

## THAT AIN'T ENGLISH

*The prayer in tongues*

Today: We look at one of the most often misunderstood aspects of the baptism of the Holy Spirit. The Prayer in Tongues

### Different kinds of Tongues

#### **1 Corinthians 12- Different application to tongues**

##### **Clarification:**

We are not looking at a message in tongues... the type of tongues used by the Holy Spirit in Acts 2:4

- **<sup>4</sup>All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages as the Spirit enabled them.**
  - Distinct human languages... to minister to those present
  - Remember... all the different people from all over the world present

**This is not tongues that need interpretation 1 Cor. 12...** in a public setting or a church service... also a message from God... interpreted so people can understand the message

Today we are not discussing a message in tongues ... **but the prayer in tongues...** discussed in 1 Cor 14 ...that is meant for every believer as part of our daily prayer life

### Myths about tongues

**Myth #1** - If it's real... Start speaking fluently the first day you are baptized in the Holy Spirit

- No one starts speaking in their native tongue fluently from day 1

**Myth #2** – You can't control it...and you'll be embarrassed.

**1 Cor 14:14-15** .... I will pray with my spirit. But I will also pray with my mind. I will sing with my spirit. But I will also sing with my mind. (NIRV)

- Act of your will
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**1 Cor 14:27** (Bringing order to Messages in tongues in the church)

No more than two or three people should speak in another language. And they should speak one at a time. (NIRV)

- Regulated and controlled... Why would God gives guidelines if it was not controllable

**Myth #3** – If he sees fit... he will give it to me...without my consent

- **Luke 11:13**- God will generously give the Holy Spirit to **anyone** who asks Him (NLT)
  - You are baptized in the Holy Spirit now by faith begin to yield your tongue to use this tool
  - As a tool we must pick it up and put it to work on purpose

## Truth about tongues

### *Prayer Tongues....It's a language*

- Tongues are: A language that is **understandable by God**...
  - **1 Cor 14:2**... **Mysteries to God**... God understands them... out mind is unfruitful but God gets it perfectly

### **It's a language in the Spirit**

- Only language in the universe without gossip... slander.... Cursing...evil intention... Backbiting... evil speaking... it's heavenly.

### *It's for every believer*

**Acts 2:39**- For the promise [of the Holy Spirit] is to and for you and your children, and to and for all that are far away, [even to and for as many as the Lord our God invites and bids to come to Himself. (AMP)

**1 Cor 14:5** – My desire is that **everyone** spoke in tongues and prophesied (NASB)

**Cor 14:18 - Paul's testimony** – I thank God that I speak in tongues more than all of you. (NIV)

***In the NT there was no such thing as a church that did not speak in tongues  
He started it the way he wanted it and he wants it the way he started it***

***Tongues are to be a regular part of our devotional prayer Life***

**1 Cor 14:14** – What is the Conclusion... **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. (NKJV)

- a part of our regular prayer life
  - Back and forth – native tongue and Spiritual language
  - Part of our personal prayer life

***Tongues is a prayer of our spirit***

**1 Cor 14:14** – If I pray in another language, **my spirit prays.** But my mind does not pray. (NIV)

***Human spirit-*** As **opposed to our mind-** our understanding

- Intelligible thought

**1 Cor 14:2-3-** For anyone who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God. Indeed, no one understands him; he utters **mysteries with his spirit.** (NIV)

- Mysteries **with our** spirit- prayed into the atmosphere

***TCC Our spirit prays... God set it up this way***

- Our Human spirit has the capacity to pray apart from our cognitive mind

**University of Pennsylvania study-** science has shown... when a person prays in tongues we use a completely different part of our brain than when we pray in our common language

- Cognitive frontal lobe of our brain- controls our ability to understand... No activity...***But there is voluntary activity***
- **Yet it is almost as if something or someone else is working in them**

TCC- This prayer is intended to be a prayer of **our re-born human spirit**.

- Our heart expresses to the father the deep-seated prayers of the Holy Spirit.

### ***Tongues is praying in the Holy Spirit***

**Jude 20**....Build ourselves up... praying in the Holy Spirit...

### ***Tongues is a Prayer of edification of the Believer***

**Jude 20** - **But you, beloved**, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit, NKJV

- TCC- When your Spirit is strong then the rest of you is strengthened

### ***Tongues is part of the armor of God***

**Eph 6:17-18** – And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God; <sup>18</sup> praying always with all prayer and supplication **in the Spirit**, (NKJV)

**1 Cor 1:5** - I wish all of you spoke in tongues...

### ***Tongues is subordinate to loving people (Perspective)***

**1 Cor 13:1-3**- Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I have become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal. <sup>2</sup> And though I have *the gift of prophecy*, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. <sup>3</sup> And though I bestow all my goods to feed *the poor*, and though I give my body to be burned,\* but have not love, it profits me nothing. (NKJV)

## **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

**Q.** What does it mean to pray with my spirit and pray with my understanding?

**Q.** How does praying in the spirit benefit my prayer life?

**Q.** We broke down some common myths today surrounding the gift of tongues. Share your experience of receiving this gift.