

**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



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# Concerning Spiritual Gifts

## 1 Corinthians 12-14

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# Concerning Spiritual Gifts

## Prophecy and Tongues

### (14:1-40)

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# 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).
      - b. The Regulation of Prophecy and Tongues (14:26-40)
        - (1) Tongues (14:26-28).
        - (2) Prophesying (14:29-33a).
        - (3) Restrictions on Women (14:33b-35).
        - (4) A Command from the Lord (14:26-28).
        - (5) Do All Decently & Orderly (14:39-40).
  - E. Concerning the Resurrection of the Body (15:1-58).
  - F. Concerning the Collection (16:1-4).
- IV. Conclusion (16:5-24).





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# Concerning Spiritual Gifts

## The Superiority of Prophecy over Tongues (14:26-40)

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# The Regulation of Prophecy & Tongues



## 1 Corinthians 14:26-40

- All things must be done for the edification of all.
- Prophesying is better than speaking in tongues.
- Paul presents additional regulations on prophesying and speaking in tongues.
- These regulations are not exhaustive concerning how worship services are to be conducted.
- Spiritual gifts should not be suppressed but encouraged, but orderliness must govern their practice.



# The Regulation of Prophecy & Tongues



1 Corinthians 14:26-40

- Tongues (14:26-28).
- Prophesying (14:29-33a).
- Restrictions on Women (14:33b-35).
- A Command from the Lord (14:36-38).
- Do All Things Decently & Orderly (14:39-40).



# 1 Corinthians 14:26-28

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. If any speak in a tongue, let there be only two or at most three, and each in turn, and let someone interpret. But if there is no one to interpret, let each of them keep silent in church and speak to himself and to God.



# Regulating Speaking in Tongues

## 1 Corinthians 14:26-28



- Paul's emphasis is on edification
- Paul imposes three restrictions on speaking in tongues.
  - Interpretation or no speaking in tongues.
  - Only one can speak at a time.
  - Only two or three can speak in any given church assembly.
- Those who speak in tongues have control over themselves either to speak or to be silent.
- The dynamic between the sovereign Spirit and the human speaker illustrates the interplay between God and humans.
- Regulation is not “quenching the Spirit.”



# 1 Corinthians 14:28-33a

Let two or three prophets speak, and let the others weigh what is said. If a revelation is made to another sitting there, let the first be silent. For you can all prophesy one by one, so that all may learn and all be encouraged, and the spirits of prophets are subject to prophets. For God is not a God of confusion but of peace.



# Regulating Prophecy

## 1 Corinthians 14:29-33a



- Paul restricts how many can prophesy during a church assembly.
- Prophecy is not prepared speech like teaching or preaching.
- Prophecies can be held until later.
  - Only two or three prophets speak in any assembly meeting.
  - Prophets have control of themselves to speak or not to speak.
  - Prophecy is not derived from study but from the Spirit.
  - “Weigh carefully what is said” (vs. 29). Prophecies must be examined.



