

1 Corinthians 14:1-25 (January 15, 2023)

OPENING QUESTION:

SERMON DISCUSSION: How were you impacted by the sermon? What new thoughts or lessons did you discover? In what ways did you find yourself challenged and/or encouraged?

BIBLE PASSAGE STUDY QUESTIONS: READ 1 Corinthians 14:1-25

NOTE: Paul addresses a “core issue in Corinth: a glorification of the gift of speaking in tongues in such a way that the other gifts, as well as those who possessed them, were minimized. Those who spoke in tongues apparently saw this gift as a sign of their superior spirituality.”
(Hard Sayings of Paul p.162 by Manfred T. Brauch)

NOTE REGARDING “PROPHECY” AND “SPEAKING IN TONGUES” IN THIS PASSAGE:

“Speaking in tongues’ in 14:1-40 refers to an individual’s praising God in a language that neither the speaker nor the hearers understand unless God supernaturally enables someone to interpret... ‘Prophecy’ in 14:1-40 refers to an individual’s sharing with others an encouraging insight that they sense God has spontaneously revealed...Prophecy is not synonymous with preaching or teaching because it is not the direct result of studying the Bible...But a teacher may prophesy while teaching.”

(Crossway ESV Expository Commentary p. 350-352 by Andrew David Naselli)

1. How is Joel’s prophecy declared by Paul in Acts 2:17-18 being fulfilled in the Corinthian church (1 Corinthians 11:5, 12:7-10, 14:1)?

2. After giving a detailed exhortation on love in 1 Corinthians 13, Paul says, “Pursue love, and earnestly desire the spiritual gifts, especially that you may prophesy (1 Corinthians 14:1).

According to 1 Corinthians 14:1-25:

Who receives the message of prophecy?

What is the three-fold purpose of prophecy?

Why is the gift of prophecy greater than the gift of tongues?

3. According to 1 Corinthians 14:1-25:

Who is edified from the message of tongues?

What are the caveats given for speaking in tongues (see also 1 Corinthians 13:1, 14:28)?

4. From 1 Corinthians 14:23-25 discuss the secondary benefit of prophecy.

5. What do you think is the essence of this passage? How do you find this applicable to the use of your God given gifts?