

SPIRITUAL
GIFTS



The Gift of Tongues

Definition: The Gift of Tongues is a supernatural utterance given by any Spirit-filled Christian proclaiming in a public meeting (church service, prayer meeting, small group) a message from God in a language unknown and not understood by the person giving it. It is always used in conjunction with the gift of interpretation of tongues.

What Tongues is Not

The sign gift of Tongues is not the prayer language of tongues that comes with the infilling of the Holy Spirit. It is not the receiving of the Spirit at baptism when one is “filled with the Spirit” as in Acts 2:4 “And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.”

The gift of tongues is not the learning of languages. Tongues has positively no relationship to the thinking abilities of man. When a person speaks in tongues, he has no understanding of what he is saying.

The Gift of Interpretation of Tongues

Definition: The Gift of Interpretation of Tongues is the supernatural unfolding by the Holy Spirit through the believer the meaning of a message in tongues delivered in a public assembly so that the church can be encouraged and built up.

The Gift of Interpretation of Tongues

The person who operates in the gift of tongues should seek the gift of interpretation. “Wherefore let him that speaketh in an unknown tongue pray that he may interpret” (1 Cor 14:13). If you possess the gift of tongues and happen to be in a gathering where there is no interpreter, you should be able to interpret.

The ministry of this gift is to edify and build up the church. When the gift of interpretation functions with its sister gift, the gift of tongues, it equals prophecy, which, according to 1 Corinthians 14:4 edifies the church.

The Gift of Interpretation of Tongues

The interpretation of tongues is not an operation of the human mind. The interpreter does not understand the language or the tongue that he is interpreting. His mental faculties are not a part of the message, so he has no thought in his mind as to what the Spirit is going to say. If he does, he is not interpreting by the Spirit.

The Gift of Interpretation of Tongues

It is not a translation of tongues, so the tongues may be shorter or longer than the interpretation.

A translation is usually word for word, whereas interpretation of tongues is the sense and meaning of the message of tongues delivered to a congregation.

The Gift of Tongues plus the interpretation of Tongues are equal to the gift of prophecy.

The Gift of Interpretation of Tongues

1 Corinthians 14:5 – “I wish you all spoke with tongues, but even more that you prophesied; for he who prophesies is greater than he who speaks with tongues, unless indeed he interprets, that the church may receive edification.”

Remember the three-fold purpose of the vocal gifts is not to criticize, rebuke, condemn, or create confusion, they are for edification, exhortation, and comfort.

The Gift of Interpretation of Tongues

Edification – means to build up, to strengthen, to reinforce, to edify and to improve spiritually.

Exhortation – means to minister encouragement and to motivate believers to do the will of God in their lives.

Comfort – means to sooth in a time of sorrow, to heal one of distress, to remove hurt, sadness, and depression.

