



# Speaking in Tongues

TONGUES ARE FOR  
EVERYONE WHO HAS  
ACCEPTED JESUS AND HAS  
THE HOLY SPIRIT LIVING  
IN THEM AND WE ARE ALL  
ABLE TO ACCESS THAT  
GIFT

# Speaking in tongues follows Baptism in the Holy Spirit.

The generally accepted path of every believer.

**Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ-Romans 10:13**

**Repent of all your sins -Luke 13:3-5**

**Be born again and receive the Holy Spirit John 3:3**

**Be baptised in water-John 3:5**

**Be baptised in the Holy Spirit -John 3:5**

There is baptism in water and baptism in the Holy Spirit and speaking in tongues follows baptism in the Holy Spirit.

People are sometimes baptised in the Holy Spirit and speak in tongues before baptism - probably because of the wait that some churches impose before people can get baptised!

Some people repent, receive the Holy Spirit and get baptised in the spirit all in one go.

# John 3:5

Jesus answered, I assure you, most solemnly I tell you, unless a man is born of water and [even] the Spirit, he cannot [ever] enter the kingdom of God.

# Purposes of Speaking in Tongues

- Evidence that you are baptised in the Holy Spirit (remember some people get baptised in the Holy Spirit, but need prayer for a variety of reasons to be released in tongues.)
- Personal edification -to build you up
- Corporate edification-to build up the church
- A personal prayer language
- We know that whatever we are doing, praying, worshipping, interceding, we said the right thing!

# Ways you can use your spiritual tongue

- To pray
- To worship
- To praise
- To intercede
- To ask God what to do when you have no idea how to pray
- Your tongue will probably be evident when you are in fear or danger or you sense this.
- To sing
- To sing with others in church (There is nothing better than to sing in tongues as a church because this takes us to a higher part of Heaven than we could otherwise access - do not worry about your tunefulness or being in tune with others - this is where GOD sorts out the harmonies.)

But it did not happen for  
me.....

Please seek some private prayer and  
counselling from our Pastors or  
Ministers - it can just be you need  
reassurance or you may need deeper  
prayer, some inner healing or  
deliverance. You may just need  
reassurance

"If God wants me too I will."

Actually, this is not right. We have to open our mouths and trust God for the gift.



# "But I am not Holy enough"

Tongues are for EVERY believer. You will mature as you use your tongue. Those who speak in tongues tend to mature faster - presumably because they are able to pray for themselves as God needs them to!

"It is not for me..."

Question: Who are you to tell God  
what you need?

I am frightened it might be  
nonsense.

Yes, it will probably sound like nonsense, but as you use the gift you will start to realize that you have a new language. Babies make sounds then babble at first. It takes time to learn any language and you are learning as a child would learn!

# What if I get a false or demonic tongue

If you did someone would soon discern it and deliver you. However Jesus gives good gifts to his children and not bad ones! -find Mathew 7:9 and Luke 11:11

Please look up these scriptures for yourself. They are all in the New Testament.

Mark 16:15

Acts 2:1-4

Acts 10:44-47

Acts 19:6

Romans 8:26-27

1 Corinthians 12:27-31

1 Corinthians 14:1-5

1 Corinthians 14:14-19

1 Corinthians 14:32

1 Corinthians 14:37-40

Jude 20

Speaking in tongues is sometimes called "glossolalia" vocalising speech like syllables - usually as a part of religious practice.

# Mark 16:15-18

This makes it clear that believers  
will speak in other tongues.

# Mark 16:15-18

<sup>15</sup>And He said to them, Go into all the world and preach and publish openly the good news (the Gospel) to every creature [of the whole human race].

<sup>16</sup>He who believes [who adheres to and trusts in and relies on the Gospel and Him Whom it sets forth] and is baptized will be saved [from the penalty of eternal death]; but he who does not believe [who does not adhere to and trust in and rely on the Gospel and Him Whom it sets forth] will be condemned.

