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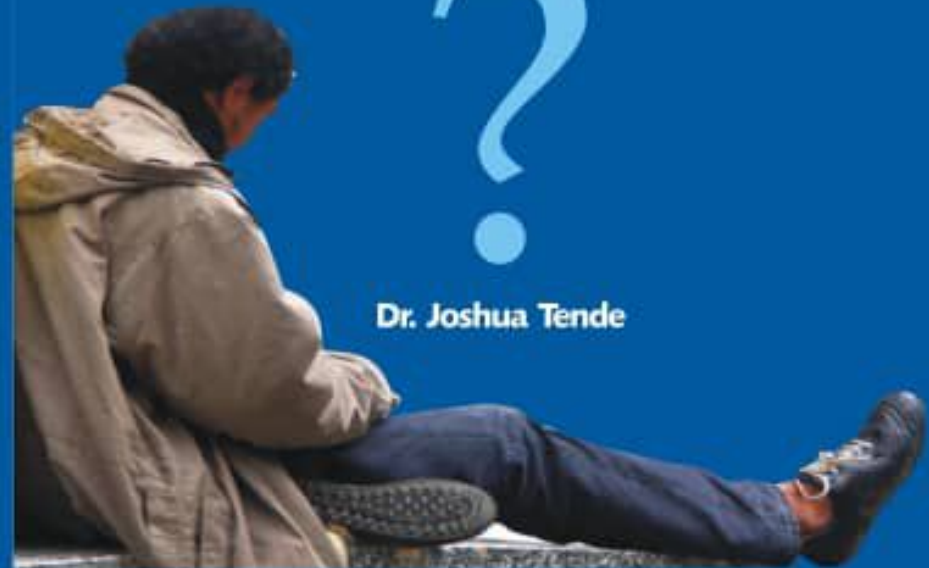
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MUST EVERYONE SPEAK IN TONGUES



Dr. Joshua Tende





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What Is Speaking In Tongues?

The best definition of speaking in tongues is what the bible says about it. Let's look into the bible for this definition.

1. SPEAKING BY THE SPIRIT

"And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance." (Acts 2:4)

Notice that the words were not learned, they were divinely inspired by the Holy Spirit, but spoken by man (the believers).

The disciples were doing the speaking but the utterance came from the Holy Spirit.

Therefore speaking in tongues is a divinely inspired or a supernatural utterance by the Holy Spirit in an unknown language to the speaker. The words are spoken by the believer in Christ with the help of the Holy Spirit (as the Spirit gives utterance).

Speaking in tongues is by the Holy Spirit only. It is not learned, neither is it the ability to speak many languages.

2. SPEAKING IN THE SPIRIT

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."*

Notice, when does a man speak in the Spirit? When he speaks in tongues. So speaking in tongues is speaking in the Spirit. Similarly, praying in the Spirit is

praying in tongues, singing in the Spirit is singing in tongues. Let's see another verse of scripture:

1 Cor 14:14, *"For if I pray in an unknown tongue, my spirit prayeth, but my understanding is unfruitful."*

Take note of this phrase, "MY SPIRIT PRAYETH, or MY SPIRIT PRAYS". When does my spirit pray? When I pray in tongues! Similarly, when does my spirit speak? When I speak in tongues.

When I pray in tongues my spirit prays. Conversely, if I do not pray in tongues my spirit does not pray.

In the same way when I speak in tongues, my spirit speaks. If I do not speak in tongues, my spirit does not speak. **So Paul speaking by the Holy Spirit refers to speaking in tongues as speaking in the Spirit.**

3. SPEAKING MYSTERIES

1 Cor 14:2

"For he that speaketh in an unknown tongue... in the spirit he speaketh mysteries."

In the passage above, the bible tells us that speaking in tongues is speaking mysteries unto God. Moffat's translation reads; *"For he who speaks in an unknown tongue addresses God, not men. No one understands him, he is talking DIVINE SECRETS in the Spirit."*

This indicates that speaking in tongues is a means of speaking secret truth (mysteries) from our heart to God.

4. SPEAKING IN TONGUES IS SPEAKING TO GOD

Notice something else in verse two, *"...he speaketh not to men but to God"*.

So when a man speaks in tongues he is not speaking to man but to God. Therefore no man understands him. This means speaking in tongues is a means of private communication or devotion to God.

"But if there be no interpreter, let him keep silence in the church; and let HIM SPEAK TO HIMSELF, AND TO GOD."
1 Cor 14:28

This means when I speak in tongues it's between I and God, a third party cannot understand. So speaking in tongues is speaking to God.

