

# **AND YOU THINK YOU'VE GOT PROBLEMS**

*A Study of First Corinthians*

## **THE TROUBLE WITH TONGUES**

1 Corinthians 14:1-19

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**What does God teach us about the gift of tongues?**

### **1. Tongues were known languages.**

*And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit was giving them utterance. <sup>5</sup> Now there were Jews living in Jerusalem, devout men from every nation under heaven. <sup>6</sup> And when this sound occurred, the crowd came together, and were bewildered because each one of them was hearing them speak in his own language. <sup>7</sup> They were amazed and astonished, saying, "Why, are not all these who are speaking Galileans? <sup>8</sup> And how is it that we each hear them in our own language to which we were born ... speaking of the mighty deeds of God." <sup>12</sup> And they all continued in amazement and great perplexity, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" Acts 2:4-8*

\* They were given for a sign.

*So then tongues are for a sign, not to those who believe but to unbelievers. 1 Corinthians 14:22*

### **2. Tongues became a big problem in Corinth.**

*Pursue love, yet desire earnestly spiritual gifts, but especially that you may prophesy. <sup>2</sup> For one who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God; for no one understands, but in his spirit he speaks mysteries. <sup>3</sup>*

*But one who prophesies speaks to men for edification and exhortation and consolation. <sup>4</sup> One who speaks in a tongue edifies himself; but one who prophesies edifies the church. 1 Corinthians 14:1-4*

#### **A. The devil always wants to pervert the ways of God.**

*You who are full of all deceit and fraud, you son of the devil, you enemy of all righteousness, will you not cease to make crooked the straight ways of the Lord? Acts 13:10*

#### **B. False tongues had infiltrated the church.**

*Therefore I make known to you, that no one speaking by the Spirit of God says, "Jesus is accursed." 1 Corinthians 12:3*

### **3. Tongues don't edify the church.**

*But to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. 1 Corinthians 12:7*

*So also you, since you are zealous of spiritual gifts, seek to abound for the edification of the church. 1 Corinthians 14:12*

### **4. Tongues don't provide understanding to the hearers.**

*But now, brethren, if I come to you speaking in tongues, what shall I profit you, unless I speak to you either by way of revelation or of knowledge or of prophecy or of teaching? 1 Corinthians 14:6*

*I thank God, I speak in tongues more than you all; however, in the church I desire to speak five words with my mind so that I may instruct others also, rather than ten thousand words in a tongue.  
1 Corinthians 14:18-19*

## **What to take away and apply?**

### **1. Pursue love.**

### **2. Pursue the edification of others.**

### **3. Pursue the understanding of God's Word.**