<sup>17</sup>And these attesting signs will accompany those who believe: in My name they will drive out demons; they will speak in new languages; <sup>18</sup>They will pick up serpents; and [even] if they drink anything deadly, it will not hurt them; they will lay their hands on the sick, and they will get well.

# JESUS

Did not tell us why we would speak in tongues. He did, however, tell us we would do so. Mark 16:15-18



## Acts 2:1-4

They spoke in tongues on the day of Pentecost. Not that all spoke not just some special chosen people.

# Acts 2:1-4

AND WHEN the day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all assembled together in one place,

<sup>2</sup>When suddenly there came a sound from heaven like the rushing of a violent tempest blast, and it filled the whole house in which they were sitting.

<sup>3</sup>And there appeared to them tongues resembling fire, which were separated and distributed and which settled on each one of them.

<sup>4</sup>And they were all filled (diffused throughout their souls) with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other (different, foreign) languages (tongues), as the Spirit kept giving them clear and loud expression [in each tongue in appropriate words].

# Speaking in tongues - the Spirit is poured out.

Speaking in tongues is a  
manifestation of the spirit poured  
out. Acts 2:1-4

# Acts 2:13

But others made a joke of it and derisively said, They are simply drunk and full of sweet [intoxicating] wine.

People thought that those speaking in tongues were drunk! They were not. Speaking in tongues was (and is,) a manifestation of the Holy Spirit.

## Acts 10:44-47

Peter was amazed. *All*, including the gentiles who had heard the word were speaking in other tongues.

# Acts 2:44-47

<sup>44</sup>While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell on all who were listening to the message.

<sup>45</sup>And the believers from among the circumcised [the Jews] who came with Peter were surprised and amazed, because the free gift of the Holy Spirit had been bestowed and poured out largely even on the Gentiles.

<sup>46</sup>For they heard them talking in [unknown] tongues (languages) and extolling and magnifying God. Then Peter asked,

<sup>47</sup>Can anyone forbid or refuse water for baptizing these people, seeing that they have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?

ALL... not just the Bishop  
Pastor, the Minister, your  
brother or sister next to you.  
YOU!

# Be obedient! Earnestly desire spiritual gifts

1 Corinthians 14:1

Follow the way of love and eagerly desire spiritual gifts, especially the gift of prophecy.



# Acts 19:6

And as Paul laid his hands upon them, the Holy Spirit came on them; and they spoke in [foreign, unknown] tongues (languages) and prophesied.

Paul lays hands on people. They receive the Holy Spirit and speak in tongues.

Speaking in tongues should  
accompany baptism in the  
Holy Spirit.

Read Acts 19

# Romans 8:26-27

Speaking in tongues is a necessary part of prayer and intercession.

# Romans 8:26-27

<sup>26</sup>So too the [Holy] Spirit comes to our aid and bears us up in our weakness; for we do not know what prayer to offer nor how to offer it worthily as we ought, but the Spirit Himself goes to meet our supplication and pleads in our behalf with unspeakable yearnings and groanings too deep for utterance.

<sup>27</sup>And He Who searches the hearts of men knows what is in the mind of the [Holy] Spirit [what His intent is], because the Spirit intercedes and pleads [before God] in behalf of the saints according to and in harmony with God's will.

# Sometimes we do not know what to pray

The Holy Spirit in us, with our permission prays to God - so although we do not know what to pray, we pray the right thing.

# 1 Corinthians 12:27-31

There is a common gift of tongues,  
but also the gift of tongues and  
interpretation.

# 1 Corinthians 12:27-31

<sup>27</sup>Now you [collectively] are Christ's body and [individually] you are members of it, each part severally and distinct [each with his own place and function].

<sup>28</sup>So God has appointed some in the church [<sup>a</sup>for His own use]: first apostles (special messengers); second prophets (inspired preachers and expounders); third teachers; then wonder-workers; then those with ability to heal the sick; helpers; administrators; [speakers in] different (unknown) tongues.

<sup>29</sup>Are all apostles (special messengers)? Are all prophets (inspired interpreters of the will and purposes of God)? Are all teachers? Do all have the power of performing miracles?

