

# REVIVAL

**Teacher:** John Burton

**Teaching Title:** Speaking in Tongues

- I. Part One
  - a. A key mandate for this ministry is to groan in intercession, to pray in tongues.
    - i. Praying in tongues is one of the most critical activities every day for Christians.
    - ii. *There are many kinds of prayers in the Scripture but Tongues is the ultimate prayer in the New Testament.* ~ Glenn Arekion
    - iii. It's more important than service:
      1. But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word."  
**Acts 6:4**
      2. The literal interpretation of that verse actually is, "we will devote ourselves to THE prayer..."
      3. THE prayer in this context is praying in tongues.
      4. It was a brand new, never before experienced manifestation of prayer and it was the dominant prayer of the early church.
      5. **Bil Hamon: Jesus commanded us to receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.** When Jesus commissioned the disciples to wait in Jerusalem until they received the promise of the Father, He didn't say, "Do this if you feel led to do so, or if it fits in your doctrinal or denominational beliefs, or if you have the time, or if you are so inclined, or if you feel comfortable about it." No! Jesus commanded them to wait until they received the gift of the Holy Spirit. Since Jesus put such importance on their receiving this gift, that's more than enough reason for every Christian to seek God until they receive it too.
    - iv. This means that the house of prayer is also a house of tongues.
      1. The church is marked by this type of prayer.
  - b. Praying in tongues is vital to our spiritual growth, walking in the supernatural and being sensitive in the spirit.
    - i. If you want to grow in anointing, it's imperative you pray fervently in the spirit!
    - ii. John G. Lake: "I want to talk with the utmost frankness and say to you, that tongues have been the making of my ministry. It is that peculiar communication with God when God reveals to my soul the truth I utter to you day by day in the ministry. Many times, I climb out of bed, take my pencil and pad, and jot down the beautiful things of God, the wonderful things of God that He talks out in my spirit and reveals to my heart."
    - iii. Smith Wigglesworth was an uneducated plumber who, when he partook of the blessing of tongues, was transformed into the apostle of faith.
  - c. This gift is for EVERYBODY!
    - i. In Acts 2 they were all filled, and they all spoke in tongues.
    - ii. **Bill Hamon:** Our spirit language enables us to live in the Spirit, walk in the Spirit, be led of the Spirit, have the fruit of the Spirit, manifest the gifts of the Spirit and go from glory to glory until we are transformed into His same image.

- iii. Bill Hamon: Of all the resources in heaven and the eternal universe, nothing is more valuable, beneficial or important for the Holy Spirit to give the individual child of God than her own spirit language.
    - 1. But earnestly desire the higher gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way. **1 Corinthians 12:31**
  - d. Let's stand and pray in the spirit for 5 minutes.
- II. Four Types of Tongues
- a. There are four types of tongues. Two are private and two are public.
    - i. Public 1: Tongues as a sign to the unbeliever.
      - 1. 1 Corinthians 14:22 'therefore tongues is a sign, not to those who believe but to the unbelievers'
      - 2. We see this in Acts 2.
      - 3. Tongues as a sign to the unbeliever occurs when the holy spirit transcends our intellect empowering us to speak, preach, or teach in any language of this earth, of which we have not had any previous experience.
      - 4. This only happens when the Holy Spirit wills.
    - ii. Public 2: Tongues for interpretation.
      - 1. 1 Corinthians 14:5 "I would like every one of you to speak in tongues, but I would rather have you prophesy. He who prophesies is greater than one who speaks in tongues, unless he interprets, so that the church may be edified."
      - 2. This is one of the nine gifts of the spirit. That is where we are in a public assembly, and the spirit of God comes upon a person and they begin to speak in a heavenly language, and Paul says THAT must be interpreted.
      - 3. That is the tongues to which Paul refers to at the end of Corinthians 12.
    - iii. Private 1: Tongues for intercession.
      - 1. Romans 8:26-28 "and the holy spirit helps us in our distress, for we don't even know what we should pray for, nor how we should pray. but the holy spirit prays for us in groanings which cannot be expressed in words and the father who knows all hearts knows what the spirit is saying for the spirit pleads for us believers in harmony with God's own will..."
      - 2. This type of tongues actually goes beyond tongues and into actual groaning.
      - 3. John Bevere says that this type of tongue has been lost in the church.
      - 4. "I was out praying this morning and it hit me this morning, i was praying; God had me interceding over a situation and I was praying over it, and it got to the point beyond tongues and i just had this urge.. and i had to begin to groan.. and listen, the power that is released when you begin to enter into that kind of intercession is just mind-boggling."  
~John Bevere

