

Speaking in Tongues — Part 1

Powerful and Needed Today

Opening Purpose

As ministers of the gospel, our goal should be to **fear God, faithfully teach His Word without compromise, and provide His people with the fullness of the gospel of Christ.** Paul said he did not shrink back from declaring the whole purpose, plan, and counsel of God, and he described his ministry as fully preaching the gospel of Christ.

Romans 15:29 gives us the goal:

“I shall come in the fullness of the blessing of the gospel of Christ.”

That raises an important question:

Are we willing to teach everything Jesus instructed us to teach—even subjects that may not be talked about very much?

One of those subjects is **speaking in tongues.**

1. We Must Hear What Jesus Says

Before we form an opinion about any biblical subject, we need to hear what Jesus said.

Mark 9:7 (NKJV):

“This is My beloved Son. Hear Him!”

The Father's instruction is simple:

Hear Him!

So our responsibility is not to begin with tradition, fear, misunderstanding, or personal experience.

Our responsibility is to **listen to Jesus and examine His Word.**

2. Why Isn't Speaking in Tongues Discussed More?

The teaching material identifies several reasons this subject may be avoided:

- Doubt
- Fear
- Lack of teaching
- Apathy
- Misunderstanding
- Misuse or abuse in some circles Speaking in Tongues! Part 1 Pow...

But avoiding a biblical subject does not make the subject disappear.

Silence has consequences.

When a part of the gospel is not taught or evangelized:

**This generation can miss it.
The next generation can miss it.**

Romans 10:17 reminds us:

“So faith comes from what is heard...”

Therefore, if we want people to develop faith concerning what God's Word teaches, **God's Word must be heard.**

3. Don't Put the Lid on the Truth

Think about a can of **organic** green beans.

Take a moment to reflect on the essence of being "**organic**" in our professional and personal interactions. The term "organic" signifies **authenticity**, naturalness, and the absence of artificial influences. For those in Christ, this translates to fostering **genuine** relationships and maintaining **integrity** in our actions.

In **Romans 12:9-10**, we are encouraged to **let our love be genuine**, to reject what is evil, and to embrace what is good. This principle can guide us in creating a supportive and honorable workplace environment. By showing brotherly affection and striving to outdo one another in honor, we contribute to a culture of respect and collaboration.

Romans 12:9-10 (RSV)

9 Let love be **genuine**; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good;

10 love one another with brotherly affection; outdo one another in showing honor.

So, the food is inside the can, but you cannot eat it simply because you know it is there.

You need something to open the can.

Object Lesson

Can of organic green beans:

The **truth** concerning speaking in tongues.

Can opener:

You and me—tools in God's hands.

The point is simple:

We need to be sharp and diligent so that we can open up the truth for others.

God's Word should not be hidden because a subject is unfamiliar or uncomfortable.

4. The D.A.D. Approach

Use the acrostic **D.A.D.**

Because our Heavenly Father is the One speaking, we need to listen to what He says.

D — Decisiveness

We must make a decision to pursue and teach the truth.

James 1:5-8 addresses the danger of being double-minded.

Decisiveness means choosing to follow God's Word rather than allowing uncertainty to continually stop us.

A — Action

Knowing the truth is not enough.

We must:

- Speak.
- Demonstrate.
- Evangelize.
- Act on what God's Word teaches.

The purpose of teaching is not simply to accumulate information.

Truth is meant to be acted upon.

D — Diligence

Stay sharp.

Stay in the Word.

Study regularly.

Ecclesiastes 10:10 teaches that when the ax is dull, more strength is required, but skill brings success.

Hebrews 5:11 warns about becoming “**dull of hearing.**”

A sharp tool is prepared to accomplish its purpose.

5. What Did Jesus Include in His Commission?

Now let's listen to Jesus.

Mark 16:15-20 gives the Great Commission and describes signs accompanying those who believe.

Among those things Jesus mentioned are:

1. Preaching the gospel
2. Believing and being baptized
3. Casting out demons
4. **Speaking in new tongues**
5. Supernatural protection
6. Laying hands on the sick

The teaching material emphasizes that speaking in tongues is presented within the larger context of Jesus' commission and the signs associated with believers.

The important question is therefore:

If Jesus included it, should we simply ignore it?

6. Jesus Promised the Holy Spirit

Jesus did not leave His disciples without the power they would need to fulfill His commission.

Acts 1:4-5

Jesus told His disciples to wait for:

“the Promise of the Father”

and said:

“you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit...”