Guidelines for the use of Tongues

1 Corinthians 14:18-19

1 Corinthians 14: 27-28

1 Corinthians 14:33



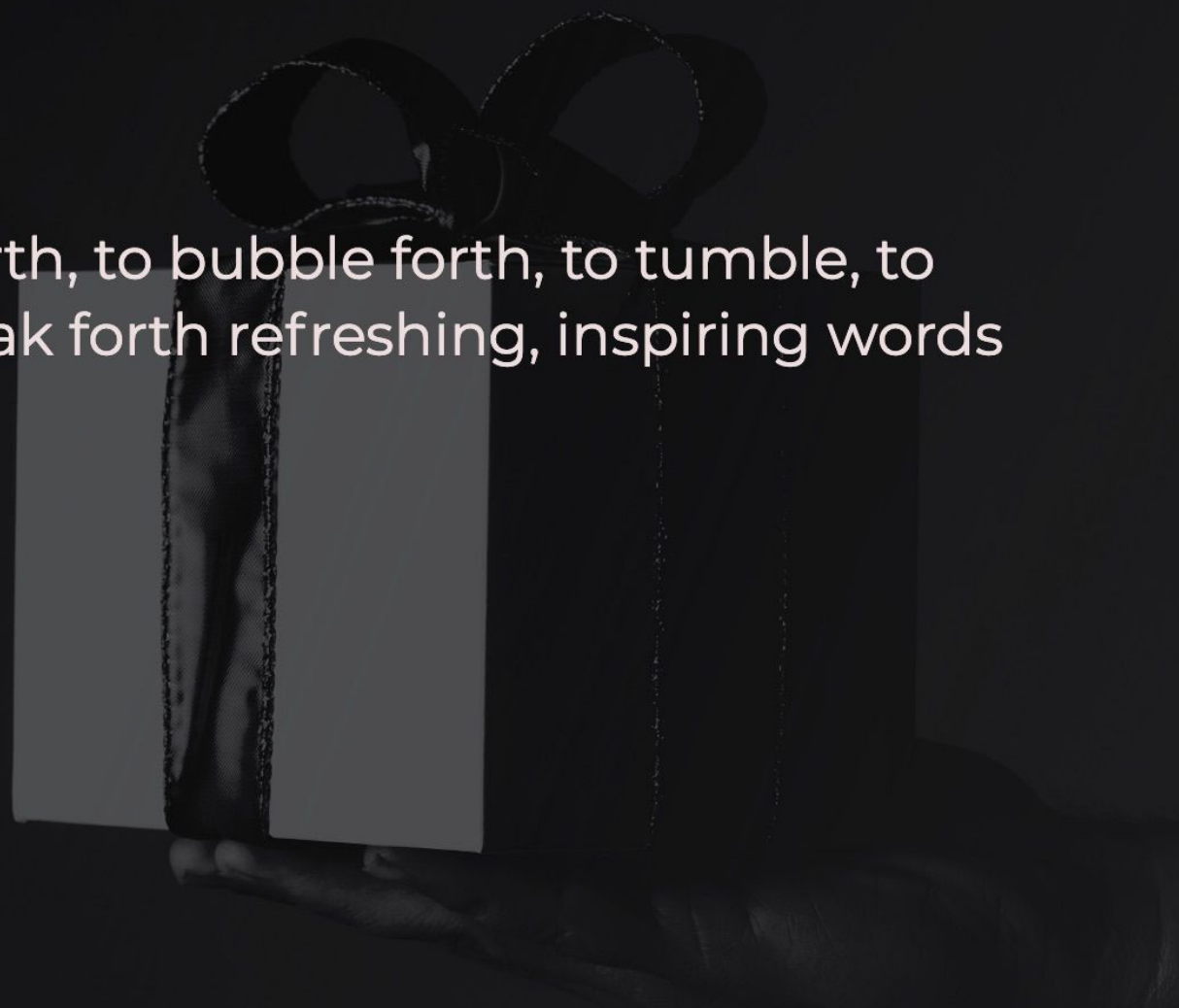
The Gift of Prophecy

Definition: The Gift of Prophecy is a supernatural utterance in a known tongue (not conceived by human thought or reasoning) spoken under the anointing of God to exhort, edify, encourage, strengthen, and comfort the church.

The Gift of Prophecy

1 Corinthians 12:10

To prophesy means to flow forth, to bubble forth, to tumble, to spring forth like a river, to speak forth refreshing, inspiring words anointed by the Holy Spirit.



What Prophecy is Not

The gift of prophecy is not foretelling the future. Prophecy in the New Testament is different from a prophet who foretells the future. God specifically limits this gift to three beautiful exercises – edification, exhortation, and comfort.

The gift of prophecy is not to be used for guidance. This is one of the major ways in which people have misused the gift. Guidance is not one of the three blessings of prophecy.

What Prophecy is Not

The gift of prophecy is not rebuke.

Prophecy is not a message of confusion, criticism, or condemnation.

Prophecy is a confirmation to your spirit, not revelation.

Prophecy must always be in agreement with God's Word

Moving in the Gift of Prophecy: Six Biblical Facts about the Gift of Prophecy.

I. The gift of prophecy is different than the “Office” of a prophet. Even if you flow in the Gift of Prophecy, that does not make you function in the Office of a prophet. All Spirit-filled believers are able to prophesy, but not all are prophets.

II. Every Spirit-filled Christian has the right to receive and operate in a the supernatural gift of prophecy.

1 Corinthians 12:7

1 Corinthians 14:31

1 Corinthians 14:23-24

Moving in the Gift of Prophecy: Six Biblical Facts about the Gift of Prophecy.

