

## CLOTHED WITH POWER 7 - Gifts of the Spirit 2: Tongues

**OPENING PREMISE:** If you want to live 'clothed with power,' praying in tongues is a tremendous, vital SOURCE of Holy Spirit POWER.

→ *Up to now, what has been your view of 'Speaking in Tongues?' How did you think the gift was a) given & b) used? Were you in camp A,B,C,D,E or F?*

- A. Definitely not: It's weird
- B. I don't qualify: That's for super-Christians
- C. Indifference: I've been fine, but, good for those that do
- D. I'd like it, but can't seem to get it: Been prayed for, but nothing happened
- E. Sure, I pray in tongues, or at least I used to
- F. Count me in: For me, tongues is invaluable, indispensable, imperative

**DEF<sup>N</sup>:** SUPERNATURAL utterance in an UNKNOWN tongue.

**KEY to understanding the topic:** Many have LUMPED speaking in tongues into ONE basket. Actually, there are DIFFERENT kinds.

→ *Does this distinction help? Does it change your view? Does it soften your view? Does it make the gift seem more valuable?*

### **3 TYPES OF TONGUES (1 Cor 12:10)**

1. Public Manifestation #1: PROPHETIC message in an UNKNOWN tongue that requires an INTERPRETATION (1 Cor 14:26,13,5).

- \* This one is GOD communicating with US.
- \* NOT EVERYONE will operate in this gift ... It's given as the 'SPIRIT WILLS.'

\* Should ALWAYS be followed by an INTERPRETATION.

→ *Have you ever heard or seen the gift used like this? How does it differ from the gift of prophecy? How might it be valuable?*

2. Public Manifestation #2: Speaking in another HUMAN language that you DON'T KNOW (Mark 16:15-18, Acts 2:6-8).

- \* This one is a SIGN for UNBELIEVERS.

→ *Have you heard stories of the gift being used for this purpose? Why would it be an effective sign for unbelievers?*

3. Private Manifestation: PERSONAL, DEVOTIONAL PRAYER language (1 Cor 14:13-15).

- \* Available to EVERY believer who's FILLED with the Holy Spirit.
- \* God gives us a PRAYER LANGUAGE, so we can pray with the Spirit's HELP.

\* This one is US communicating with GOD.

→ *What's going on deep inside of you? How does the Holy Spirit interact with your spirit? How does a heavenly prayer language fit into that picture?*

**THE QUESTION:** How does praying in tongues help us 'enduo dunamis?'

1. **EMPOWERS your PRAYERS** (Rom 8:26-27, 1 Cor 14:15)

- \* Often our own words are NOT ENOUGH; sometimes we just don't have MUCH DETAIL to work with.
- \* As we pray in tongues, our SPIRIT, which is in fellowship with the HOLY SPIRIT, prays out the perfect WILL of GOD.

→ *How often, when you're praying, do you feel you need the Holy Spirit's help? How might He help? How does He help? How can He elevate your prayers onto another level?*

→ *"Praying in Tongues takes our own thoughts, emotions & misconceptions out of the equation." Discuss!*

2. **TIGHTENS your WALK with the HOLY SPIRIT**

- \* Tongues is an INTIMATE, PERSONAL prayer language ... Just YOU & HIM.
- \* Enables you to talk to Him HEART TO HEART.
- \* If you really want to WORSHIP Him DEEPLY, but can't get the RIGHT words out, try using your prayer language (1 Cor 14:15).

→ *How does praying in tongues draw you closer to Him? How can it help in your praise & worship?*

3. **BUILDS your FAITH** (Jude 20)

- \* Praying in tongues is an exercise in FAITH: not NATURAL or NORMAL, so it does require some BOLDNESS.
- \* He who speaks in a tongue EDIFIES himself (1 Cor 14:4).
- \* Think of it as CHARGING yourself up; giving your SPIRITUAL BATTERY a boost.

→ *How and/or why does praying in tongues energise your faith?*

4. **STIRS your SPIRIT**

- \* As a SPIRIT BEING, the true SOURCE of life, truth, wisdom, power, inspiration, revelation is going to come from your SPIRIT MAN, deep within.
- \* As you pray, your spirit is QUICKENED (John 6:63, 7:37-38).
- \* As you pray, you STIR up the GIFTS within you (2 Tim 1:6) ... SPIRIT stirred, MOUTH speaks, REVELATION comes.
- \* As you pray, your spirit is FRUITFUL (1 Cor 14:14).

→ *How does praying in tongues help you to draw on the life & power God has for you? How does it help you access, truth, wisdom, inspiration & revelation? How does it help you stir up gifts dormant or perhaps embryonic within you?*

**RESPONSE:** *How did you respond on Sunday morning? What were the results? Do you pray in tongues? Would you like to? Can we pray for you? What about public manifestations of the gift? Why not ask the Lord to stir the gift within you & make yourself available to be used in that way.*