Then He explained the purpose.

Acts 1:8

“But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me...”

The sequence is significant:

Promise → Holy Spirit → Power → Witness

The Holy Spirit was connected with the disciples' to carry the gospel beyond themselves.

7. Pentecost: The Promise Was Fulfilled

Acts 2 records what happened when the Day of Pentecost arrived.

The disciples were together in one place.

Then:

- A sound came from heaven.
- The house was filled.
- Tongues as of fire appeared.
- They were filled with the Holy Spirit.
- **They began to speak with other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.**

This is not merely a theory.

Acts 2 records an actual event.

Jesus had promised the Holy Spirit.

The promise came.

They were filled.

And speaking in tongues occurred as part of that experience.

8. The Holy Spirit and Living Water

Jesus also spoke about the coming work of the Spirit.

John 7:37-39

Jesus said:

“If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink.”

And:

“out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.”

John explains that Jesus was speaking concerning **the Spirit**, whom believers would receive.

This gives us another picture:

The Holy Spirit is not presented as something lifeless or inactive.

Jesus described something that would **flow**.

9. Don't Be Afraid to Speak

There is another important instruction in Acts.

Acts 18:9-10

The Lord said to Paul:

“Do not be afraid, but speak and do not be silent.”

The teaching material applies this as an encouragement not to allow fear to silence us when God has given us truth to communicate.

Fear can cause silence.

But faith causes us to hear God's Word and respond.

We don't want fear to determine what we teach.

We want God's Word to determine what we teach.

10. Fear God More Than We Fear Man

This brings us back to the foundation of the entire teaching.

Paul said:

“Men of Israel, and you who fear God, listen.”

—Acts 13:16 Fear God, whole purpose, fully ...

Jesus Himself demonstrated godly fear and obedience. Hebrews 5:7-9 connects His obedience with godly fear. Fear God, whole purpose, fully ...

So our motivation should not be:

“What will people think?”

Our motivation should be:

“What has God said?”

11. We Must Not Shrink Back From the Whole Counsel of God

Paul made a powerful statement in Acts 20:27:

“For I never shrank or kept back or fell short from declaring to you the whole purpose and plan and counsel of God.” Fear God, whole purpose, fully ...

That gives us a tremendous ministry principle:

Don't preach only the parts that are comfortable.

Don't teach only what is popular.

Don't avoid a biblical subject simply because it may be misunderstood.

Instead:

Study it.

Understand it.

Teach it accurately.

Keep it in biblical context.

And allow people to hear what God's Word says.

12. The Goal Is the Fullness of the Gospel

The goal is not to build a ministry around one subject.

The goal is **the fullness of the gospel of Christ.**

Romans 15:18-19 describes Paul's ministry as proclaiming what Christ accomplished through him in word and deed, including the work of the Spirit of God, and Paul said he had “**fully preached the gospel of Christ.**” Fear God, whole purpose, fully ...

Therefore, this teaching on speaking in tongues should be understood within the larger purpose:

To help believers hear, understand, receive, and walk in everything God's Word teaches concerning the gospel and the Holy Spirit.

Personal Application

Ask yourself:

1. Am I willing to hear what Jesus says?

Mark 9:7

2. Have fear or misunderstanding caused me to avoid biblical subjects?

Acts 18:9-10

3. Am I staying sharp in God's Word?

Ecclesiastes 10:10

4. Am I willing to act on what I learn?

James 1:5-8

5. Am I committed to teaching the whole counsel of God?

Acts 20:27

6. Am I pursuing the fullness of the gospel of Christ?

Romans 15:29

Key Takeaway

Don't let fear, doubt, tradition, or misunderstanding put a lid on what God's Word teaches.

Hear Jesus.

Study His Word.

Receive His truth.

Act on it.

And faithfully share the fullness of the gospel of Christ.

D.A.D.

Decisiveness — Action — Diligence

Be **decisive about God's truth.**

Put God's truth into **action.**

Be **diligent to stay sharp in God's Word.**

And as Jesus said:

“Hear Him!”

SPEAKING IN TONGUES

PART 1

POWERFUL AND NEEDED TODAY

Fear God. Hear Jesus. Fully Preach the Gospel.

1 OPENING PURPOSE

Fear God, Teach the Fullness of the Gospel

Our goal is to fear God, faithfully teach His Word without compromise, and provide His people with the fullness of the gospel of Christ.