- iv. Private 2: Tongues for personal prayer, which result in personal edification.
  - 1. 1 Corinthians 14:4 'he who speaks in a tongue edifies himself/herself.'
  - 2. ...for that reason, Paul says (verse 14)
  - 3. "For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my mind is unfruitful. 15 So what shall I do? I will pray with my spirit, but I will also pray with my mind; I will sing with my spirit, but I will also sing with my mind."
  - 4. Jude 20 But you, beloved build yourselves up in your most holy faith and pray in the Holy Spirit.
  - 5. When praying in tongue, we build ourselves up, we edify ourselves.
  - 6. Not everyone has the gift of tongues (public gift).
  - 7. However, every Christian has access to tongues for personal prayer (edification) and for intercession. For God to deny anyone of this close, deep interaction with the Holy Spirit would be unbelievably debilitating.
- v. Reasons why some Christians have a hard time receiving the gift of praying in tongues:
  - 1. Intellectualism
  - 2. They think God's going to force their mouth to speak
  - 3. They don't realize they have to voice the words themselves
  - 4. Bad theology
  - 5. Misunderstanding the different types of tongues (some are for all, some are not)
  - 6. Fear of sounding weird
  - 7. Fear it's demonic
  - 8. Low desire
  - 9. Lack of understanding of how critical it is
  - 10. It's not encouraged in their church
  - 11. They don't see the need for an intense life of prayer
  - 12. Compromise
  - 13. Filling their lives with immoral media or living in other sins
  - 14. Filling their lives with secular music
  - 15. Not filling their lives with anointed worship music
  - 16. Unbelief
  - 17. Sense of unworthiness
  - 18. No sense of spiritual purpose
  - 19. Not devouring the Word of God
  - 20. Supernatural manifestations are resisted in their circle

### III. Part Two

- a. When we pray in tongues, we are communicating spirit-to-spirit with God.
  - i. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth."  
**John 4:24**
  - ii. When that happens, our faith skyrockets!

- iii. Are you having a crisis of faith? Pray in tongues!
  - iv. But you, beloved, building yourselves up in your most holy faith and praying in the Holy Spirit, **Jude 1:20**
  - b. This is how we can always be in the spirit, and pray without ceasing.
    - i. We can pray in our inner man without making an audible sound.
    - ii. The burnings of God are never ending.
  - c. Then, as we do this, we are praying 100% according to God's will!
    - i. This is where life explodes!
    - ii. Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. **Romans 8:26-27**
    - iii. And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us. **1 John 5:14**
      - 1. Where most people get frustrated is when they pray in English, in their understanding.
      - 2. Praying in tongues solves this!
      - 3. In our understanding we may pray for God to give us a promotion at work, but when we pray in the spirit we may be praying for God to send us to ministry school.
      - 4. In our understanding we may pray for healing, and in the spirit we are praying for God to convict us of sin that led to the sickness.
      - 5. It absolutely explodes open the doors of limited living!
- IV. Part Three
- a. Faith has been a theme lately, and it is a powerful theme!
    - i. To live in the spirit, we have to believe.
    - ii. Jesus said: And these signs will accompany those who believe: in my name ...; they will speak in new tongues; *Mark 16:17*
    - iii. When we have faith, our lives unlock!
      - 1. We can't presume to understand tongues-this is a major stumbling block for analytical people.
      - 2. For one who speaks in a tongue speaks not to men but to God; for no one understands him, but he utters mysteries in the Spirit. **1 Corinthians 14:2**
      - 3. I've heard it said that it's harder for left-brained people to hear God, to encounter him, to pray in tongues, etc.
        - a. This is because we are trying to use our brain instead of our spirit!
        - b. They are radically, entirely different!

- c. For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays but my mind is unfruitful. **1 Corinthians 14:14**
- d. The groan vs. the ding
- e. Learn the difference between the two.
- f. What am I to do? I will pray with my spirit, but I will pray with my mind also; I will sing praise with my spirit, but I will sing with my mind also. **1 Corinthians 14:15**
- g. **Isaiah prophesied tongues.**
  - i. For by people of strange lips and with a foreign tongue the LORD will speak to this people, **Isaiah 28:11**
  - ii. This strange tongue is for us!
- h. Girl at Anaheim Vineyard-never spoke in tongues, then was convulsing!

## V. Part Four

- a. We should pray in tongues all the time!
  - i. Again, it unlocks our lives, our prayer, our ministries.
    - 1. We were downtown last night, and we prayed in tongues as we walked.
    - 2. The prophetic kicked up and God gave us insight and a strategy.
    - 3. Your answers in the natural will come as you pray in tongues!
    - 4. I thank God that I speak in tongues more than all of you. **1 Corinthians 14:18**
    - 5. Praying in the spirit is a critical part of our armor and it equips us to proclaim the truth.
      - a. In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints, and also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains, that I may declare it boldly, as I ought to speak. **Ephesians 6:16-20**
- b. When you pray in tongues you are blessing God, you are ministering to him, and he is ministering to you.
  - i. The bible doesn't say to ask God to live in the natural and to walk in the natural.
    - 1. He already did that!
    - 2. Now, the Holy Spirit was given so we could walk in his realm, in the supernatural!
    - 3. It's a literal realm, and we are all able to live there!

4. Again, it's not via our minds, but it's via our spirits!
- c. Corporately, tongues takes things to another level.
  - i. Check this out!
  - ii. "For at that time I will change the speech of the peoples to a pure speech, that all of them may call upon the name of the LORD and serve him with one accord. **Zephaniah 3:9**
  - iii. God confused the language at the tower of Babel... and now, through tongues, we are all again speaking the same language! We are unified!
    1. God wants us to connect with him, with heaven... and he wants our language to be common!
    2. The motive of the hearts at the tower of Babel resulted in God confusing them, but now, our call is to have the same language again!