

# **TONGUES OF FIRE**

## *Session 2 – The Gift of Tongues*

### **Introduction**

1 Corinthians 12:7-11

7 But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal.

8 For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit;

9 To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit;

10 To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues:

11 But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will. KJV<sup>1</sup>

“For to one” refers to the profit of the manifestation, not the man. The manifestation is the evidence of the Holy Spirit working through you to touch the world either through a gift or a combination of gifts. This is why “manifestation” is in the singular. This manifestation is given “to every man.” In other words, these gifts and their combinations are available to all the saints.

The false doctrine of fractured gifts (i.e., Johnny speaks in tongues, Mary heals, and Suzy has discerning of spirits) has led to the practice in charismatic circles of trying to move people into the realm of personal prophecies and ministering of healing without having first submitted their tongues to the Holy Spirit in the gifts of tongues and interpretation of tongues. It has caused much damage in the body of Christ.

James 3:5-12

5 Even so the tongue is a little member, and boasteth great things. Behold, how great a matter a little fire kindleth!

6 And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity: so is the tongue among our members, that it defileth the whole body, and setteth on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire of hell.

7 For every kind of beasts, and of birds, and of serpents, and of things in the sea, is tamed, and hath been tamed of mankind:

8 But the tongue can no man tame; it is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison.

9 Therewith bless we God, even the Father; and therewith curse we men, which are made after the similitude of God.

10 Out of the same mouth proceedeth blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not so to be.

11 Doth a fountain send forth at the same place sweet water and bitter?

12 Can the fig tree, my brethren, bear olive berries? either a vine, figs? so can no fountain both yield salt water and fresh.

A little flame kindles a large fire. If we purport to speak a word in the name of the Lord and are not, we are set on the course of the fire of hell, not heaven. And if an unsubmitted tongue can burn a forest down, a submitted one can light the world on fire!

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<sup>1</sup> All references are from the King James Version of the Bible unless otherwise noted.

Speaking in tongues and interpretation of tongues are New Testament gifts. Though there are shadows of them in the Old Testament, these gifts of the Spirit were imparted with the baptism of the Holy Spirit. Though in a technical sense the new birth is the baptism of the Holy Spirit, experientially the baptism is the receiving of our prayer language. Let us look at the promise and purpose of tongues and see how we can pray in tongues.

## **I. The Promise of Tongues**

Acts 2:38-39

38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

39 For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.

The people had just witnessed the apostles speak in tongues. Peter tells them that the promise of the gift of the Holy Spirit is unto as many as the Lord should call. This promise is for you.

What are tongues and where did they come from?

### **1. The Birth of Tongues**

#### **A. The Blessing**

God's purpose has always been that the earth be full of His people (Gen 1:28). He gave the same directive to Noah and his sons after the flood.

Gen 8:15-17

15 And God spake unto Noah, saying,

16 Go forth of the ark, thou, and thy wife, and thy sons, and thy sons' wives with thee.

17 Bring forth with thee every living thing that is with thee, of all flesh, both of fowl, and of cattle, and of every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth; that they may breed abundantly in the earth, and be fruitful, and multiply upon the earth.

Gen 9:1

And God blessed Noah and his sons, and said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth.

His command to us is no different.

Acts 1:8

But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

#### **B. The Curse**

Gen 11:1-4

1 And the whole earth was of one language, and of one speech.

- 2 And it came to pass, as they journeyed from the east, that they found a plain in the land of Shinar; and they dwelt there.
- 3 And they said one to another, Go to, let us make brick, and burn them throughly. And they had brick for stone, and slime had they for mortar.
- 4 And they said, Go to, let us build us a city and a tower, whose top may reach unto heaven; and let us make us a name, lest we be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth.

These men wanted to reach heaven, have a name, and not be scattered over all the earth. This is in direct opposition to the purpose of God.

Gen 11:5-9

- 5 And the LORD came down to see the city and the tower, which the children of men builded.
- 6 And the LORD said, Behold, the people is one, and they have all one language; and this they begin to do: and now nothing will be restrained from them, which they have imagined to do.
- 7 Go to, let us go down, and there confound their language, that they may not understand one another's speech.
- 8 So the LORD scattered them abroad from thence upon the face of all the earth: and they left off to build the city.
- 9 Therefore is the name of it called Babel; because the LORD did there confound the language of all the earth: and from thence did the LORD scatter them abroad upon the face of all the earth.

