The First Epistle of Paul to the Corinthians

Structured Worship in the Local Church 1 Corinthians 14:26-33

1.	in the Use of the Gifts (vs.26-31) There are many different edifying activities which may be included as part of the corporate worship of the local church (v.26). There is not to be a cacophony of speaking by the congregation, whether in foreign languages or in clear speech. There are to be a maximum of three individuals who speak in foreign languages one at a time (v.27), and only if there is one present who has the gift of interpretation (v.28; cf. 1 Cor. 12:10). Those with the gift of prophecy are similarly to speak one at a time and be subjected to the evaluation of other gifted individuals in the assembly (v.29).
2.	in Using the Gifts (vs.27-32) One of the manifestations of the fruit of the Holy Spirit is self-control (Gal. 5:23; cf. Titus 2:1ff). The speaking gifts of the Holy Spirit are those which the gifted ones must exercise self-control regarding how and when they are used. The prophet as well as the one who has been given the ability to speak in foreign languages has the ability and the responsibility to be able to hold his or her tongue in the assembly.
3.	of the Assembled Church (vs.26-33) The goal of the assembly is not to be a plays of chaos but of order and of peace (v.33). The peace that we have from the Lord is to be seen in how we conduct our public worship. The use of spiritual gifts, as well as everything that takes place during the gathering of the local assembly, is to be done for the glory and honor of God as well as the edification (v.26) and exhortation (v.31) of the brethren.

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