<sup>30</sup>Do all possess extraordinary powers of healing? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret?

<sup>31</sup>But earnestly desire and zealously cultivate the greatest and best gifts and graces (the higher gifts and the choicest graces). And yet I will show you a still more excellent way [one that is better by far and the highest of them all--love].

Question: How can you expect to be given a higher gift if you despise a lower gift?



# 1 Corinthians 14:2-5

Tongues is speaking to God and uttering mysteries in the spirit. It builds the speaker up. Paul wants us all to speak in tongues (but to prophecy more) and for there to be interpretation in the church when tongues are used publicly

.

# 1 Corinthians 14:2-5

For one who speaks in an [unknown] tongue speaks not to men but to God, for no one understands or catches his meaning, because in the [Holy] Spirit he utters secret truths and hidden things [not obvious to the understanding].

<sup>3</sup>But [on the other hand], the one who prophesies [who **b**]interprets the divine will and purpose in inspired preaching and teaching] speaks to men for their upbuilding and constructive spiritual progress and encouragement and consolation.

<sup>4</sup>He who speaks in a [strange] tongue edifies and improves himself, but he who prophesies [**c**]interpreting the divine will and purpose and teaching with inspiration] edifies and improves the church and promotes growth [in Christian wisdom, piety, holiness, and happiness]

# Speaking in tongues takes us beyond our human limitations

1 Corinthians 14:1-5

GOD knows what we need to pray  
about!

We get strengthened as we pray in  
tongues.

# 1 Corinthians 37-40

<sup>39</sup>So [to conclude], my brethren, earnestly desire and set your hearts on prophesying (on being inspired to preach and teach and to interpret God's will and purpose), and do not forbid or hinder speaking in [unknown] tongues.

Tongues should not be forbidden,  
but there should be order in the  
church.

# 1Corinthians 14:26

Speaking in tongues can be a part of  
a church service to help edify and  
build it up.

# 1 Corinthians 14:27

If some speak in a [strange] tongue, let the number be limited to two or at the most three, and each one [taking his] turn, and let one interpret and explain [what is said].

**In a church service three people at the most should speak and there should be one interpretation.**

A point of order for Oxford  
Living Word (and elsewhere!)

# Order in the church!

If someone is giving a word, a tongue, or a prophecy it is correct church etiquette for the whole church to go silent and listen while they give it and not simply continue praying out loud. We should all at that point be testing the spirit, and asking God if we have the interpretation of the tongue. The church congregation (and the worship team!) should wait until the interpretation has been given - or the two or three interpretations.

It is the Pastor's prerogative to tell the church if the Pastor feels that an interpretation - or a tongue is incorrect.

(Test every spirit whether they be of God. 1 John 4:1)



# Jude 20

But you, beloved, build yourselves up [founded] on your most holy faith make progress, rise like an edifice higher and higher], praying in the Holy Spirit;

**Speaking in tongues builds the speaker up. We can do this all the time, but in church our primary aim is to build up the church.**

# Order in the Church

The spirit of the prophet - or anyone giving out anything in church is always able to be subject to the prophet. You may need to defer your tongue or message. Three people **ONLY** can give out a tongue in any one service.

This applies to all manifestations of gifts.

You should never but in on someone because you think your message is more important. If three have given a tongue  
**REMAIN SILENT!**

1 Corinthians 14:32

# Order in the Church

If you give out a long and rambling and uninterpreted tongue in every service, then it is unlikely you are actually manifesting a public gift of tongues. This is more likely, a lack of self control. Please save yourself the embarrassment of others wanting you to be quiet so the service can continue, and also of perhaps being discreetly asked to wait on God for the public gift!

A true public tongue should always be interpreted.

# Beware of revealing any less than the Holiness of God

If you give out a public tongue then the state (as in any manifestation of any public oral gift,) of your spirit is usually evident to those who carry the gift of discernment. Never ever try and prophecy or give out a tongue unless you are right with God!