

Main Street Church - Life Group Guide

Series: Make Room: Creating Space for the Spirit to Work

Message 6: Spiritual Gifts – Part 2 - Tongues

Speaker: Shawn Vandop

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Connect (25min)

- Linguistic Quiz** (Answers at the bottom of p.2)
 - How many languages do you think have existed in history?
 - How many spoken languages are there currently in the world? Which country uses the most languages?
 - Which (2) current languages are considered the hardest and easiest to learn for English speakers?
 - What is the (current) language with the most words, and how many dialects does it have?
 - How many words did William Shakespeare invent? How many words for rain do Hawaiians have?
 - Which languages was the Bible originally written in, and which of these did Jesus most likely primarily speak?
 - How many languages have at least some Scripture translated for them?
 - What percentage of the world has access to at least some Scripture in their language?
- How many languages do you speak? If you could learn a new language, which one would you choose?**

Message Discussion (40min)

1. Message Feedback

- What jumped out at you from Sunday's message? What thoughts or questions did you walk away with?
- What's one key thing you've learned from the *Make Room* series so far?

2. Talkin' Tongues

LEADER NOTE:

We have included the answers to many of the questions in this study. As you ask the questions don't rush into reading the answers. Let people respond and share their thoughts. The answers are to help you facilitate the conversation.

- Read [Acts 2:1-13](#). What were the three phenomena associated with the coming of the Holy Spirit?
ANSWER: Audible (Acts 2:1) - *The sound as a mighty, rushing wind.* **Visual (Acts 2:3)** - *flames of fire lighting on each person.* **Verbal (Acts 2:4)** *People speaking in other "tongues" (languages)*
- There are two reactions to Jesus' followers speaking in tongues in **Acts 2**:
>> Some were **CURIOUS (Acts 2:12)** and others were **CRITICAL (Acts 2:13)**.
Which reaction do you more often experience when it comes to the gift of tongues? Discuss.
- Read [1 Corinthians 13:8-12](#). Is the gift of tongues still available to the Church today? Why or why not?
- Read [Acts 2:11](#), [Acts 10:46a](#), and [1 Corinthians 14:2](#). What is the purpose of the gift of tongues?
ANSWER: The gift of tongues allows a person to bypass language and communicate directly to the heart of the Lord. It is a gift of prayer and praise to God.
Acts 2:11 – "Cretans and Arabs—we hear them speaking in our own tongues the wonderful works of God."
Acts 10:46a – "For they heard them speak with tongues and magnify God."
1 Corinthians 14:2 – "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."

3. Tongues & Prophecy

a. What is the difference between tongues and prophecy? Discuss.

ANSWER: Prophecy is speaking a message in a **known** language **to people** under the inspiration of the Spirit. Tongues is speaking a message in an **unknown** language not to people, **but to God**. The direction of prophecy is **down** from God to people. The direction of tongues is **up** from people to God.

b. Does Scripture offer parameters for the expression of the gift of tongues? Discuss.

c. What is the difference between **PUBLIC** and **PRIVATE** Tongues?

ANSWER: Public tongues must always be accompanied by the spiritual gift of interpretation so as not to cause confusion. Private tongues are a way of PRAYING ([1 Corinthians 14:14-15](#)). Private tongues are a form of PRAISE ([1 Corinthians 14:16-17](#)) and Private tongues Edifies ourself ([1 Corinthians 14:4](#))

Challenge & Prayer (25min)

Challenge

a. Read [1 Peter 4:10-11](#). How should we view and seek the gifts of the Spirit?

ANSWER

- “Eagerly desire the gifts.”
- Wait upon the Lord for the gifts He wants to give you.
- It is never wrong to want more of the Lord.
- Be cautious and open, not closed and critical.

b. How could the gift of tongues impact your personal prayer life? Discuss.

Prayer

a. Prayer for this week:

“Holy Spirit, help me to make room in my heart and life for all that You have for me and want to do through me.”

b. Pray for one another:

How can we pray for you in response to the message and discussion?

c. Pray through our **2024 Prayer Goals** as a group:

20 PRAYER GOALS

A PASSION TO PRAY. Personally, and corporately. That we would become a church OF prayer.

A FRESH VISITATION of the Holy Spirit that results in a willingness to respond to all He gives us and calls us to.

For at least 200 new people to **ATTEND** our Set Free and Empower Retreats.

That we **MAKE ROOM** for more people to experience wholeness in Christ.

Quiz Answers

a. Estimated 31,000 b. Over 7100 / Papua New Guinea with 840 c. Chinese Mandarin / Spanish d. English / 160 e. 1700 / Over 200 f. Hebrew, Aramaic, Koine (Common) Greek / Aramaic g. 3658 (736 Full, 1658 NT, 1264 Portions h. Up to 97% of all people (7.23 billion)