Genesis 10 preemptively lists the result of the events that are recorded in chapter 11.

Gen 10:5, 20, 31

- 5 By these were the isles of the Gentiles divided in their lands; every one after his tongue, after their families, in their nations.
- 20 These are the sons of Ham, after their families, after their tongues, in their countries, and in their nations.
- 31 These are the sons of Shem, after their families, after their tongues, in their lands, after their nations.

After Babel, mankind was divided by families, lands, nations (ethnicity), and tongues.

### C. The Redemption

Acts 2:5-11

- 5 And there were dwelling at Jerusalem Jews, devout men, out of every nation [*ethnos*] under heaven.
- 6 Now when this was noised abroad, the multitude came together, and were confounded, because that every man heard them speak in his own language.
- 7 And they were all amazed and marvelled, saying one to another, Behold, are not all these which speak Galilaeans?
- 8 And how hear we every man in our own tongue, wherein we were born?

- 9 Parthians, and Medes, and Elamites, and the dwellers in Mesopotamia, and in Judaea, and Cappadocia, in Pontus, and Asia,
- 10 Phrygia, and Pamphylia, in Egypt, and in the parts of Libya about Cyrene, and strangers of Rome, Jews and proselytes,
- 11 Cretes and Arabians, we do hear them speak in our tongues the wonderful works of God.

The same lands and ethnic groups listed in Genesis 10 are here represented in Acts 2 on the day of Pentecost. God did not remove the different languages, for He intended each of them to have its own significance. But He supernaturally removed the understanding barrier through the gift of tongues.

Languages were birthed through a curse imposed by God on mankind because they were trying to reach Him through earthly means. Speaking in tongues is the reversal of this curse. It is a blessing imparted by God through the Holy Spirit in order that we might touch heaven through heavenly means (John 4:24).

## 2. Old Testament Types of Tongues

### A. Moses and Aaron

Ex 6:10-12<sup>2</sup>

- 10 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,
- 11 Go in, speak unto Pharaoh king of Egypt, that he let the children of Israel go out of his land.
- 12 And Moses spake before the LORD, saying, Behold, the children of Israel have not hearkened unto me; how then shall Pharaoh hear me, who am of uncircumcised lips?

Moses' use of words here is interesting. His lips are uncircumcised. Though his meaning is that his stammering will make him unintelligible to Pharaoh, it symbolically implies lips that are unclean. In one mouth, God has fixed both principles: a language that cannot be clearly understood and lips that need cleansing.

Ex 4:10-16

- 10 And Moses said unto the LORD, O my Lord, I am not eloquent, neither heretofore, nor since thou hast spoken unto thy servant: but I am slow of speech, and of a slow tongue.
- 11 And the LORD said unto him, Who hath made man's mouth? or who maketh the dumb, or deaf, or the seeing, or the blind? have not I the LORD?
- 12 Now therefore go, and I will be with thy mouth, and teach thee what thou shalt say.
- 13 And he said, O my Lord, send, I pray thee, by the hand of him whom thou wilt send.
- 14 And the anger of the LORD was kindled against Moses, and he said, Is not Aaron the Levite thy brother? I know that he can speak well. And also, behold, he cometh forth to meet thee: and when he seeth thee, he will be glad in his heart.

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<sup>2</sup> Also Ex 6:28-30

- 15 And thou shalt speak unto him, and put words in his mouth: and I will be with thy mouth, and with his mouth, and will teach you what ye shall do.
- 16 And he shall be thy spokesman unto the people: and he shall be, even he shall be to thee instead of a mouth, and thou shalt be to him instead of God.

The Lord speaking to Moses who spoke to Aaron who spoke for him is exactly how the Lord Jesus works with the Holy Spirit to speak through us. This example encompasses tongues with interpretation, prophecy, and revelatory utterance as well.

B. Daniel and Nebuchadnezzar

Dan 4:9

O Belteshazzar, master of the magicians, because I know that the spirit of the holy gods is in thee, and no secret troubleth thee, tell me the visions of my dream that I have seen, and the interpretation thereof.

The king had had a dream [a message] that he didn't understand. So he asked Daniel to interpret it for him.

