



First Corinthians

Learning To Be Light in a Dark World

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Order in the Church:
The Role of Tongues & Prophecy
1 Corinthians 14:1–40
August 16, 2015
Dr. Mark Strauss

Theme: Paul concludes his discussion of spiritual gifts by emphasizing that the role of spiritual gifts is to build up the body of Christ and advance the kingdom of God. The gift of tongues is producing confusion in the church, so that unbelievers are distracted from hearing the good news. Paul calls the church back to order in a manner that edifies the body and advances the Gospel.

Outline

1. The Superiority of Prophecy to Tongues (14:1–25)
 - a. What is the gift of tongues?
 - b. The greater gifts edify the church rather than individuals, vv. 1-5
 - c. Unintelligible (uninterpreted) tongues do not edify the church, vv. 14:6-19

d. The purpose of tongues and prophecy clarified, vv. 14:20-25

2. The Need for Order in Worship (14:26-40)

a. Introduction: All things to build up the church, v. 26

b. Regulations concerning the gifts of tongues and prophecy, vv. 27–33

c. Certain women and disorder in the church, vv. 34–35

d. Paul's authority in these matters, vv. 36–38

e. Conclusion: Celebration of the gifts and call for order, v. 39

Takeaway: All our gifts should be directed toward building up the body of Christ and fulfilling God's purpose for the world.

Next Cove: August 23, 2015

The Resurrection of Christ
I Corinthians 15:1–11