5. IS A MEANS OF MAGNIFYING AND GLORIFYING GOD

*"For they heard them **speak with tongues, and magnify God...**"* Acts 10:46

They spoke in tongues and magnified God not blaspheme God. The bible did not say they spoke in tongues and cursed, but rather it says they spoke in tongues and MAGNIFIED GOD.

What do people do when they speak in tongues? They magnify God. I have heard many people ask this question, 'how am I sure the words I am speaking are not blaspheming God, since I don't know what I am saying?'. Well, the bible says they spoke in tongues and magnified God, not blaspheme God.

You can't speak in tongues and speak wrong words to God, because you will be speaking by the Spirit of God (1 Cor 14:2 and 12:3)

6. TWO KINDS OF TONGUES

1 Cor 13:1

*"Though I **speak with the tongues of men and of angels**, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal."*

There are two kinds of tongues,

1. Tongues of men and
2. Tongues of angels

Tongues of angels is a prayer language given to **every** believer for private devotion so we can communicate the secrets of our hearts with God. While tongues of men is a supernatural utterance in an unknown language given to **some** believers as the Spirit wills to communicate the mind of God to men and must be interpreted.

Tongues of angels is man talking to God while tongues of men is God talking to men through a man. Tongues of angels is understood only by God and angels and it is a private prayer language through which man can communicate secrets with God (1 Cor 14:2). Tongues of angels need not be interpreted (1 Cor 14:2 and 28).

Tongues of men is God speaking through a vessel (man) to men. This must be interpreted either by the speaker or someone close by so that men would benefit from what God is saying (1 Cor 14:17-28).

Tongues of angels is given to ALL believers while tongues of men is given to SOME believers only. Mk 16:17 and 1 Cor 12:28-30.



OF WHAT USE IS SPEAKING IN TONGUES

I want us to examine the biblical uses of speaking in tongues so that we will be able to judge for ourselves whether every believer should speak in tongues or not. I will like to encourage you to lay aside every bias in our mind, open up your heart and let the Holy Spirit reveal the scriptures to you.

EDIFY YOURSELF

1 Cor 14:4 (RSV)

*"He that speaketh in a tongue edifieth himself;
But he that prophesieth edifieth the church."*

According to this passage, when you speak in tongues you are edifying yourself. Merriam Webster's dictionary defines 'edify as, 'to instruct or improve spiritually, to build a house, to establish, to uplift, and to enlighten'.

so when you speak in tongues you are improving yourself, you are building yourself, you are establishing yourself, you are uplifting yourself. To say it another way, **when you speak in tongues you are doing yourself a favour.**

Let's see some other translations of this passage and see how speaking in tongues is doing yourself a favour.

2. DO YOURSELF A FAVOUR

*"He who speaks in an unknown tongue **does good to himself**, but he who prophesies does good to the Church."* 1 Cor 14:4 (Weymouth)

To do good to yourself is to do yourself a favour, isn't it? To say it another way, if you speak in tongues you do yourself a favour. Conversely, if you do not speak in tongues, you are cheating yourself, you are hurting yourself, you are doing yourself a disfavour, you are doing harm to yourself. So do yourself a favour by speaking in tongues.

3. BUILD UP YOURSELF

1 Cor 14:4 (MKJV)

"The one speaking in a tongue builds himself up, but he prophesying builds up a church."

When you speak in tongues, you are building yourself up. Similarly, if you do not speak in tongues you are destroying yourself.

Many people are suffering in this life, not because of what God or the devil is doing to them but because they are destroying themselves by refusing to speak in tongues. But you can choose to improve your life from today.

4. IMPROVE YOURSELF

1 Cor 14:4 (AMPLIFIED)

*"He who speaks in a [strange] tongue edifies and
Improves himself..."*

This is quite comforting and encouraging. That means when I speak in tongues I am improving myself. Life becomes better when we learn to improve ourselves by speaking in tongues. How many believers should speak in tongues? Everyone that wants to improve spiritually. Also, the more you speak in tongues the better your life improves.

5. HELP YOURSELF GROW UP SPIRITUALLY

1 Cor 14:4 (The Living Bible)

*"So the person speaking in tongues
Helps himself to grow spiritually..."*

Take note from this passage, the person that speaks in tongues helps himself to grow. **So a man that is not speaking in tongues is not helping himself.** In other words, if you do not speak in tongues, you are limiting yourself and you are frustrating yourself.

