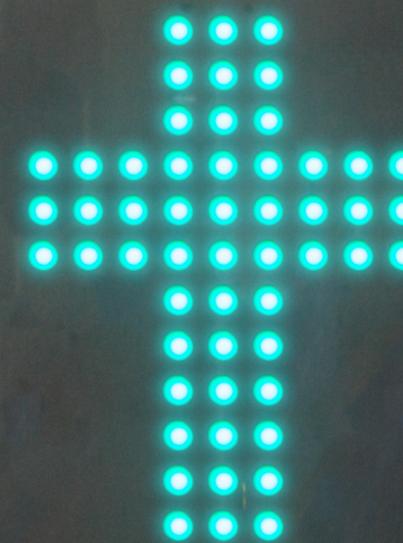


1st Corinthians and 21st Century Living

GIFTS IN OUR GATHERINGS



I CORINTHIANS 14:1

¹ Follow the way of love and eagerly desire gifts of the Spirit, especially prophecy.



Tongues or Prophecy?



I CORINTHIANS 14:2–4

² For anyone who speaks in a tongue does not speak to people but to God. Indeed, no one understands them; they utter mysteries by the Spirit.

³ But the one who prophesies speaks to people for their strengthening, encouraging and comfort.

I CORINTHIANS 14:2–4

⁴ Anyone who speaks in a tongue edifies themselves, but the one who prophesies edifies the church.



Speaking in tongues...



Speaking in tongues...

- Speaks to God



Speaking in tongues...

- Speaks to God
- Involves mysteries



Speaking in tongues...

- Speaks to God
- Involves mysteries
- Edifies the speaker



Prophesying...



Prophesying...

- Speaks to people



Prophesying...

- Speaks to people
- Involves strength,
encouragement, & comfort



Prophesying...

- Speaks to people
- Involves strength, encouragement, & comfort
- Edifies the church



1 CORINTHIANS 14:5

⁵ I would like every one of you to speak in tongues, but I would rather have you prophesy. The one who prophesies is greater than the one who speaks in tongues, unless someone interprets, **so that the church may be edified.**

I CORINTHIANS 14:12–13

¹² So it is with you. Since you are eager for gifts of the Spirit, try to excel in those **that build up the church.** ¹³ For this reason the one who speaks in a tongue should pray that they may interpret what they say.

I CORINTHIANS 14:18–19

¹⁸ I thank God that I speak in tongues more than all of you. ¹⁹ **But in the church** I would rather speak five intelligible words to instruct others than ten thousand words in a tongue.

**Can this work
in our gatherings?**



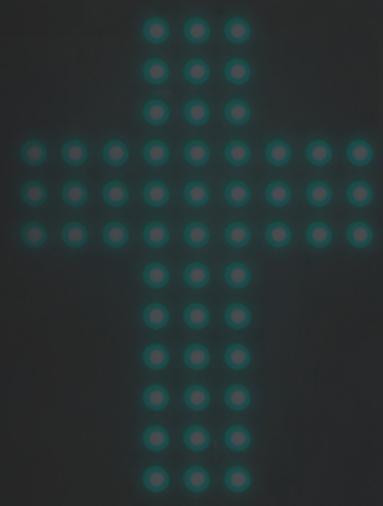
The possibilities...



I CORINTHIANS 14:26

26 What then shall we say, brothers and sisters? When you come together, each of you has a hymn, or a word of instruction, a revelation, a tongue or an interpretation. Everything must be done so that the church may be built up.

The process...