III. The bible instructs every believer to seek, earnestly desire, and covet to move in the gift of prophecy.

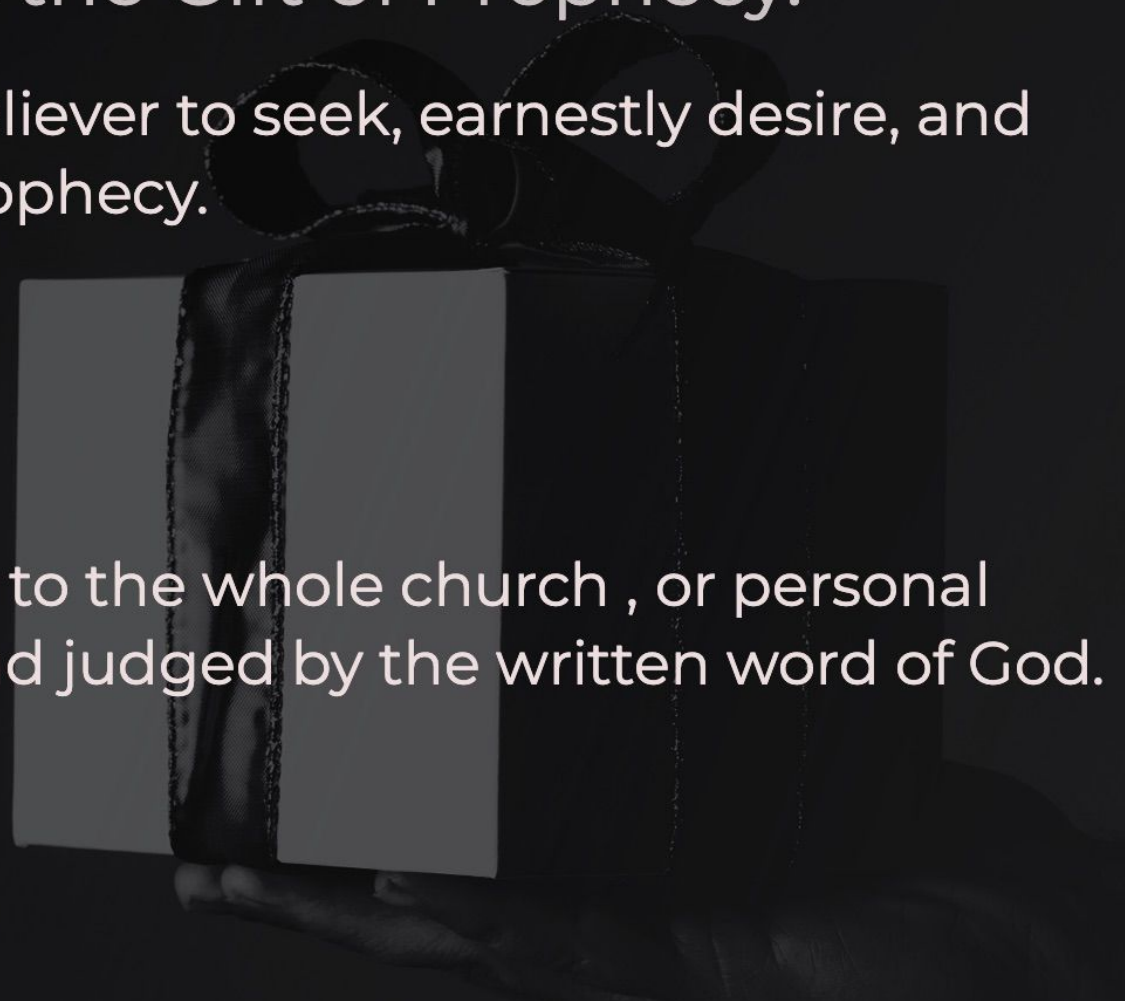
1 Corinthians 14:1

1 Corinthians 14:3, 12, 39

IV. Prophetic utterances given to the whole church , or personal prophecies are to be tested and judged by the written word of God.

1 Thessalonians 5:19-21

1 Corinthians 14:29



Moving in the Gift of Prophecy: Six Biblical Facts about the Gift of Prophecy.

V. One of the purposes of prophecy is always to edify, build up, exhort, strengthen, encourage, and bring comfort to the church. The genuine gift of prophecy will minister life and not death.

1 Corinthians 14:3-5, 12, 31

VI. To move in the gift of prophecy involves faith – unless we exercise our faith we will never exercise the gift of prophecy or any of the vocal gifts. A lack of faith is the explanation as to why so few Spirit-filled believers operate in prophecy.