Our text says, '**a man that speaks in tongues helps himself to grow spiritually**'. The scripture is very clear about this. Spiritual growth becomes very easy when you speak in tongues continuously. This is because you receive help from the Holy Spirit (who is our helper) each time you pray in tongues. Put differently, the more we speak in tongues, the more we grow spiritually. So any believer that needs the help of the Holy Spirit to grow up spiritually should speak in tongues and speak it regularly.

Do you want to help yourself grow up spiritually? Well, the bible tells us how- speak in tongues.

6. STRENGTHEN YOURSELF SPIRITUALLY.

*"A person who speaks in tongues is **strengthened personally** in THE LORD..." 1 Cor 14:4 (New Living Translation)*

So when I speak in tongues I am strengthened personally in the Lord. Conversely, if I do not speak in tongues I weaken myself spiritually. If I must be strong (strengthened) in the Lord then I must speak in tongues regularly.

How often should I speak in tongues then? As often as I need spiritual strength.

Many believers fail to speak in tongues regularly, that is why they are weak spiritually.

Do you want to be strong in the Lord? Well, the bible clearly spells out how to be, speak in tongues.

7. MAKE PROGRESS

Jude 20 (AMPLIFIED)

*"But you, beloved, build yourselves up [founded] on your most holy faith [**make progress**, rise like an edifice higher and higher], **praying in the Holy Spirit**"*

Praying in the Holy Spirit (which is also praying in tongues) is described here as making progress. If I want to make reasonable progress with God, speaking in tongues is compulsory. "Make progress, not only that, rise like an edifice (a magnificent building) higher and higher". That means you can always rise higher and higher by speaking in tongues.

Since speaking in tongues is making progress spiritually, **we readily infer that the more I speak in tongues the more progress I make spiritually.**

o if you want to remain stagnant or you want to draw back and eventually
ackslide do not speak in tongues. I encourage you today make progress by
peaking in tongues.

ust as a thirsty man drinking water is doing himself a favour, likewise a
believer who speaks in tongues is doing himself a favour. Do yourself a
favour today, speak in tongues.

FOLLOW HOLY MARY

Holy Mary, the mother of Jesus spoke in tongues as revealed in the
ible. Acts 1:13, 14 *"And when they were come in, they went up into an
pper room, where abode both Peter, and James, and John ... These all
ontinued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women, and
ary the mother of Jesus, and with his brethren."*

Then in Acts 2:1-4 we read: *"And when the day of Pentecost
was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place...
And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and **began to
speak with other tongues**, as the Spirit gave them utterance."*

loly Mary was among those that 1st spoke in tongues; as we just read.

o if you are a true follower of Mary then you should follow her example
nd speak in tongues.

he 1st pope, Saint Peter also spoke in tongues as seen from the passage
bove. Saint Paul also spoke in tongues 1Cor 14:18

DELIVERANCE

1 Cor 14: 2 (NLT)

*"For if you speak in tongues... You will be speaking **by the power of
the Spirit...**"*

When you speak in tongues it is not by yourself it is by the power of the Holy Spirit. **That means you are directly under the influence of the Holy Spirit when you speak in tongues. Now you cannot be influenced by the Holy Spirit and demon spirits at the same time.** So speaking in tongues keeps you from satanic oppression, obsession, and possession. Many believers suffering satanic oppression would be completely free if they would learn to speak in tongues regularly. **So if you want to be delivered from satanic attacks, start speaking in tongues regularly.** Similarly, if you want to be tortured or oppressed by the devil, refuse to speak in tongues.

10. SPEAK TO GOD

1 Cor 14:2. Notice, when a man speaks in tongues, he is speaking not to men but to God. Speaking in tongues is speaking to God while speaking in your understanding (the language you understand) is speaking to men. If you really desire to speak to God privately and communicate the secrets of your heart to God only, then you must speak in tongues. You may certainly speak to God in your understanding, but in order to speak mysteries or secrets to God you must talk in tongues.

11. HEAR FROM GOD

Since speaking in tongues is speaking to God, it means the more I speak in tongues the more He speaks to me. Thus speaking in tongues positions you to hear the voice of God. Many Christians desire to hear God's voice yet they do not speak in tongues. The easiest key to hearing His voice is speaking in tongues. God speaks to us through our spirits (Rom 8:14, 16), and when you pray in tongues your spirit prays (1 Cor 14:14) in other words, your spirit is more active when you pray in tongues. Thus receiving direction from God becomes easy when you speak in tongues (because your receiver is now active).

If you do not want to hear the voice of God, don't speak in tongues. This explains why those who don't speak in tongues believe that God is no longer speaking to us.

12. PARTNER WITH THE HOLY GHOST

1 Cor 14:14 (AMPLIFIED)

"For if I pray in an [unknown] tongue, my spirit [by the Holy Spirit within me] prays..."