Dan 4:13-14, 17

- 13 I saw in the visions of my head upon my bed, and, behold, a watcher and an holy one came down from heaven;
- 14 He cried aloud, and said thus, Hew down the tree, and cut off his branches, shake off his leaves, and scatter his fruit: let the beasts get away from under it, and the fowls from his branches:
- 17 This matter is by the decree of the watchers, and the demand by the word of the holy ones: to the intent that the living may know that the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will, and setteth up over it the basest of men.

- In that it was an angel that “cried aloud,” it typifies a tongue of angels.
- In that Nebuchadnezzar understood the words, it typifies a tongue of men.
- In that he didn't understand the meaning of the message of the dream, it typifies an unknown tongue.
- In that Daniel reiterated the dream and gave the interpretation, it typifies tongues with interpretation. [Dan 4:22-23]

C. Daniel and Belshazzar

Dan 5:5

In the same hour came forth fingers of a man's hand, and wrote over against the candlestick upon the plaister of the wall of the king's palace: and the king saw the part of the hand that wrote.

- In that it was a heavenly hand that wrote, it typifies the tongue of angels.

Dan 5:7-8

7 The king cried aloud to bring in the astrologers, the Chaldeans, and the soothsayers. And the king spake, and said to the wise men of Babylon, Whosoever shall read this writing, and shew me the interpretation thereof, shall be clothed with scarlet, and have a chain of gold about his neck, and shall be the third ruler in the kingdom.  
8 Then came in all the king's wise men: but they could not read the writing, nor make known to the king the interpretation thereof.

- In that the writing could not be read, it typifies an unknown tongue.

Dan 5:25

And this is the writing that was written, MENE, MENE, TEKEL, UPHARSIN.

- In that Daniel can read the writing, it typifies the tongue of men.

Dan 5:26-28

26 This is the interpretation of the thing: MENE; God hath numbered thy kingdom, and finished it.

27 TEKEL; Thou art weighed in the balances, and art found wanting.

28 PERES; Thy kingdom is divided, and given to the Medes and Persians.

- In that Daniel speaks the message and then gives the interpretation, it typifies tongues with interpretation.

Note that the message was only four words long and that the interpretation is three phrases long. And interpretation gives the sense and meaning of the message, not a word for word translation. If Daniel had given a translation, it might have sounded like this, "Numbered, numbered, balanced, split up." After which, the king would still be looking for an interpretation! When we get to interpretation of tongues, remember that the interpretation can be longer or shorter than what was spoken in a tongue.

### 3. Prophecies Regarding Tongues

#### A. Other Tongues

1 Cor 14:21-22

21 In the law it is written, With men of other tongues and other lips will I speak unto this people; and yet for all that will they not hear me, saith the Lord.

22 Wherefore tongues are for a sign, not to them that believe, but to them that believe not: but prophesying serveth not for them that believe not, but for them which believe.

Isa 28:11

For with stammering lips and another tongue will he speak to this people.

In quoting from Isaiah to teach about tongues, Paul shows us that this gift was prophesied about in the Old Testament. The Lord intends to speak to His people with stammering lips and another tongue.

## B. Growth and Maturity

1 Cor 14:20

Brethren, be not children in understanding: howbeit in malice be ye children, but in understanding be men.

The entire Corinthian epistle seems to be a call to maturity. The Lord wants us to be grown up in our understanding. How is this to be accomplished?

1 Cor 14:6

Now, brethren, if I come unto you speaking with tongues, what shall I profit you, except I shall speak to you either by revelation, or by knowledge, or by prophesying, or by doctrine?

We need to move from the milk of the Word to the meat of revelation knowledge. This is exactly the lesson of Isaiah 28.

Isa 28:9-10

9 Whom shall he teach knowledge? and whom shall he make to understand doctrine? them that are weaned from the milk, and drawn from the breasts.

10 For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little:

He is going to begin feeding us this meat “line upon line, precept upon precept.” In what kind of fashion? With “stammering lips and another tongue” verse 11 says.

1 Cor 14:15

What is it then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will pray with the understanding also: I will sing with the spirit, and I will sing with the understanding also.

“Line upon line, here a little, and there a little” corresponds to “pray with the spirit and pray with the understanding.” Tongues with interpretation is supposed to lead us to revelation knowledge.