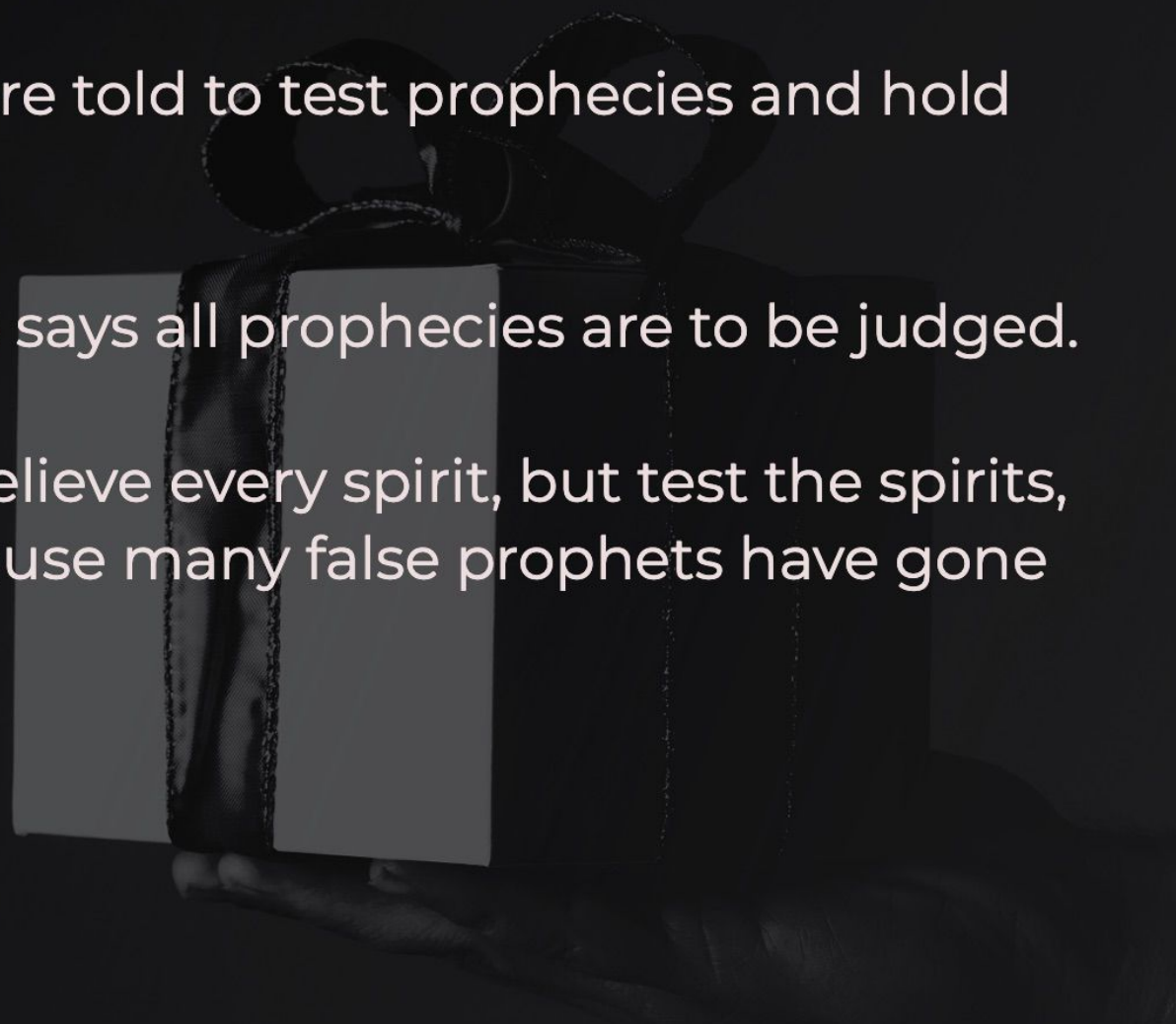
Romans 12:6

Guidelines for Judging Prophecy

In 1 Thessalonians 5:19-21, we are told to test prophecies and hold fast to that which is good.

In 1 Corinthians 14:29 the bible says all prophecies are to be judged.

1 John 4:1 – “Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world.”



Guidelines for Judging Prophecy

Does the prophecy agree with the written Word of God?

Any utterance that contradicts, or does not line up with scripture, is a false prophecy – Holy Spirit will not disagree with Himself.

2 Corinthians 13:8

Guidelines for Judging Prophecy

Does the prophecy exalt and glorify Jesus?

John 16:13-14

Revelation 19:10

Beware of prophecies that exalt a man, an organization, or a doctrine. The Holy Spirit will always bring glory, honor, and praise to Jesus and His ministry.

Any prophetic word that draws unnatural attention to glorify a person, ministry, or someone other than Jesus is to be rejected.