Notice, something from this verse, '*if I pray in an unknown language my spirit BY THE HOLY SPIRIT prays.*' That means that two persons are involved when I speak in tongues:

- a) MYSELF (MY SPIRIT)
- b) THE HOLY SPIRIT

I cannot speak in tongues without the Holy Spirit and the Holy Spirit does not speak in tongues so there is a joint partnership between my spirit and the Holy Spirit when I speak in tongues. It is as though I and the Holy Spirit join hands together to do God's work when I speak in tongues.

Take advantage of this great privilege to partner with the Holy Ghost in life, in prayer, in ministry and in every aspect of life by speaking in tongues regularly.

13. BECOME THE BEST YOU GOD HAS PLANNED.

Once you get born again, all the things of God are deposited in your spirit (2cor 5:17-18 and 1 John 3:9). Thus success is in your spirit, greatness is in your spirit, and power is in your spirit. Now remember, when I pray in tongues my spirit prays, that means my spirit and all the deposits of God in my spirit find expression when I speak in tongues. The more I speak in

tongues, the more success and greatness in me and expression. To say it in a simple way, speaking in tongues is God's way of bringing out the best in us. Your life becomes better as you spend more time speaking in tongues and the best you that God has ordained, shows up the more you speak in tongues.

14. FLOW IN GOD'S POWER

Acts 1:8 *"But ye shall receive power **after** that the Holy Ghost is come upon you..."*

Notice the power comes after the Holy Ghost has come, not before. When this scripture was first fulfilled in Acts 2:4, the believers spoke in tongues so we can safely say that there is a close relationship between receiving power and speaking in tongues. A prayerless Christian is a powerless Christian so if you want to flow in God's power, spend time praying in tongues. Notice in Acts 2:4 they spoke in tongues as the Spirit enabled them, that means the ability or power comes from the Holy Spirit when you speak in tongues.

This means you are moved by the power of the Holy Spirit when you speak in tongues. ***Thus speaking in tongues makes it easier for us to yield to the Spirit of God hence be used by God in a greater dimension.*** The more I speak in tongues the more I am influenced by the power of the Spirit.

15. REST AND REFRESHING

*"For with stammering lips and **another tongue** will he speak to this people. 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."* Isaiah 28:11-12

Speaking in tongues brings spiritual refreshing and rest. If you want to be refreshed spiritually speak in tongues.

1Cor 14:39

*"Wherefore, brethren, covet to prophesy,
and **forbid not to speak with tongues.**"*

Jesus the head of the church said through his spirit forbid not to speak in tongues. In other words speaking in tongues should be encouraged. If you are an obedient child and you want to obey Jesus, choose to speak in tongues today. We are also commanded to pray in the spirit (in tongues) Eph 6:18, Sing in the spirit, 1 Cor 14:15, and worship in the spirit (in tongues). If you must obey this commandment then you must speak in tongues.



HOW DO I BEGIN?

A. CONDITIONS FOR RECEIVING.

1. First you must be born again: - you must accept Jesus as your Lord and Saviour, since the promise is for believers only. So if you are not born again, you can become one by saying the salvation prayer below; sincerely believe what you are saying from your heart. Say:

SALVATION PRAYER

Heavenly Father, I come to you in the Name of Jesus and I ask that you wash away my sins, I believe with my heart that Jesus died for my sins, and You raised Him from the dead. I confess with my mouth Jesus is my Lord. Therefore I am saved, and I am a Born Again child of God. Thank you for saving me, in Jesus Name. Amen.

2. Know that the gift is yours now: - because the promise is for every one that believes. Acts 2:38-39, Acts 2:17, Mk 16:17

3. Realise that God has already GIVEN the Holy Spirit, you should only RECEIVE Him. You don't have to ask God for the Holy Spirit, only receive by thanking Him.

4. Know that NOW you are READY to receive if you desire, you don't have to WAIT, FAST nor make yourself "holy" before receiving. If you have sinned against God, confess your sins and He will forgive you immediately. 1 Jn 1:9

5. Believe you have received *when* you pray (Mark 11:24) and expect to speak in tongues (say in faith, now I receive the Holy Spirit in Jesus Name and then begin to thank God for giving you the Holy Spirit).

6. Do away with fear of receiving the wrong Spirit. Jesus promised that if you ask the father for the Holy Spirit, *He will not give you an evil Spirit.* (Luke 11:11-13).