1 Cor 14:26-27

26 How is it then, brethren? when ye come together, every one of you hath a psalm, hath a doctrine, hath a tongue, hath a revelation, hath an interpretation. Let all things be done unto edifying.

27 If any man speak in an unknown tongue, let it be by two, or at the most by three, and that by course; and let one interpret.

The Corinthian church was attempting to go to revelation first and then to tongues with interpretation.<sup>3</sup> The apostle says no, tongues then interpretation and then revelation (the prophets in verse 28).

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<sup>3</sup> In the Greek text, revelation comes in front of tongues and interpretation, not between them.

### C. Rivers of Waters

Isa 32:1-4

- 1 Behold, a king shall reign in righteousness, and princes shall rule in judgment.
- 2 And a man shall be as an hiding place from the wind, and a covert from the tempest; as rivers of water in a dry place, as the shadow of a great rock in a weary land.
- 3 And the eyes of them that see shall not be dim, and the ears of them that hear shall hearken.
- 4 The heart also of the rash shall understand knowledge, and the tongue of the stammerers shall be ready to speak plainly.

Synthesis:

- Vs 1 – “A king shall reign in righteousness” - This is Jesus.  
– “Princes shall rule in judgment” - This is the Church (John 16:8-11)
- Vs 2 – “As rivers of water in a dry place” - John 4:14; 7:37-39
- Vs 3 – “See and hear”
- Vs 4 – “Heart...shall understand” - Is 6:10; John 12:39-41  
– “Tongue of the stammers shall...speak plainly”

As we shall see, this is tongues with interpretation.

## II. The Purpose of Tongues

### 1. A Sign of the Baptism – Mark 16:16-17

Mark 16:16-17

- 16 He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.
- 17 And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;

1 Cor 14:22

Wherefore tongues are for a sign, not to them that believe, but to them that believe not: but prophesying serveth not for them that believe not, but for them which believe.

### A. Pentecost

Acts 2:1-4

- 1 And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.
- 2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.
- 3 And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them.
- 4 And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

As we read in Acts 2:5-11, this caused many to be amazed and wonder.

### B. Household of Cornelius

In obedience to the Lord's direction, Peter went to Cornelius's house to preach the gospel. Until this time, the word was only being preached to Jews and proselytes. Peter preached Christ unto them and while he was talking:

Acts 10:44-46

44 While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word.

45 And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost.

46 For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God. Then answered Peter,

### C. Disciples in Ephesus

Acts 19:1-7

1 And it came to pass, that, while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul having passed through the upper coasts came to Ephesus: and finding certain disciples,

2 He said unto them, Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed? And they said unto him, We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost.

3 And he said unto them, Unto what then were ye baptized? And they said, Unto John's baptism.

4 Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus.

5 When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.

6 And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied.

7 And all the men were about twelve.

The word translated "received" in verse 2 is *lambano* [NT:2983]. It means an active taking. Another word translated "received" is *dechomai* [NT:1209]. It is a subjective, passive receiving. *Lambano* would be to take, *dechomai* to have something offered to one.

## 2. Communion with God – John 4:24

John 4:24

God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

### A. Prayer

1 Cor 14:2

For he that speaketh in an unknown tongue speaketh not unto men, but unto God: for no man understandeth him; howbeit in the spirit he speaketh mysteries.

1 Cor 14:14, 17

14 For if I pray in an unknown tongue, my spirit prayeth, but my understanding is unfruitful.

17 For thou verily givest thanks well, but the other is not edified.

Rom 8:26-27

26 Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

27 And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God.

Eph 6:18

Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

## B. Worship

Acts 2:11

Cretes and Arabians, we do hear them speak in our tongues the wonderful works of God.

Acts 10:46

For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God. Then answered Peter,

Eph 5:18-20

18 And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit;

19 Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord;

20 Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ;

Col 3:16

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

1 Cor 14:15-16

15 What is it then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will pray with the understanding also: I will sing with the spirit, and I will sing with the understanding also.

16 Else when thou shalt bless with the spirit, how shall he that occupieth the room of the unlearned say Amen at thy giving of thanks, seeing he understandeth not what thou sayest?

## 3. Strength for the Believer – Eph 3:16

### A. Edifies the Believer

1 Corinthians 14:4

He that speaketh in an unknown tongue edifieth himself; but he that prophesieth edifieth the church.

