

# Calvary Chapel AG

## The Language of the Holy Spirit

### Acts 2:1-4

#### 3 reasons

1. To overcome your weaknesses
2. To do the mission of Christ
3. To experience the Glory of God, the rivers of living water

There were several occasions in the Book of Acts when believers were filled with the Holy Spirit followed by the phrase “and they”

**Acts 2:4** and they began to **speak in other tongues** (the wonderful works of God)

**Acts 4:31** And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they **spoke the word of God with boldness.**

**Acts 10:46** For they heard them speak with **tongues** and **magnify** God.

**Acts 19:6** And when Paul had laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they **spoke with tongues** and **prophesied.**

- There are several signs of the infilling of the Holy Spirit
- We remain with that speaking in tongues is the initial sign of the baptism of the Holy Spirit
- Many people who have been walking with God receive this after years of walking with Christ, some receive the Holy Spirit on the day of
- Paul Says in **1 Corinthians 14:5** **I wish you all spoke with tongues,**
  - Some didn't speak in tongues
- If you do not speak in tongues that doesn't mean you're not saved, or there is something wrong with you,
- It simply means there is more for you from God that the Bible says you can have
- maybe.....t
- I go back to Jesus telling his disciples to “stay in the city until you are endued with power from on high”
  - It shouldn't get you frustrated it should keep you hungry and thirsty for more of God
- This is unexplainable, it doesn't make sense, and science can't explain it, but it is a real experience for believers

#### Have tongues ceased

- Many people today affirm that tongues are not for the church today, they insist that tongues are for the Book of Acts

**1 Corinthians 13:8** Love never fails. But whether there are prophecies, they will fail; whether there are tongues, they will cease; whether there is knowledge, it will vanish away. 9 For we know in part and we prophesy in part. 10 But when that which is [d]perfect has come, then that which is in part will be done away.

- They will use this verse and insist that the “perfect” that Paul refers to was the complete bible and therefore tongues have ceased
- But, prophecies haven't failed, and knowledge has not vanished
- Paul is referring to. Face-to-face encounter with Jesus

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**1 Corinthians 13:12** For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part, but then I shall know just as I also am known.

- Our experience with Jesus now is like a reflection in a dim mirror
- We will one day know Him He is
- The deep intimacy, guidance, and baptism of the Holy Spirit, the power upon believers, and the Gifts of the Spirit (all the Gifts) including tongues are for today

### Different types of Tongues

- 1 Corinthians 14 is a complicated passage, difficult to understand.
- To understand this passage we must know that Paul is speaking of different kinds of tongues that are referred to as “tongues” (Glossa)
- 2 are for public ministry, and 2 are for private use these last 2 connect us intimately with God
- As you walk with God and grow in the Word of God and in intimacy with God you will begin to have discernment and know what the Lord is doing

### 1 tongues as a sign to unbelievers

- Public ministry

**1 Corinthians 14:22** Therefore tongues are for a sign, not to those who believe but to unbelievers;

- These are earthly tongues, when the Holy Spirit transcends our intellect and gives us the ability to speak in an earthly language, that we would not know from our own knowledge.
- This is what happened on the day of Pentecost in **Acts 2:11** we hear them speaking in our own tongues the wonderful works of God
- The Jews who had come from 14 different places and spoke 14 different languages.
- This was a sign for them, there was no way these untrained Galileans could declare the works of God, and 3000 came to faith because of this sign and the preaching of Peter
- Azusa Street revival, stories of foreigners present in churches, my uncle, tongues that are a sign to unbelievers

### 2 tongues for interpretation

- Public ministry
- In describing the gifts of the Spirit Paul says in 1 **Corinthians 12:10** to another interpretation of tongues.

**1 Corinthians 14:13** Therefore let him who speaks in a tongue pray that he may interpret. **14** For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my understanding is unfruitful.

- These tongues are a heavenly language that needs to be interpreted
- Without an interpretation, the church will not be edified
- **1 Corinthians 14:5** I wish you all spoke with tongues, but even more that you prophesied; [a]for he who prophesies is greater than he who speaks with tongues, unless indeed he interprets, that the church may receive edification.
- I have seen this happen many times, the latest was at the district Council just a few weeks ago.

