

THE PLACE OF TONGUES IN THE CHURCH

1 Corinthians 14:1-5

I. WHAT TO DO: THE THREE-FOLD DIRECTION 14:1

A. _____ Love: seek to obtain love with _____

B. Desire Spiritual _____

- 1) "Desire"—from the word from which we get our English word "zeal"—earnestly or _____ desire
- 2) These first 2 phrases are linked: we demonstrate _____ by using our spiritual gifts to build up others
- 3) The _____ is where we pursue love & earnestly desire to use our spiritual gifts to build up others

C. Especially Prophecy

- 1) The NT gift of prophecy functions no differently than prophecy did in the _____
- 2) Like OT prophets, the prophets at Corinth spoke by direct _____ from God (cf. v.30)
- 3) Prophecy was spontaneous; it was not based on hours of study and preparation like _____
- 4) It is important to understand that the NT gift of prophecy has _____; otherwise we open the door to those who believe and teach that they still receive and impart direct revelation from God today
- 5) Paul's point: if we eagerly desire spiritual gifts that demonstrate love, we will emphasize _____

II. WHY DO IT: THE THREE-SIDED CONTRAST 14:2-5

A. Ecstatic Tongues-Speaking Contrasted 14:2-4

- 1) The contrast between ecstatic tongues-speaking and the legitimate _____ of languages (Pentecost)
 - a) At Corinth, the ecstatic tongues-speaking was directed to _____ rather than human beings
 - b) No one _____ the ecstatic tongues-speaking, not even the person who was speaking!
 - c) At Corinth, they were speaking _____, truths hidden from human understanding now revealed
It is probable that Paul mentioned mysteries because the Gentile Christians had been saved out of pagan mystery religions that were based on secret knowledge, much like _____ today
- 2) The contrast between ecstatic tongues-speaking and the gift of prophecy centers on which _____
 - a) Prophecy profits the church in 3 ways: ► it builds up ► it encourages/strengthens ► it _____
 - b) Ecstatic tongues-speaking profits only the person _____, but if he does not understand, how?
Some claim an emotional lift; others claim it reinforces their faith; but it also engenders _____
 - c) A devastating condemnation of any person who is _____ enough to use ecstatic tongues

B. The Genuine Gift of Tongues/Languages Contrasted 14:5

- 1) Those who believe that Paul refers to ecstatic speech throughout this passage have great difficulty explaining why he would completely change _____ & say, "I wish you all spoke with tongues"
- 2) Rather, Paul is speaking of the genuine gift of languages; it is possible for them to _____ the church
- 3) But the gift of languages can edify the church only if the foreign language is _____
- 4) The word rendered "interprets" in most Eng. versions can just as correctly be rendered _____