You can never receive a wrong spirit once you are Born Again. (2 Timothy 1:7)

B. RELEASE OF FAITH.

7. You *BEGIN* to speak in a new tongue: - not in English or any language you understand. This is the main reason why many fail to speak in tongues. They are waiting for the Holy Spirit to speak in tongues for them. But the Holy Spirit DOES NOT speak in tongues. He gives the utterance and **you** would have to speak it out (who does the speaking? You).

In Acts 2:4, The Bible says, "*THEY BEGAN to speak in tongues.*" THEY BEGAN, not the Holy Spirit, but the disciples. Until they began, the Spirit did not give. Similarly in Acts 10:44 and Acts 19:6 it's the believers that began to speak.

Beginning to speak is an act of faith (a release of your faith), trusting the Holy Spirit to give you utterance. And without faith we cannot please God. (Heb 11:6). Some believers are waiting for the Holy Spirit to move their mouth and force them to speak in tongues. But the Holy Spirit is a perfect gentleman, so He will not force you to speak in tongues. You will have to

open your mouth willingly and begin speaking in a NEW TONGUE. Until you begin, nothing will happen.

Don't be afraid that your words may be blasphemy, since you don't know what you are saying. **You cannot speak in tongues and blaspheme because speaking in tongues is speaking by the Holy Spirit**, and *"no one speaking by the Holy Spirit can call Jesus accursed."* 1Cor 12:3.

Paul says, *"I WILL pray in the Spirit"* (In tongues) 1Cor 14:15 Notice He said *"I WILL."* That means my WILL is involved in speaking in tongues. If I WILL (choose) to begin to speak, I WILL speak.

So close your eyes and imagine yourself worshipping God and BEGIN to speak in tongues by faith. (Acts 10:45)

But what will I speak? Speak in a new tongue, not in a tongue familiar to you (for the scripture says **"they began to speak in new tongues"**), and the Spirit will take over and give you utterance.

C. THE MANIFESTATION.

8. The Holy Spirit will move upon your vocal cords and give you utterance as you begin to speak in tongues worshipping and magnifying God.

I encourage you to continue to speak in tongues for twenty minutes or more and continue daily to worship and pray in tongues. Then your life will

PRAYER TO RECEIVE THE HOLY SPIRIT AND SPEAK IN TONGUES.

*Say this aloud if you want to start speaking in tongues today:-
Heavenly father, I thank you for making me your child, thank you because I am born again. I am a believer in Jesus Christ.*

You promised in your word that these signs will follow those that believe. In your Name they shall speak in tongues. I believe in Jesus and I expect to speak in tongues now. I expect the signs to follow me now.

You promised that those who believe would receive the Holy Spirit. I believe, and I receive the Holy Spirit now in the Name of Jesus.

Holy Spirit, help me and give me utterance to speak in tongues in Jesus Name as I begin by faith. Thank you for filling me with the Holy Spirit, in Jesus Name. Amen. (Now open your mouth and begin to speak in tongues).



Now that you have received the Holy Ghost and you have started speaking in tongues, I want to encourage you to spend much time speaking in tongues daily, at least one hour. Remember when you speak in tongues you are making progress, you are building yourself, you are bringing out the best in you. You may also set aside a day in the week to just spend extra time praying in tongues and make progress in life.

Secondly, now that you know the truth about speaking in tongues, God is counting on you to share it with others everywhere you go.

You will do well to get one or two prayer partners, especially one that speak in tongues, and pray together regularly and begin to enjoy the best of life that God has planned for you. Remain blessed!

TO THE SINCERE BELIEVER

Jesus says the Holy Spirit will guide us into all truth, Jn 16:13. If you are sincere and listen to the Holy Spirit in your heart, he will certainly lead you into the baptism of the Holy Spirit and speaking in tongues.

MUST EVERYONE SPEAK IN TONGUES

A] What Jesus taught about Speaking in Tongues:

- I. It's a sign that follows every believer Mk16:17
- II. Everyone that asks the Father for the Holy Ghost and Speaking in Tongues receives. Luke 11:11-13
- III. Just like John's baptism, the baptism with the Holy Ghost is for all. Acts 1:5

B] Lessons from Acts of the Apostles shows that

- I. They ALL spoke in tongues so every one of us should speak in tongues. Acts 2:4, 10:45-46, 19:1-6
- II. The promise is for ALL. Acts 2:38-39
- III. Paul expected every believer to speak in tongues. Acts 19:1-6
- IV. The early church prayed for every believer to receive the Holy Ghost and speak in tongues. Acts 8:12-21

C] A Present Day Proof:

We have seen thousands of people received the Holy Ghost and spoke in tongues in these days just by believing these same words I have shared with you. Your case is not different; you too can speak just by believing.