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- There have been times when someone here speaks in tongues and I allow a moment of silence to see if God will give an interpretation.

Paul gives us the difference between these 2 types of tongues

**1 Corinthians 14:22** Therefore tongues are for a sign, not to those who believe but to unbelievers; but prophesying is not for unbelievers but for those who believe.

**23** Therefore if the whole church comes together in one place, and all speak with tongues, and there come in *those who are* uninformed or unbelievers, will they not say that you are out of your mind?

- This makes no sense if there was only one type of tongues
- The first type of tongue (sign) draws unbelievers because it is a sign to them
- The second type is for interpretation, these types of tongues will cause unbelievers to think that the believers have lost their mind

### 3 tongues for intercession

**Romans 8:26** Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession [g]for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. **27** Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God.

- We have weaknesses and a limited understanding of what is going on with and around us
- The Holy Spirit who knows all things helps us intercede in the Spirit for us and for the saints
- Sometimes we may not pray the right prayer but the Holy Spirit intercedes for the perfect will of God in our lives and the lives of the saints.

“One time I felt I needed to pray and I did, I started praying in the Spirit (in tongues) and I knew I was praying for my Pastor, a deep intense prayer that felt like a battle. I came to find out later he was headed to the hospital with a heart attack.”

I always allow time in my prayer for this intercession, I may be praying for an attack or a trap of the enemy, strength for temptation, rebuking sicknesses. The Holy Spirit who knows all things and the perfect will of God can and will intercede for us and the saints.

### 4 tongues for personal prayer

- **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** But he who prophesies speaks edification and exhortation and comfort to men. **4** He who speaks in a tongue edifies himself, but he who prophesies edifies the church
- These tongues are personal and private prayer
- For personal edification, we need this in our prayer life. Paul said **1 Corinthians 14:18** I thank my God I speak with tongues more than you all;
- **1 Corinthians 14:15** What is the conclusion then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will also pray with the understanding. I will sing with the spirit, and I will also sing with the understanding.

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- When did Paul speak in tongues? In his personal prayer, Paul prayed in tongues and in his regular language
- This is a private interaction with God and the person praying for the strengthening of the believer
- The most intimate conversation we can have with God is here that even my earthly mind doest understand but my spirit is edified
  - I should also pray with my understanding, which also benefits me.
  - There are goals, dreams, ministries, talents, and loved ones that God has given us that we need to pray for
  - When we talk about the need to pray in the spirit, we do not underestimate praying with understanding.
  - A good prayer life includes praying in the Spirit and praying with the understanding. Both are needed and vital to our walk with God
- Praying and worshiping in the spirit is a deeper level of worship, praise , and prayer
- **1 Corinthians 14:23** Therefore if the whole church comes together in one place, and all speak with tongues, and there come in *those who are* uninformed or unbelievers, will they not say that you are out of your mind?
- There are times when everyone in the room is a believer and it would be ok to speak in tongues. Other times believers should refrain from speaking in tongues
- Some believers ask a question can I be filled with the spirit and not speak in tongues
- Following the pattern of the book of Acts, the initial physical evidence of the baptism/ empowerment of the Holy Spirit is speaking in tongues, preaching the word of God with boldness, declaring the wonders of God, prophesying, magnifying God, and even wonders like the place were the disciples were shaking
- I would rather say this: Everyone who has believed in Jesus has been sealed and is the temple of the Holy Spirit. They can be filled (baptized) with the Holy Spirit and are able receive the gift of tongues
- Paul says I wish all you spoke in tongues, meaning some don't

Some believers haven't received this gift because they have not yielded to it by faith. (All gifts are received from the Holy Spirit and are by faith) Like a trust fall, maybe there are walls that need to come down. I pray all will be baptized in the Holy Spirit and receive the initial physical evidence of speaking in tongues and furthermore the fruits, and the gifts of the Spirit and prophesy, word of knowledge, discernment, interpretation of tongues all that God has for us that we can receive