

- I. Review of Previous Lessons/Important Things to Remember
  - A. We are to desire spiritual gifts.
  - B. We are not to be ignorant regarding spiritual gifts.
  - C. There are three categories of gifts.
    - 1. Revelation gifts gifts that reveal something.
      - a. Discerning of Spirits
      - b. Word of Knowledge
      - c. Word of Wisdom
    - 2. Power gifts gifts that do something.
      - a. Faith
      - b. Working of Miracles
      - c. Gifts of Healings
    - 3. Utterance gifts gifts that say something.
      - a. Prophecy
      - b. Divers Kinds of Tongues
      - c. Interpretation of Tongues
- II. The Necessary Order of Operating in the Gifts.
  - A. 1 Corinthians 14:40 (NKJV) Let all things be done decently and in order.
    - <u>1 Corinthians 14:40 (AMP)</u> But all things must be done appropriately and in an orderly manner.
    - <u>1 Corinthians 14:40 (GWT)</u> Everything must be done in a proper and orderly way.



#### B. Misconceptions about order

- 1. The Holy Spirit abruptly does whatever He wants.
- 2. When order is established, it hinders or stops the Spirit from moving.
- C. The benefits of true spiritual order.
  - 1. The Holy Spirit will be able to move because order will give a place for Him to operate.
  - 2. The operation of the gifts will be without chaos or confusion.
  - 3. The gifts in operation will be more productive and effective in edifying the body.

**Pastor's Note:** True spiritual and Biblical order never takes away from a service, but rather adds to the service.

- D. Paul's instruction regarding order for spiritual gifts.
  - 1. The gift of "Divers Kinds of Tongues", must be interpreted.

This is not our personal prayer language, but rather the gift of tongues in operation in a public church setting.

1 Corinthians 14:6-19 (NKJV) — <sup>6</sup>But now, brethren, if I come to you speaking with tongues, what shall I profit you unless I speak to you either by revelation, by knowledge, by prophesying, or by teaching? <sup>7</sup>Even things without life, whether flute or harp, when they make a sound, unless they make a distinction in the sounds, how will it be known what is piped or played? <sup>8</sup>For if the trumpet makes an uncertain sound, who will prepare for battle? <sup>9</sup>So likewise you, unless you utter by the tongue words easy to understand, how will it be known what is spoken? For you will be speaking into the air. <sup>10</sup>There are, it may be, so many kinds of languages in the world, and none of



them is without significance. <sup>11</sup>Therefore, if I do not know the meaning of the language, I shall be a foreigner to him who speaks, and he who speaks will be a foreigner to me. <sup>12</sup>Even so you, since you are zealous for spiritual gifts, let it be for the edification of the church that you seek to excel. <sup>13</sup>Therefore let him who speaks in a tongue pray that he may interpret. <sup>14</sup>For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my understanding is unfruitful. 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. <sup>16</sup>Otherwise, if you bless with the spirit, how will he who occupies the place of the uninformed say "Amen" at your giving of thanks, since he does not understand what you say? <sup>17</sup>For you indeed give thanks well, but the other is not edified. <sup>18</sup>I thank my God I speak with tongues more than you all; <sup>19</sup>yet in the church I would rather speak five words with my understanding, that I may teach others also, than ten thousand words in a tongue

2. Those being used in the gifts can control when and if they speak during the service.

1 Corinthians 14:26-33 (NKJV) — <sup>26</sup>How is it then, brethren?

Whenever you come together, each of you has a psalm, has a teaching, has a tongue, has a revelation, has an interpretation. Let all things be done for edification. <sup>27</sup>If anyone speaks in a tongue, let there be two or at the most three, each in turn, and let one interpret. <sup>28</sup>But if there is no interpreter, let him keep silent in church, and let him speak to himself and to God. <sup>29</sup>Let two or three prophets speak, and let the others judge. <sup>30</sup>But if anything is revealed to another who sits by, let the first keep silent. <sup>31</sup>For you can all prophesy one by one, that all may learn and all may be encouraged. <sup>32</sup>And the spirits of the prophets are subject to the prophets. <sup>33</sup>For God is not the author of confusion but of peace, as in all the churches of the saints.

**Pastor's Note:** Notice the order! The purpose of this order is to facilitate the gifts in a manner that they will best work to the greatest level of edification for the church. The spirit of the prophets are subject to the prophets.... You can control what you are doing!



<u>1 Corinthians 14:32 (NLT)</u> – Remember that people who prophesy are in control of their spirit and can take turns.

<u>1 Corinthians 14:32 (AMP)</u> – for the spirits of prophets are subject to the prophets [the prophecy is under the speaker's control, and he can stop speaking]

#### WHAT ABOUT WOMEN?

<u>1 Corinthians</u> 14:34-35 (NKJV) – <sup>34</sup>Let your women keep silent in the churches, for they are not permitted to speak; but they are to be submissive, as the law also says. <sup>35</sup>And if they want to learn something, let them ask their own husbands at home; for it is shameful for women to speak in church.

Pastor's Note: While there are some specific scriptures where Paul seemed to forbid women to minister in the local church, there were many passages that endorse women in the ministry.

- Priscilla worked with her husband Aquilla.
   Paul referred to them as fellow laborers in the ministry.
   Priscilla gave instruction to Apollos
   Acts 18:26 (NKJV) So he began to speak boldly in the synagogue.
   When Aquila and Priscilla heard him, they took him aside and explained to him the way of God more accurately.
- Euodia and Syntyche
   <u>Philippians 4:2-3 (NKJV)</u> <sup>2</sup>I implore Euodia and I implore
   Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. <sup>3</sup>And I urge you also, true companion, help these women who labored with me in the gospel, with Clement also, and the rest of my fellow workers, whose names are in the Book of Life
- Phillips Daughters
   Acts 21:9 (NKJV) Now this man had four virgin daughters who prophesied.
- Phoebe Paul commends her.
   Romans 16:1-2 (NKJV) <sup>1</sup>I commend to you Phoebe our sister,
   who is a servant of the church in Cenchrea, <sup>2</sup>that you may receive



her in the Lord in a manner worthy of the saints, and assist her in whatever business she has need of you; for indeed she has been a helper of many and of myself also.

Pastor's Conclusion: There were times that the Apostle Paul gave special instruction regarding women. It is likely that these instructions were due to specific issues that were occurring in the local church he was addressing. Some of those issues especially in the church at Corinth that was labeled by Paul as being "Carnal", may have included women.

There is also a theory found in some studies that suggest that due to the danger presented by preaching the gospel in some places, Paul did not want women to encounter such opposition that included torturous death. Therefore, he believed it best for women to remain silent and allow men to speak. It would be better for a man to suffer as a martyr than women.

Regardless, the ministry of women is endorsed throughout scripture. They certainly were not silent partners. Women were baptized in the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost just as men were. God made no distinction. He equipped them for service with the Holy Spirit, just as He equipped men. We must not allow tradition that is founded upon a few scriptures that do not harmonize with the entire New Testament to dictate silence to some of the most gifted and anointed ministers available to the Body of Christ today.

**III. Closing:** We must become skillful with the gifts of the Spirit. The more skillful we become in their operation, the more effective they will be in brining the supernatural power of God into our services.