

Spiritual Gifts: How do the Gifts Work in the Church?

Greg Wendschlag. May 29, 2022

The spiritual gifts are given by God to build up the church. The church was created by God to witness to the reality of God. Therefore, the greater the proper function of the gifts, the greater the effectiveness of the witness.

How the Gifts Should Work in the Church.

1 Corinthians 14

1. The gifts should function in love.

“Follow the way of love and eagerly desire spiritual gifts...” 1 Cor. 14:1; (1 Cor 13)

2. The gifts should function to build up the family of God.

“Since you are eager to have spiritual gifts, try to excel in gifts that build up the church.” 1 Cor. 14:12

3. The gifts should function in an orderly manner.

“The spirits of prophets are subject to the control of prophets. For God is not a God of disorder but of peace—as in all the congregations of the Lord’s people...Everything should be done in a fitting way.”

1 Cor. 14:32-33; 40

4. Tongues are for self-edification unless there is an interpretation of the tongue for mutual edification.

“He who speaks in a tongue edifies himself...anyone who speaks in a tongue should pray that he may interpret what he says.” 1 Cor. 14:4, 13

5. Better to prophecy in the church than to speak in tongues.

“I thank God that I speak in tongues more than all of you. But in the church I would rather speak five intelligible words to instruct others than ten thousand words in a tongue.” 1 Cor. 14:18-19

The Practice of the Gifts at ALAG

1. We encourage all people to discover and practice their spiritual gifts.
2. We leave room in the Sunday services and during the linger time for the practice of the spiritual gifts. Feel free to speak out during these appropriate times.
3. We do not encourage mass praying in tongues per the scriptures.
4. In moments other than the specific worship times, if you sense God wanting to speak through you, approach an Elder or Pastor first, and then with permission, you may speak out.
5. We strive to practice Godly order in all we do.