Ephesians 3:16

That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man;

B. Brings Refreshing

Acts 3:18-20

18 But those things, which God before had shewed by the mouth of all his prophets, that Christ should suffer, he hath so fulfilled.

19 Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord;

20 And he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you:

Isa 28:11-12

11 For with stammering lips and another tongue will he speak to this people.

12 To whom he said, This is the rest wherewith ye may cause the weary to rest; and this is the refreshing: yet they would not hear.

C. Strengthens Faith

Rom 12:3

For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.

Jude 20

But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost,

“Tongues are given to strengthen the portion of faith given to every Christian for the purpose of being able to supply a part of Jesus’ ministry right now to the body of Christ and the world.”<sup>4</sup>

### III. Praying in Tongues

1. Crying to the Father

A. Crying Out

Gal 4:6

And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father.

The Spirit cries “Abba!” in our hearts.

Rom 8:14-15

14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.

15 For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.

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<sup>4</sup> Dr. Dale M. Sides, *Diverse Kinds of Tongues*, Liberating Ministries for Christ International, Inc., Bedford, VA, © 1999, p. 9.

We cry “Abba!” through the Spirit. This is a spiritual utterance. It is the simple cry of a child. Mama and papa are some of the earliest words a child learns. God starts with us in the Spirit in the self-same way. The Father longs for us to call Him “Papa” in our “spiritually native” tongue.

The word translated cry is *krazo* [NT:2896]. It is an onomatopoeic word that imitates the cry of a raven and refers to inarticulate cries as well as speaking in a loud voice.

John 7:37

In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried [*krazo*], saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink.

We not only cry out loud to our Father through the Spirit, we also groan.

Rom 8:23, 26

23 And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body.

26 Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

In the original language this groaning indicates sighing or inaudible prayer. Spiritual utterance encompasses the gambit from silent prayer to shouting it from the rooftops.

#### B. Bears Witness

Rom 8:16-17

16 The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:

17 And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.

1 John 2:27

But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him.

[See also 1 John 4:1-6]

#### C. Establishes Identity

Gal 4:6-7

6 And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father.

7 Wherefore thou art no more a servant, but a son; and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.

Tongues remind us constantly whose children we are. And it is the Father who

imparts our identity to us.

Eph 3:14-16

14 For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
15 Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named,  
16 That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened  
with might by his Spirit in the inner man;

1 John 3:1-2

1 Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be  
called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not.  
2 Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be:  
but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as  
he is.

## 2. Spiritual Utterance

### A. We Must Speak

Acts 2:4

And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues,  
as the Spirit gave them utterance.

“Speak” is the Greek word *laleo* [NT:2980]. Kittle’s Theological Dictionary of the  
New Testament defines it in this way:

“This word...imitates childish babbling and thus means “to prattle,” “to babble.” As  
regards speech, it may denote sound rather than meaning, but also ability to speak.”

*Lego* [NT:3004] and *laleo* are two sides of the coin of speech. *Lego* refers to the  
meaning and sentiment of what is said as well as how the words are connected. *Lego*  
speaks to the substance of *what* is said; *laleo* to the words conveying the utterance.<sup>5</sup>

John 12:49-50

49 For I have not spoken of myself; but the Father which sent me, he gave me a  
commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak [*laleo*].  
50 And I know that his commandment is life everlasting: whatsoever I speak therefore,  
even as the Father said [*lego*] unto me, so I speak [*laleo*].

This is how it is to work with us and the Spirit. The Spirit brings words from Jesus to  
us and we are to speak them out. Our focus is *that* we speak, not *what* we speak. We  
supply the action [*laleo*], He supplies the content [*lego*]. He knows how to lead us in  
this because He does it Himself.

John 16:13

Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he  
shall not speak [*laleo*] of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak

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<sup>5</sup> From *Vine’s Expository Dictionary of New Testament Words*.

[*laleo*]: and he will shew you things to come.

We need to utilize the organs of speech. 1 Corinthians 14:15 says “I will pray with the Spirit.” We supply the will, He supplies the words.

B. The Spirit Gives Utterance

“As the Spirit gave them utterance,” we read in Acts 2:4. The Greek word translated “utterance” is *apophtheggomai* [NT:669]. It means “to enunciate plainly, to declare.” We are providing the organs of speech. He is providing the clarity of words. We make the sounds, He forms the words.

