

Chapter 14

Key Points

- While tongue speaking (miraculously speaking in foreign languages) was ideal for the situation in Acts 2 (where men were gathered from every nation under heaven), it was NOT ideal for the assembly in Corinth (where the vast majority would have been believers, and likely all spoke the same language). Prophecy was more fitting for this situation (vv. 1, 5, 22, 39).
- The value of tongue speaking was completely lost if there was no one to ____ (vv. 5, 13, 26-27, 28).

Key Points

- What these Christians should have desired to excel in, even more than spiritual gifts, was the _____ of the church (v. 12; see also vv. 3-5, 17, 26).
- And for edification (building up, strengthening) to take place, everyone had to _____ what was said (vv. 2, 14–16, 19–20).
- So it was about being useful vs. impressive.

Key Points

- Everything was to "be done decently and in order" (v. 40).
- And that could easily be accomplished, because those who possessed spiritual gifts could control when they spoke (vv. 27–33). If there was confusion, they were to blame, not God (v. 33).
- Women were to keep silent in these assemblies (vv. 34-35).

Applications to Assemblies Today

- Using vv. 3, 24-25, what is preaching/teaching designed to accomplish?
- Is it still important to "utter by the tongue words easy to understand?" (v. 9).
- What is the goal—understanding and edification, or merely an emotional experience?
- Are we more interested in the way someone communicates or in the words they communicate?

Applications to Assemblies Today

- Being useful vs. impressive—any impact on song leaders, prayer leaders, those who head the Lord's table?
- When one is teaching, what should everyone else be doing? (v. 29).