"For I never shrank or kept back or fell short from declaring to you the whole purpose and plan and counsel of God."
Acts 20:27 (AMP)

"But I know that when I come to you, I shall come in the fullness of the blessing of the gospel of Christ."
Romans 15:29 (NKJV)

2 HEAR WHAT JESUS SAYS

Listen to the Son



"This is My beloved Son. Hear Him!"

Mark 9:7 (NKJV)

- Before we form an opinion, we must hear what Jesus said.
- Don't start with tradition, fear, or misunderstanding.
- Our responsibility is to listen to Jesus and examine His Word.

3 WHY ISN'T IT DISCUSSED MORE?

The silence has consequences.

- Doubt
- Fear
- Lack of teaching
- Apathy
- Misunderstanding
- Misuse or abuse in some circles



When we avoid teaching or evangelizing this part of the gospel:

- This generation suffers.
- The next generation misses out.

"So faith comes from what is heard, and what is heard comes by the preaching of Christ." Romans 10:17 (NKJV)

4 DON'T PUT THE LID ON THE TRUTH

Object Lesson



Can of green beans =
The truth about
speaking in tongues.

Can opener =
You and me – tools
in God's hands.

We need to be sharp and diligent to open this up for others!

5 THE D.A.D. APPROACH

Because our Heavenly Father is speaking.

D

Decisiveness

- No double-mindedness (James 1:5-8).
- Choose to pursue and teach the truth.

A

Action

- Don't just know the truth, act on it.
- Speak, demonstrate, evangelize.

D

Diligence

- Be sharp.
- Stay in the Word. Study regularly to keep your spiritual edge.

Ecclesiastes 10:10 – "If the ax is dull... more strength is needed, but skill brings success."
Hebrews 5:11 – "You have become dull of hearing."

6 WHAT DID JESUS INCLUDE IN HIS COMMISSION?

Mark 16:15-20 – The Great Commission

- 1 Preach the gospel (v15)
- 2 Believe and be baptized (v16)
- 3 Cast out demons (v17)
- 4 Speak in new tongues (v17)
- 5 Supernatural protection (v18)
- 6 Heal the sick (v18)

Speaking in tongues is not isolated—it is included in the context of the gospel message and part of the power that follows those who believe.

7 JESUS PROMISED THE HOLY SPIRIT

Promise → Holy Spirit → Power → Witness

Acts 1:4-5 (NKJV)
"You shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit..."

Acts 1:8 (NKJV)
"But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me..."



The Holy Spirit was connected with the disciples to carry the gospel beyond themselves.

8 PENTECOST: THE PROMISE WAS FULFILLED

Acts 2:1-4

- They were together in one place.
- A sound came from heaven.
- The house was filled.
- Tongues as of fire appeared.
- They were filled with the Holy Spirit.
- They began to speak with other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.

"When the Day of Pentecost had fully come... They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance."
Acts 2:1-4 (NKJV)

9 THE HOLY SPIRIT AND LIVING WATER

John 7:37-39

"If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. ... out of his heart will flow rivers of living water."
John 7:37-39 (NKJV)

Jesus was speaking concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive.

10 DON'T BE AFRAID TO SPEAK

Acts 18:9-10

"Do not be afraid, but speak and do not be silent; for I am with you ..."
Acts 18:9-10 (NKJV)



Don't be afraid to speak up.
Don't be silent. I am with you.

11 FEAR GOD MORE THAN WE FEAR MAN

Acts 13:16 (NKJV)
"Men of Israel, and you who fear God, listen."

Hebrews 5:7-9 (NKJV)
Jesus Himself demonstrated godly fear and obedience.

Our motivation should not be "what will people think?" but "what has God said?"

12 THE GOAL IS THE FULLNESS OF THE GOSPEL

Romans 15:29 (NKJV)
"But I know that when I come to you, I shall come in the fullness of the blessing of the gospel of Christ."

Romans 15:18-19 (NKJV)
"... so that from Jerusalem and round about to Illyricum I have fully preached the gospel of Christ."

KEY TAKEAWAY

- ✓ Don't let fear, doubt, tradition, or misunderstanding put a lid on what God's Word teaches.
- ✓ Hear Jesus.
- ✓ Study His Word.
- ✓ Receive His truth.
- ✓ Act on it.
- ✓ And faithfully share the fullness of the gospel of Christ.

D.A.D.

Decisiveness – Action – Diligence