C. Lordship of the Tongue

Uncircumcised lips are unclean lips that have not been given over to the Lordship of Jesus Christ.

Ps 12:3-4

3 The LORD shall cut off all flattering lips, and the tongue that speaketh proud things:  
4 Who have said, With our tongue will we prevail; our lips are our own: who is lord over us?

I believe the tongue is the only muscle in our body that is not connected to something on both ends. One end is anchored down and the other waggles loose. When need to get the other end of our tongue connected to the Holy Spirit for our mouths to be submitted to the Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Cor 12:3

Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed: and that no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost.

3. Receiving the Holy Spirit

A. The Universality of the Gift

- God’s desire is to pour His Spirit out on “all flesh.”

Acts 2:14-18

14 But Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and said unto them, Ye men of Judaea, and all ye that dwell at Jerusalem, be this known unto you, and hearken to my words:

15 For these are not drunken, as ye suppose, seeing it is but the third hour of the day.

16 But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel;

17 And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams:

18 And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy:

- The manifestation of the Spirit is given “to every man.”

1 Cor 12:7

But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal.

- It is God's desire for us.

1 Cor 14:5

I would that ye all spake with tongues, but rather that ye prophesied: for greater is he that prophesieth than he that speaketh with tongues, except he interpret, that the church may receive edifying.

#### B. Common Hindrances

- Ignorance

1 Cor 12:1

Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I would not have you ignorant.

Acts 19:2

He said unto them, Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed? And they said unto him, We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost.

- Lack of repentance

Acts 2:37-39

37 Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do?

38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

39 For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.

Ps 51:1-4, 14-15

1 Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy lovingkindness: according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions.

2 Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.

3 For I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin is ever before me.

4 Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight: that thou mightest be justified when thou speakest, and be clear when thou judgest.

14 Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, thou God of my salvation: and my tongue shall sing aloud of thy righteousness.

15 O Lord, open thou my lips; and my mouth shall shew forth thy praise.

- Demonic influence

Acts 8:5-18

5 Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria, and preached Christ unto them.

6 And the people with one accord gave heed unto those things which Philip spake, hearing and seeing the miracles which he did.

7 For unclean spirits, crying with loud voice, came out of many that were possessed with them: and many taken with palsies, and that were lame, were healed.

8 And there was great joy in that city.

- 9 But there was a certain man, called Simon, which beforetime in the same city used sorcery, and bewitched the people of Samaria, giving out that himself was some great one:
- 10 To whom they all gave heed, from the least to the greatest, saying, This man is the great power of God.
- 11 And to him they had regard, because that of long time he had bewitched them with sorceries.
- 12 But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.
- 13 Then Simon himself believed also: and when he was baptized, he continued with Philip, and wondered, beholding the miracles and signs which were done.
- 14 Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received [*dechomai*] the word of God, they sent unto them Peter and John:
- 15 Who, when they were come down, prayed for them, that they might receive [*lambano*] the Holy Ghost:
- 16 (For as yet he was fallen upon none of them: only they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.)
- 17 Then laid they their hands on them, and they received [*lambano*] the Holy Ghost.
- 18 And when Simon saw that through laying on of the apostles' hands the Holy Ghost was given, he offered them money,

#### C. Steps to Receive

- Ask the Father

Luke 11:11-13

- 11 If a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him a stone? or if he ask a fish, will he for a fish give him a serpent?
- 12 Or if he shall ask an egg, will he offer him a scorpion?
- 13 If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?

- Receive by faith

Gal 3:2

This only would I learn of you, Received ye the Spirit by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith?

- Breathe in the Spirit

John 20:21-22

- 21 Then said Jesus to them again, Peace be unto you: as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you.
- 22 And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and saith unto them, Receive ye the Holy Ghost:

Acts 2:2

And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.

Young's Literal Translation – “as of a bearing violent breath.”

Rushing – *phero* [NT:5342] – bearing, carrying

Heb 1:3

Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding [*phero*] all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;

2 Peter 1:21

For the prophecy came [*phero*] not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved [*phero*] by the Holy Ghost.

Mighty – *biaios* [NT:972] – violent, only used in Acts 2:2

Wind – *pneo* [NT:4157] – respiration, a breeze.

- Speak!

You must use your breath, your tongue, your jaw, and your lips. You speak, He gives the utterance.