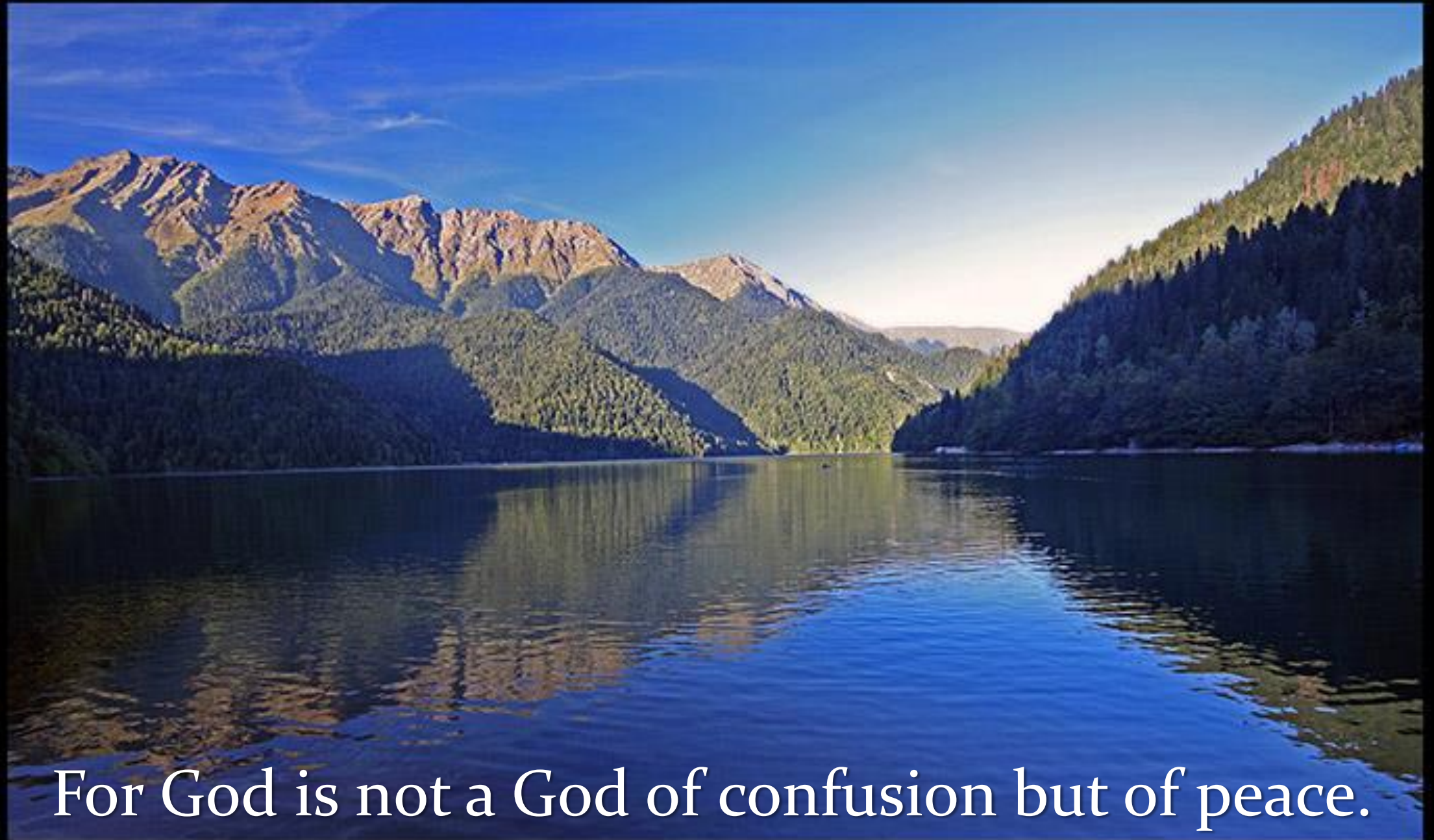
# Regulating Prophesying

## 1 Corinthians 14:29-33a



- **1 John 4:1-3**—“Beloved, do not trust every spirit, **but examine the spirits** whether they are from God because many false prophets have gone out into the world. By this, you know God’s Spirit: every spirit that confesses, “Jesus Christ has come in the flesh,” is from God, and every spirit that does not confess this Jesus is not from God. This one is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is already in the world.”
- **1 Thessalonians 5:29-33**—“Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise prophecies, **but test everything; hold fast what is good. Abstain from every form of evil.**”

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For God is not a God of confusion but of peace.





## 1 Corinthians 14:33b-35

As in all the churches of the saints, 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. 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.



# Restrictions Concerning Women



## 1 Corinthians 14:33b-35

- “As in all the churches of the saints.” How attached?
  - 1 Cor 7:17—“This is my rule in all the churches.”
  - 1 Cor 4:17—“As I teach them in every church.”
  - 1 Cor 11:16—“If anyone is inclined to be contentious, we have no such practice, nor do the churches of God.”

The statement is attached to verse 33b, not 33a.



# Restrictions Concerning Women



## 1 Corinthians 14:33b-35

- What about vv. 34-35?
- Some reject vv. 34-35, saying they are not original to the text.
  - The verses are original in Paul's letter.
  - Among all existing Greek manuscripts of 1 Corinthians, not one excludes these words.



# Restrictions Concerning Women

## 1 Corinthians 14:33b-35



- A dilemma: How do these verses relate to 11:2-16, where Paul permits women to pray and prophesy if they externally show submission to male headship?
- Does Paul now enforce absolute silence among women?



# Restrictions Concerning Women

## 1 Corinthians 14:33b-35



- Five views:
  1. Some claim 11:2-16 deals only with women in the home; 14:33b-35 deals with the church assembly.
  2. Some claim 14:33b-35 is an absolute rule; 11:2-16 is a concession to rebellious women.
  3. Some earlier feminists claimed 11:2-16 represents the authentic Paul while 14:33b-35 is the mistaken or inauthentic Paul. Paul was inconsistent and wrong.
  4. Some feminists claim Paul's silencing of women is only for a local problem of some trouble-making women in Corinth.
  5. Paul prohibits women from taking part in the oral evaluation of prophecies spoken during church assemblies.



# Restrictions Concerning Women

## 1 Corinthians 14:33b-35



- Paul's appeal to the Law. "Law," here, does not refer to the Mosaic Law but to the Old Testament as Scripture.
  - Paul is not at all specific about what portion of the OT he has in mind.
  - Given his use of the creation account in 1 Cor 11, it is likely he has the same in view.
- Examining prophecies involves instruction, reserved for men in the church.
- Paul wants women to ask their questions of their own husbands at home. He enforces this in two ways:
  - The practice of all the churches.
  - His appeal to Scripture.



# 1 Corinthians 14:36-40

Or was it from you that the word of God came? Or are you the only ones it has reached? 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. If anyone does not recognize this, he is not recognized. So, my brothers, earnestly desire to prophesy and do not forbid speaking in tongues. But all things should be done decently and in order.



# A Command from the Lord

## 1 Corinthians 14:36-38



- Paul anticipates resistance. He poses rebuking questions.
  - Or was it from you that the word of God came?
  - Or are you the only ones it has reached?
- Verse 37—“If anyone thinks he is a prophet or *a spiritual person*, let him acknowledge that the matters about which I am writing to you are the Lord’s command.” Connects with 12:1—“Now concerning the spiritual ones.”
- Paul’s authority is above that of Corinth’s prophets. He is an apostle.
- “If anyone does not acknowledge that what I write to you is a command from the Lord, that individual is not acknowledged.”
- See 8:3—“Everyone who loves God is known by God.”





# Do All Things Decently & Orderly



## 1 Corinthians 14:39-40

- So, my brothers, earnestly desire to prophesy and do not forbid speaking in tongues. But all things should be done decently and in order.
- Paul wraps up his entire discussion of spirituality.
- He encourages prophesying and speaking in tongues, but they both must be regulated.
- “Everything should be done in a fitting and orderly way.”
- God is a God of orderliness and peace.

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