

The Person & Work of the Holy Spirit

This week we tackle perhaps the most controversial gift of all—the *gift of tongues*! Because there is so much misunderstanding surrounding this gift we'll break our study into two sessions.

"...to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits, to another different kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues." ~ 1Corinthians 12:10

In our opening scripture the apostle Paul tells us that there are "*different kinds of tongues*." So let's begin our study by defining what those different kinds of tongues are.

1) Read 1Corinthians 13:1

According to the apostle Paul what different *kinds* of tongues exist?

2) Read Acts 2:5-11

Building on question #1 what *kind* of tongues was manifested on the Day of Pentecost?

Why were the assembled people amazed at what they were hearing?

What was the content of the message the people heard?

How would you define the gift of tongues based on what you read here in Acts 2?

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3) What kind of tongues?

*"For 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."
1Corinthians 14:2*

How is this description of tongues *different* than what the people heard on the Day of Pentecost (ref. Acts 2:11)?

What *kind* of tongues do you believe Paul describing in 1Corinthians 14:2?

To whom is the message directed?

4) Praying in tongues

*"For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my understanding is unfruitful. 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? For you indeed give thanks well, but the other is not edified."
1Corinthians 14:14-17*

How would a person benefit from praying in the spirit while not understanding what they were praying about? (see also Romans 8:26).