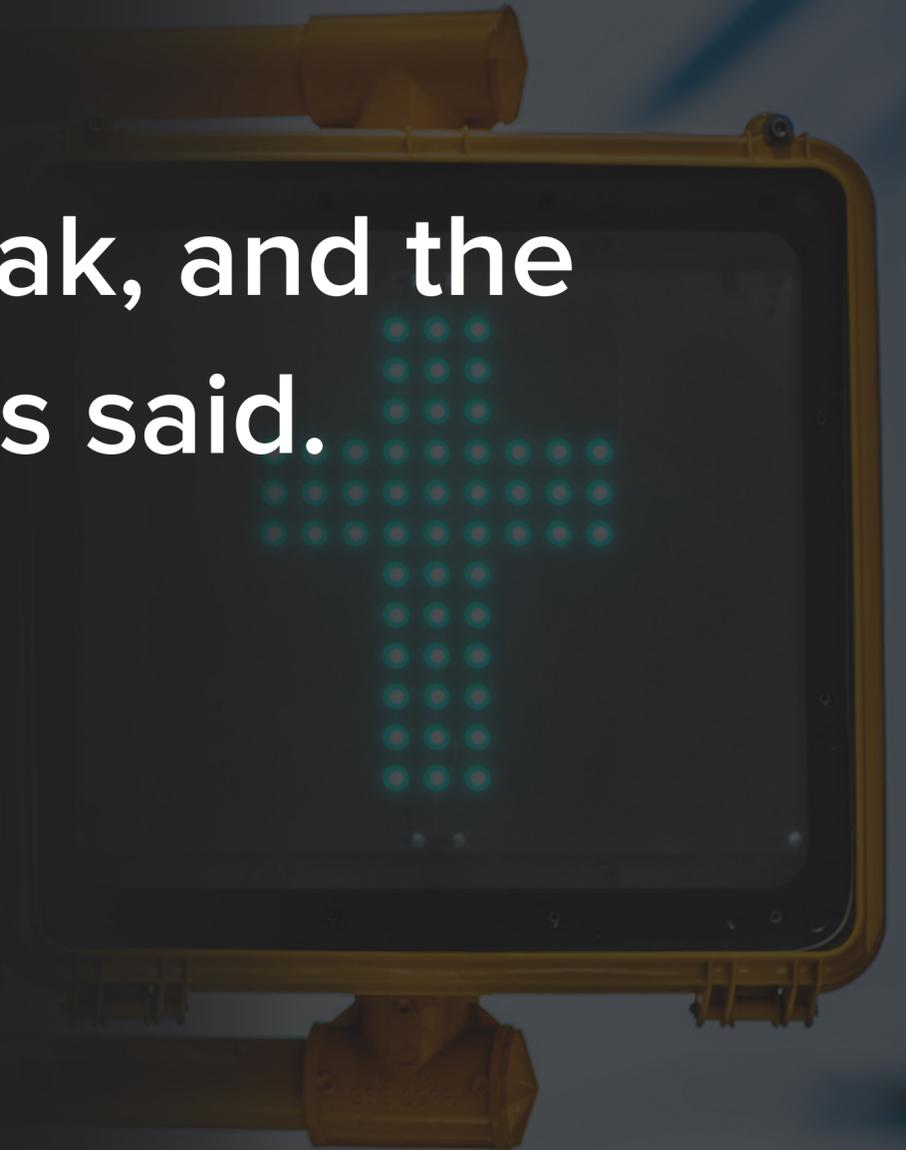


I CORINTHIANS 14:27–28

²⁷ If anyone speaks in a tongue, two—or at the most three—should speak, one at a time, and someone must interpret. ²⁸ If there is no interpreter, the speaker should keep quiet in the church and speak to himself and to God.

I CORINTHIANS 14:29

²⁹ Two or three prophets should speak, and the others should weigh carefully what is said.



I CORINTHIANS 14:30–32

³⁰ And if a revelation comes to someone who is sitting down, the first speaker should stop.

³¹ For you can all prophesy in turn so that everyone may be instructed and encouraged.

³² The spirits of prophets are subject to the control of prophets.

The priority...



I CORINTHIANS 14:33

**³³ For God is not a God of disorder but of peace—
as in all the congregations of the Lord's people.**



I CORINTHIANS 14:39–40

³⁹ Therefore, my brothers and sisters, be eager to prophesy, and do not forbid speaking in tongues. ⁴⁰ But everything should be done in a fitting and orderly way.

