

Doing church to benefit the church

1 Corinthians 14, p. 932

I. CHURCH MEETINGS MUST PRIORTIZE WHAT BUILDS UP THE CHURCH (1 CORINTHIANS 14:1-25).

- A. Build up the body with God's Word – The Corinthians should prioritize the gift of prophecy, not speaking in tongues (14:1-5).
- In Corinth, praising God in tongues only edified self, but prophecy spoken to people edified the whole church.
- B. Avoid confusion – Corinthians should avoid tongues-speaking in church services unless they are interpreted clearly (14:6-25).
- a. Speaking foreign languages to those who don't know them is meaningless (14:6-12).
 - b. If speaking in tongues is not translated, it does not benefit the church (14:13-19).
 - c. The gift of tongues was given as a sign for unbelievers, but prophecy was for believers and unbelievers (14:20-25).
- The foreign languages of the conquering Assyrians warned stubborn unbelieving Jews (20-21).
 - Miraculous tongues were given to confirm the gospel message (22, Mark 16:15, Acts 14:3, Hebrews 2:3-4).
 - Tongues often confused unbelievers, but prophecy could convict them about God's truth (23-25).

II. CHURCH MEETINGS MUST BE CONDUCTED IN AN ORDERLY WAY (1 CORINTHIANS 14:26-40).

- A. Build the body with all spiritual gifts (14:26-38).
1. Songs, teaching or other gifts must profit the church (26).
 2. Use tongues only if translated (27-28).
 3. All should take turns and submit to evaluation (29-33).
 4. Men should do the public teaching (34-35; 1 Tim. 2:11-12).
 5. The arrogant are rebuked and should be ignored (36-38).
- B. Do everything appropriately and orderly (14:39-40).