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Tongues:
Your Personal
Prayer
Language



1. Introduction

Tongues as a personal prayer language have caused much friction in the body of Christ. Learning to speak tongues will develop a personal relationship with the Holy Spirit. Studying “Holy Spirit Baptism” is a prerequisite to this lesson.

In this lesson, we will see that there are two types of tongues:

1. A personal prayer language that is for personal edification.
2. The gift of tongues to the church needs to be interpreted and is for the church’s edification. (Refer to [Gift of Tongues](#))

A. False Beliefs.

1. Tongues finished when the New Testament was canonised.
2. Only those who are specially gifted by God can speak in tongues.
3. Tongues may only be used if they are interpreted.

These three false beliefs are based on wrong theology. In the following two lessons, we will examine correct theology.

2. Personal Gift of Tongues

Let us call this type ‘our prayer language’.

A. This is for our communication with God through a heavenly language.

1 CORINTHIANS 14:2

HE WHO SPEAKS IN A TONGUE DOES NOT SPEAK TO MEN BUT TO GOD, FOR NO ONE UNDERSTANDS HIM; HOWEVER, IN THE SPIRIT, HE SPEAKS MYSTERIES.

B. Directly to God

The scripture above further teaches us that we speak directly to God through our heavenly prayer language.

C. No Human Can Understand Your Personal Prayer Language.

1 Corinthians 14:2 says no one except God and those gifted to interpret can understand what we are saying. If we look at the word in Greek we find *oeduis* which means: ‘not even one man or woman.’

D. Speaking Mysteries

1 Corinthians 14:2 says we speak a mystery, so Satan cannot understand us either.

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3. This language is NOT to be Interpreted.

Unlike the tongues for the edification of the church, our personal prayer language is not interpreted. 1 Corinthians 14:2 says we are speaking to God, not humanity.

4. It is for Personal Encouragement

1 CORINTHIANS 14:4
WHEREAS THE GIFT OF TONGUES IS FOR THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF THE CHURCH
HE WHO SPEAKS IN A TONGUE EDIFIES HIMSELF, BUT HE WHO PROPHESES
EDIFIES THE CHURCH.

5. Speaking in Tongues will Release the other Gifts in our Lives

Our personal prayer language is the door to all the power gifts. This is why it is the first of the gifts we receive. It requires faith to step out into it, whereas the other spiritual gifts require more courage and higher levels of faith.

6. Speaking in Tongues Brings Revelation and Knowledge

1 CORINTHIANS 14:6
BUT NOW, BRETHREN, IF I COME TO YOU SPEAKING WITH TONGUES, WHAT SHALL
I PROFIT YOU UNLESS I SPEAK TO YOU EITHER BY REVELATION, KNOWLEDGE,
PROPHESYING, OR TEACHING?

Speaking in our heavenly prayer language will increase revelation and knowledge.

7. Let's look at HOW it Encourages Us.

A. We speak Praise (translated Bless here) and Thanksgiving.

1 CORINTHIANS 14:15-16
WHAT IS THE CONCLUSION THEN? 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. OTHERWISE, IF YOU BLESS WITH THE SPIRIT,
HOW WILL HE WHO OCCUPIES THE PLACE OF THE UNINFORMED SAY "AMEN" AT
YOUR GIVING OF THANKS SINCE HE DOES NOT UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU SAY?

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Note that this starts with a conclusion. Paul temporarily returns to the beginning of the teaching, moving away from the 'tongues to the church' and back to our personal prayer language.

B. We enter the Presence of God through Thanksgiving and Praise.

**PSALMS 100:4
ENTER INTO HIS GATES WITH THANKSGIVING,
AND INTO HIS COURTS WITH PRAISE.
BE THANKFUL TO HIM, AND BLESS HIS NAME.**

C. When we enter His Presence, we find peace, joy, and a confirmation of our right standing and right relationship with God.

**ROMANS 14:17
THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS NOT EATING AND DRINKING BUT RIGHTEOUSNESS,
PEACE, AND JOY IN THE HOLY SPIRIT.**

8. The Prayer Language is for Everyone who Desires it.

**1 CORINTHIANS 14:5
I WISH YOU ALL SPOKE WITH TONGUES, BUT EVEN MORE THAT YOU PROPHESED;
FOR HE WHO PROPHESES IS GREATER THAN HE WHO SPEAKS WITH TONGUES,
UNLESS INDEED HE INTERPRETS, THAT THE CHURCH MAY RECEIVE EDIFICATION.**

9. The Prayer Language is to be Cherished

**1 CORINTHIANS 14:18
I THANK MY GOD I SPEAK WITH TONGUES MORE THAN YOU ALL;**

Paul, who suffered more than nearly all of us, recognised the power of speaking in tongues. With this power from God, we can pray without ceasing.

**1 THESSALONIANS 5:17
PRAY WITHOUT CEASING,**

Tongues, therefore, are a prayer language for personal edification and differ from the message of the gift of tongues to the church.

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10. A Prayer For Releasing Our Prayer Language

“Father, I thank you for the Promise of the Holy Spirit that came within me when I believed Jesus died for me, rose again and is now seated at the Father's right hand in heaven. I repent of all known sin and unbelief. I break the power of wrong doctrine over my life in Jesus' name. Jesus, I love You and believe You are the One who baptises me in the Holy Spirit and fire. Jesus, I ask you to fill me to overflowing with the Holy Spirit. Holy Spirit, I invite you to come upon me in fire and power NOW. Holy Spirit, I believe I have received the personal prayer language as a gift of speaking in other tongues. Thank you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.”

Now open your mouth and start speaking out by faith. If words come into your mind, then speak them out.

The devil will try and tell you it's just babbling; don't believe this lie! The more we speak in our heavenly language, the more words we receive.

Don't be afraid that you will receive a wrong spirit. I haven't yet met a person who received a wrong spirit.

If you were from another religion where they spoke in tongues, you need to seek deliverance.

If you doubt that the tongue you have received is of God, then speak loudly in the tongue for 10-15 minutes. Remember that your prayer language will bring you into the Presence of God so you can know it is from God because of the joy, peace, and righteousness you will feel in the Holy Spirit.