all prophesy, and an unbeliever or outsider enters, he is convicted by all, he is called to account by all,²⁵ 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.

Instructions for Orderly Worship

1 Corinthians 14:26 ESV

²⁶ What then, brothers? When you come together, each one has a hymn, a lesson, a revelation, a tongue, or an interpretation. Let all things be done for building up.

1 Corinthians 14:27–35 ESV

²⁷ If any speak in a tongue, let there be only two or at most three, and each in turn, and let someone interpret.²⁸ But if there is no one to interpret, let each of them keep silent in church and speak to himself and to God.²⁹ Let two or three prophets speak, and let the others weigh what is said.³⁰ If a revelation is made to another sitting there, let the first be silent.³¹ For you can all prophesy one by one, so that all may learn and all be encouraged,³² and the spirits of prophets are subject to prophets.³³ For God is not a God of confusion but of peace.

As in all the churches of the saints,³⁴ the women should keep silent in the churches. For they are not permitted to speak, but should be in submission, as the Law also says.³⁵ If there is anything they desire to learn, let them ask their husbands at home. For it is shameful for a woman to speak in church.

1 Corinthians 14:36–38 ESV

³⁶ Or was it from you that the word of God came? Or are you the only ones it has reached?³⁷ If anyone thinks that he is a prophet, or spiritual, he should acknowledge that the things I am writing to you are a command of the Lord.³⁸ If anyone does not recognize this, he is not recognized.

1 Corinthians 14:39–40 ESV

³⁹ So, my brothers, earnestly desire to prophesy, and do not forbid speaking in tongues.⁴⁰ But all things should be done decently and in order.

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Review #4. Which of the following is correct regarding women who had spiritual gifts?

- Could use them in the assembly
- Had to refrain from using them at all times
- Could use them during worship if no one else with spiritual gifts was present
- Were not allowed to use them during public worship

Summary

1. Edify the church

Ephesians 4:12 ESV

¹² to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ,

2. Direct the church

2 Timothy 3:16 ESV

¹⁶ All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness,

3. Comfort the church

1 Thessalonians 4:18 ESV

¹⁸ Therefore encourage one another with these words.

4. Convict sinners

Acts 2:37 ESV

³⁷ Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?”

5. Bring souls to Christ

Romans 1:16 ESV

¹⁶ For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

Review #5. Today, what has replaced the use for miraculous gifts in the church?

- The eldership
- The preacher
- The Bible
- The Spirit

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Decent and Orderly Today Includes:

- Reverent Behavior
- Modesty
- Organized Teaching
- Oversight by the Elders
- Men and Women in Proper Roles for Public Worship
- Encouragement to be Saved or Restored

Next Week's Reading Assignment

[1 Corinthians 16:1-24](#)

Preparation Question B4 Class

"[1 Corinthians 16](#) discusses various instructions and greetings from Paul. Reflecting on verses 13-14, where Paul advises, 'Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong. Do everything in love,' how can you apply these principles in your own life today? Provide specific examples."