

Calvary Chapel of El Cajon Women's Bible Studies

1 Corinthians 14

Lesson 20

In 1 Corinthians 14 Paul continues teaching about the proper use of the gifts, specifically the *gift of tongues* and the *gift of prophesy*. Believers are gifted to minister and to help people, to encourage them in their Christian walk. There are always some people who feel that their gifts and abilities make them better and more favored and privileged than others. This is exactly what happened to the Corinthian church, and it is what has happened to multitudes of believers since that day. Chapter 14 reiterates God's intention for Spiritual gifts and the proper use of them. May your study of this chapter produce in you a hunger for all God has for you.

DAY ONE: Read 1 Corinthians 14

1. Read through this week's verses using both your Observation Worksheets and another Bible translation or paraphrase. After reading through these verses, what would you say to someone if they asked you what they were about?

- a. 1 Corinthians 14 has been divided into seven sections. List below the subject(s) covered in each section.

Verses 1-5

Verses 6-12

Verses 13-19

Verses 20-25

Verses 26-33

Verses 34-36

Verses 37-40

How would you title each section? Record your titles on the **Chapter & Paragraph Division Titles Chart** provided with your Observation Worksheet.

After titling each segment division, record a title for chapter 14.

2. At the right-hand side of the same chart are columns labeled **Key Word** and **Symbol**. They have been provided for you to record the key words and the symbol you have chosen to represent each one. Record the key words listed below and their symbols on the chart.

Used in prior homework lessons: *God*

New to this lesson: *prophesy**, *tongue**, *speak*/utter*, *edify**, *understand**, *let*.

* mark the key word and any words similar to that word.

Now, using the symbols you have chosen, mark each of the key words each time they are used in 1 Corinthians 14.

DAY TWO: Read 1 Corinthians 14:1-19

1. The believers in Corinth freely exercised their gifts (*came short in no gift* 1 Corinthians 1:7) in the church assembly without restraint. Thereby there was much confusion and disorder. In order to remedy this problem, Paul begins his correction with fundamental instructions. Write these from 1 Corinthians 14:1.
2. Throughout chapter 14, Paul discusses the spiritual gifts of *tongues* and *prophecy* and their value to the church when used properly. Identify and name which of these gifts Paul is speaking about in the following statements from verses 2-4:

Verse	Statement	Gift
2a	...speaks...to God	
2b	...speaks mysteries	
3a	...speaks edification and exhortation and comfort	
3b	...speaks...to men	
4a	...edifies himself	
4b	...edifies the church	

3. When a believer speaks in *tongues* he is enabled by the Spirit to pray in an unknown (unlearned) language and is speaking to God. When a believer *prophesies* he is forthtelling God's Word prompted by the Holy Spirit and is speaking to the church. According to 1 Corinthians 14:5,(6-11), 12, and 19 why did Paul encourage the use of *prophecy* over the use of *tongues* in the church? Summarize your answer in your own words.

a. Define the word *edify*.

1.) Read Romans 14:19 and 1 Thessalonians 5:11. Write the instructions we are given.

b. For the *gift of tongues* to be valid (beneficial) to the church, what other gift must also be used? See 1 Corinthians 14:5,13,(16,17).

c. Print the guiding principle for the use of all spiritual gifts in the church from verse 12b:

Let it be for the _____ of the _____ that you _____ to _____.

1.) Explain the phrase *seek to excel*.

2.) By observing others who are using their gifts, how are you encouraged to *seek to excel* to edify the church?

4. 1 Corinthians 14:14-18 covers additional information concerning the *gift of tongues* (praying with the Spirit). What do you discover about this gift in these verses?
 - a. verse 14
 - b. verse 15
 - c. verses 16,17
 - d. verse 18

DAY THREE: Read 1 Corinthians 14:20-25

1. *Dear brothers and sisters, don't be childish in your understanding of these things. Be innocent as babies when it comes to evil, but be mature and wise in understanding matters of this kind.* 1 Corinthians. 14:20 NLT The believers in the Corinthian church were evidently misusing the gifts of the Spirit. According to this verse, how did Paul exhort them?
2. From 1 Corinthians 14:22, what is revealed about:
 - a. *Tongues*
 - 1.) What example of this is found in Acts 2:(1-3), 4-8, (9-11),12,13?
 - b. *Prophesy*
 - 1.) Recall and record from 1 Corinthians 14:3 how this benefits the believers.
3. In 1 Corinthians 14:23-25 Paul presents a hypothetical situation to further explain the difference between *tongues* and *prophesy* and their proper use in a church service. What three groups of people are mentioned in verse 23? Use other versions if you desire.
 - a. What would be the result if the *whole church* spoke with *tongues*? Why? verse 23
 - b. How might an *unbeliever* or an *uninformed person* respond if *all prophesy*? verses 24,25

Oh that all might say of our church services, "God is truly among you!"

