



**CHRIST
BIBLE CHURCH**

Glorifying God by bringing all of Christ into all of life.

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1 Corinthians



The Apostle Paul's Mission to the Corinthians



Christ Bible Church

Adult Bible Class Calendar Fall 2023



Date			Lesson Portion of 1 Corinthians
1	September	10	Review & Preview
2	September	17	1 Corinthians 11:2-16
3	September	24	1 Corinthians 11:17-34
4	October	1	1 Corinthians 12:1-11
5	October	8	1 Corinthians 12:12-20
6	October	15	1 Corinthians 12:21-31
7	October	22	1 Corinthians 13:1-13
8	October	29	1 Corinthians 14:1-12
9	November	5	1 Corinthians 14:13-25
10	November	12	1 Corinthians 14:26-40
11	November	19	1 Corinthians 16:1-11
12	November	26	1 Corinthians 16:12-24



Concerning Spiritual Gifts

1 Corinthians 12-14





Concerning Spiritual Gifts

Prophecy and Tongues

(14:1-40)



1 Corinthians 11-16

- I. Introduction (1:1-9).
- II. Response to Received Reliable Oral Reports from the Corinthians (1:10-6:20).
- III. Response to a Letter from the Corinthians (7:1-16:4)
 - A. Concerning Marriage and Related Questions (7:1-40).
 - B. Concerning Foods Sacrificed to Idols (8:1-11:1).
 - C. Concerning the Christian Assembly (11:2-34).
 - D. Concerning Spirituality & Spiritual Gifts (12:1-14:40).
 - 1. The Crucial Test: Jesus is Lord (12:1-3).
 - 2. The Diversity of Gifts within One Body (12:4-31a).
 - 3. The Crucial Accompaniment: Love (12:31b-13:13).
 - 4. Prophecy and Tongues are for Edification (14:1-40).
 - a. The Superiority of Prophecy over Tongues (14:1-25).
 - (1) Tongues & Prophecy Contrasted (14:1-5).
 - (2) The Necessity of Intelligibility (14:6-12)
 - E. Concerning the Resurrection of the Body (15:1-58).
 - F. Concerning the Collection (16:1-4).
- IV. Conclusion (16:5-24).





Concerning Spiritual Gifts

The Superiority of Prophecy over Tongues

(14:1-25)





Prophecy & Tongues Contrasted

1 Corinthians 14:1-5



- After his parenthesis on the superiority of love, Paul returns to the topic of spiritual gifts.
- Love must govern the exercise of gifts to build up fellow believers.
- Prophecy is to be preferred to speaking in tongues because, apart from interpretation, no one understands those speaking in tongues.



1 Corinthians 14:1-5

Pursue love and earnestly desire the spiritual gifts, especially that you may prophesy. For one who speaks in a tongue speaks not to men but to God; for no one understands him, but he utters mysteries in the Spirit. On the other hand, the one who prophesies speaks to people for their upbuilding and encouragement and consolation. The one who speaks in a tongue builds up himself, but the one who prophesies builds up the church. Now I want you all to speak in tongues, but even more to prophesy. The one who prophesies is greater than the one who speaks in tongues, unless someone interprets, so that the church may be built up.



Prophecy & Tongues Contrasted

1 Corinthians 14:1-5



- Discussion of love orients us to the true nature of spirituality.
- Pursue love, not at the expense of the gifts but for the exercise of them.
- “Earnestly desire” is repeated from 12:31, where Paul admonishes, “eagerly desire the greater *gifts*” (*charismata*). Here: “earnestly desire *spiritual things*” (*pneumatika*). The word is the same as in 12:1.



Prophecy & Tongues Contrasted

1 Corinthians 14:1-5



- Paul explains why prophecy is superior to tongues.
- Tongue-speakers speak to God rather than to humans who do not understand what is spoken.
- By the Spirit, tongues-speakers utter incomprehensible mysteries that require explanation.
- For its use in the congregation, the gift of interpretation invariably accompanies the gift of tongues.
- The speech is a concealed mystery without an interpreter.



Prophecy & Tongues Contrasted

1 Corinthians 14:1-5



- Prophecy holds priority over tongue-speaking because it is comprehensible.
- Prophecy edifies, encourages, and consoles.
- Speaking in tongues edifies only one, the speaker, unless an interpreter is present to reveal the mysteries spoken.
- Paul wishes all would speak in tongues but much more than all would prophesy.



1 Corinthians 14:6-12

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? If even lifeless instruments, such as the flute or the harp, do not give distinct notes, how will anyone know what is played? And if the bugle gives an indistinct sound, who will get ready for battle? 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. There are doubtless many different languages in the world, and none is without meaning, 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. So with yourselves, since you are eager for manifestations of the Spirit, strive to excel in building up the church.



The Necessity of Intelligibility

1 Corinthians 14:6-12



- Verse 6 begins Paul's explanation that uninterpreted languages do not edify.
- Imagine I come to you speaking in tongues.
- Revelation & Knowledge; Prophecy & Teaching.
 - Revelation and knowledge → content.
 - Prophecy and teaching → forms of speech.
- Paul illustrates the difference between intelligible and unintelligible speech.



The Necessity of Intelligibility

1 Corinthians 14:6-12



- Musical instruments and bugle calls.
 - A musical tune played incorrectly is indiscernible.
 - A bugler's bungled blast baffles the troops.
- Without understanding the language, those who speak in foreign tongues render their hearers foreigners.
- Believers must seek edifying gifts.

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