

## Speaking in Tongues.

Thank you for joining us today. We will be discussing the 9 gifts of the Holy Spirit. The first gifts that we will discuss will be the gifts of utterance; the gifts that say something. The first gift of utterance is speaking in tongues.

Divers kinds of tongues is the supernatural utterance in other languages which are not known to the speaker (Isaiah 28:11; Mark 16:17; Acts 2:4; Acts 10:44-48; Acts 19:1-7; 1 Cor. 12:10,28-31; 1 Cor. 13:1-3; 1 Cor. 14:2,22,26,27-32). It may be used to praise and worship God with, as well as to get the attention of people to be interpreted by the speaker or another Believer.

This Gift is a supernatural utterance that comes from God through the person of the Holy Spirit. Only Spirit-filled, or Spirit-baptized, believers are candidates for this gift. I Corinthians 14:22 states that tongues is for a sign to the unbeliever, to stir him inside. The apostle Paul tells us in I Corinthians 14:2 “He that speaketh in an unknown tongue speaketh not to men, but unto God.” Thus our spirit can speak to God’s spirit. Tongues is also part of the Great Commission to the church – the Lord Jesus Christ’s last words on earth before He was taken up into heaven:

And he said unto them, “Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. And these signs shall follow them that believe; in my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak in new tongues (Mark 16:15-17).”

### **WHY SPEAK IN TONGUES?**

- A. Tongues is evidence of the infilling of the Holy Spirit – Acts 2, 10, 19.
- B. Tongues is your prayer language – I Corinthians 14:2.
- C. With tongues you magnify God – Acts 10:46.
- D. Tongues edifies – I Corinthians 14:4.
- E. Tongues brings gladness in singing – I Corinthians 14:15.
- F. Tongues is a source of intercessory prayer – Romans 8:26.
- G. Tongues is a source of spiritual refreshing – Isaiah 28:11-12.
- H. Speaking and ministering to the Lord in tongues is somewhat like a repository of profit

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I Corinthians 12:7.

The Baptism of the Holy Spirit is always recognized by speaking in tongues.

As you know, Jesus was the Son of God from eternity, but was first recognized on earth through the womb of a Virgin named Mary. This declaration was set forth by John that the Son of God was made Flesh. He did not record the works and wonders of God until the Baptism of John and the descending of the Holy Spirit upon Him. In truth, He received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit which He publicly declared as He read Isaiah 61:1-3 and recorded in Luke 4:18.

Therefore as our example of reality, we need this same empowerment of the Holy Spirit as Christ Himself needed (Acts 1:8). In fact, Jesus declared this empowerment in Mark 16:16-29 as needed to work the Works of God.

Our salvation was purchased by the death and resurrection of our Lord and Savior. But as John 7:37-39 declares “The Rivers of Living Water flows after Jesus was glorified.”

Also declared in John 14:24-26 “the Gift of the Holy Spirit confirms His ascension and the Father’s acceptance of His Son’s earthly task completed.” Then and only then, can the Father send the empowering Gift of the Holy Spirit to the believer as He did in Acts 2:4 (Jews), Acts 10:44-46 (Gentiles).

Jesus bought our salvation on the cross and after fulfilling this; He sent the empowerment of the Holy Spirit (God’s Gift to the Believer) back to mankind. This separation of the Water Baptism confirms salvation from the Baptism of the Holy Spirit which extends God’s power to the believer - Acts 19:1-6. This pattern has never been broken; the Cross purchased our Salvation, and Christ’s fulfillment and acceptance purchased the Father’s Gift of the empowerment of the Holy Spirit (Luke 24:49).

Conditions of receiving the Baptism of the Holy Spirit:

“You must be born again – John 3:3-6; Romans 10:8-11.

You must ask – Luke 11:11-13. Ask with a believing heart – Romans 10:9-10.

Yielding your tongue for the first time in your life to your “re-born Spirit” and not your mind. Acts 2:4 - “They (you) speak as the Spirit gives utterance.”

1 Corinthians 14:2 - You speak in God’s language for the first time. Your spirit to God’s Spirit.

Now, not only are you assured of Heaven when you die, but also empowered to fulfill the Great Commission – Matthew 28:18-20, John 14:12 and Mark 16:16-20.

Finally: James 1:16 “Don’t be deceived.”

James 1:17 “God doesn’t have any bad Gifts to give His children.”

In February 2005 I was driving west on Highway 239, a two lane highway, between Goliad and Kennedy, Texas. There was a eighteen wheeler in my lane. I started praying in tongues and just before impact he swerved to avoid hitting me and ran off in the grass and tried to re-correct and shot behind my van when the truck began to roll. The truck rolled at least 6 times before coming to rest on its side by a utility pole. I continued to pray in the spirit while turning my van around to help the driver. The truck was on its side with the driver hanging lifeless and suspended from his seatbelt. There was a three inch tear in the roof. I was still praying in tongues and put my fingers in the tear and ripped the top of the roof off. Unhooked the driver and could not feel any respiration. Carried the driver through the roof and took him a safe distance from the truck and continued to pray in tongues. When I put him down life returned. I told him that God must really love him, and talked about the goodness of God. By this time several drivers had stopped and they were screaming that the truck was going to blow-up. I assured them that it would not as I re-entered the truck through the roof and turned the ignition off. Reviewing this event it was when I started praying in the Holy Spirit that God diverted the truck and saved my life, gave me the power to rip the roof off the truck and remove the driver, and God restored life to the driver. Once everything was OK I continued on my journey. As soon as the adrenalin returned to normal, I felt pain in my hands. As I looked at my hands, I could see that they were lacerated. What a small price to pay as God got the glory, the honor, and the praise! Thank you Jesus for life.