DAY FOUR: Read 1 Corinthians 14:26-33a

1. Paul again reminds the Corinthians believers of the purpose in exercising spiritual gifts when they gathered. This truth is still relevant today. From the last sentence in 1 Corinthians 14:26 state this purpose.
2. List the guidelines given in 1 Corinthians 14:27,28 for the use of *tongues* in the church assembly.
3. 1 Corinthians 14:29-31 gives instructions for the exercise of the *gift of prophesy*. What should this gift accomplish when it is prompted by the Spirit of God? See verse 31b.
 - a. In what ways do the following verses indicate a believer has control over the use of his gift(s)?
 - 1 Corinthians 14:15
 - 1 Corinthians 14:28
 - 1 Thessalonians 5:19
 - b. Write the one word used in verse 33a that describes the result of the misuse of the gifts in the church.
 - 1.) List antonyms (opposites) for *confusion*.

Wait on the Lord. Let His Spirit move.

Where the Spirit of the Lord is

There is peace, sweet peace.

- Bob Cull

DAY FIVE: Read 1 Corinthians 14:33b-40

1. Paul now addresses another problem in the church in Corinth that resulted in chaos instead of the *peace* God intended for *all the churches of the saints* (verse 33b). From 1 Corinthians 14:34a,35 record this problem.

Note: The Corinthian church followed the Jewish synagogue pattern by having the men and women separated and seated on either side of the assembly during services.

2. It would seem the women in the church couldn't hear or understand some things that were being taught, so they would interrupt the services by calling out to their husbands for clarification. What did Paul instruct them to do? See 1 Corinthians 14:35a.
 - a. How do the following Scriptures refute the belief that women should never speak out in church?
Acts 2:17
Acts 21:9
1 Corinthians 11:5a
3. How was the Corinthian believers' prideful attitude revealed by Paul's questions of 1 Corinthians 14:36?
 - a. Read 1 Corinthians 14:37,38 using other versions if possible. Then write Paul's stern remarks in your own words.

1.) From Whom did Paul receive *the commandments*?

4. Paul summarizes this portion of his letter with three final instructions. List them and comment on each one.
1 Corinthians 14:39a

1 Corinthians 14:39b

1 Corinthians 14:40

DAY SIX: Review 1 Corinthians 14

1. Scan 1 Corinthians 14 and note the governing principle Paul repeatedly gives for the exercise of the gifts in the church.
 - a. What can happen when this principle is ignored?
 - b. How would love facilitate this goal being accomplished?

2. List five truths revealed about the *gift of tongues* from the following verses:
 - 1 Corinthians 14:2a
 - 1 Corinthians 14:2b
 - 1 Corinthians 14:4a
 - 1 Corinthians 14:16a
 - 1 Corinthians 14:17
3. According to the following verses what are the benefits of the *gift of prophesy*?
 - 1 Corinthians 14:3
 - 1 Corinthians 14:4b
 - 1 Corinthians 14:24
 - 1 Corinthians 14:25
 - 1 Corinthians 14:31b
4. In what way has this chapter enhanced your appreciation of the gift of:
 - a. *tongues*
 - b. *prophesy*
5. What are some false perceptions regarding the *gift of tongues* and *gift of prophesy* that some people have?
 - a. What answers does 1 Corinthians 14 provide for these false perceptions?
6. What new discoveries did you make as you did this lesson?

*Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Melt me. Mold me. Fill me. Use me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
- D.Iverson*

Scripture References for Lesson 20

DAY TWO:

Romans 14:19 Therefore let us pursue the things *which make* for peace and the things by which one may edify another.

1 Thesalonians 5:11 Therefore comfort each other and edify one another, just as you also are doing.

DAY THREE:

Acts 2:1-3 When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. ²And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. ³Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and *one* sat upon each of them.

Acts 2:4-8 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. ⁵And there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men, from every nation under heaven. ⁶And when this sound occurred, the multitude came together, and were confused, because everyone heard them speak in his own language. ⁷Then they were all amazed and marveled, saying to one another, "Look, are not all these who speak Galileans?" ⁸And how *is it that* we hear, each in our own language in which we were born?

Acts 2:9-11 Parthians and Medes and Elamites, those dwelling in Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya adjoining Cyrene, visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, ¹¹Cretans and Arabs--we hear them speaking in our own tongues the wonderful works of God."

Acts 2:12 So they were all amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "Whatever could this mean?"

Acts 2:13 Others mocking said, "They are full of new wine."

DAY FOUR:

1 Thesalonians 5:19 Do not quench the Spirit.

DAY FIVE:

Acts 2:17 *'And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God, That I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your young men shall see visions, Your old men shall dream dreams.*

Acts 21:9 Now this man had four virgin daughters who prophesied.

1 Corinthians 11:5 But every woman who prays or prophesies with *her* head uncovered dishonors her head, for that is one and the same as if her head were shaved.