

Tongues and their Interpretations

July 27, 2025

Nine spiritual gifts (according to Paul) **1 Corinthians 12:8-10**

According to the Scriptures we can pray in two ways – with our mind and with our spirit.

Both are needed, and as Christians, both are under the influence of the Holy Spirit.
1 Corinthians 14:14-15

What is it?

“Filled with the Spirit” and “praying in the Spirit”

Greek – *en pneumati* in the spiritual realm and with the Holy Spirit’s aid.

“Do I have to pray in tongues?” “No, but you get to!”

Praying in our personal spiritual language quiets our soul (mind will and emotions) in the conversation of prayer.

The “lesser gift”

All the gifts have eternal significance, or God wouldn’t have given them to us.

All the gifts are needed for a complete and mature body of Christ.

The gift of speaking in tongues is the only gift that edifies the user. **1 Corinthians 14:2-4**

God has given us an internal source that can keep us refreshed and encouraged.
Jude 1:20-21

Prayer is our cooperation with the Trinity and the heavenly order of creation. God has a purpose for us as co-laborers in His Kingdom Holy Spirit:

Romans 8:26, Jesus: **Romans 8:34**, Us: **Romans 8:28**

When we pray in our natural language, we pray with our mind which is part of our soul and can be influenced by our own will and emotions.

When we pray in our spiritual language, we pray with our spirit which is fully under the influence of the Holy Spirit.

Why did God give us this gift?

1. *Connection* **1 Cor 14:2**

Tongues provide a direct connection to the throne room of God.

2. *Expression* **Rom 8:26**

Praying in our spiritual language is the best way to express the inexpressible will of God into our situations.

3. *Edification* **1 Cor 14:4**

Tongues can edify our inner selves or (by interpretation) they can edify the body of Christ.

4. *Intercession* **Rom 8:27**

Praying in our spiritual language when praying in intercession for someone you don't know or who speaks a different language will bypass your assumptions and pray according to the perfect will of God.

5. *Power* **Acts 1:8**

The power of the baptism of the Holy Spirit is a separate and ongoing gift of our new life with Christ.

Is it still relevant?

According to the Word of God all the gifts are relevant and needed until Christ returns. **1 Corinthians 13:8-12**

We should “eagerly desire spiritual gifts” **1 Corinthians 12:31**

“For the creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed.” **Romans 8:19**

For further study on this topic:

- Charisma News, *Medical study proves validity of speaking in tongues*, article July 17, 2019, from ABC News, “Nightline,” March 22, 2007, Dr. Andrew Newburg
- “Encountering the Supernatural,” book by Larry Kreider, Kevin Kazemi, Merle Shenk, Chapter 8 *You too can encounter the supernatural*, Day 5 *Praying in Tongues bypasses the devil*.
- “Praying in the Spirit,” teaching by Bill Johnson, *Bill Johnson Ministries*, Bethel Church, November 17, 2024, [youtube.com/@billjohnsonministries](https://www.youtube.com/@billjohnsonministries)
- “Speak Lord I’m Listening,” book by Larry Kreider, Part III *Spiritual Perception*, Chapter 17 *Spiritual Languages*