

## 1 Corinthians 14

King James Version (KJV)

**14** Follow after charity, and desire spiritual gifts, but rather that ye may prophesy. (Follow= pursue; prophesy= teach – better translation) (It's good to hope for reward in the spiritual life, but more important to stay focused on helping others to succeed as well as you)

<sup>2</sup>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. (unknown was added to the Bible by the translators. It is not in the manuscripts) (tongue = any foreign language, not known to others. This is not the cloven tongue that everyone understood in Acts)

(EXAMPLE – the Catholics used to conduct Sunday mass in Latin. No one in the crowd knew what the priest was saying – completely worthless)

<sup>3</sup>But he that prophesieth speaketh unto men to edification, and exhortation, and comfort. (He that teaches must be understood by the audience)

<sup>4</sup>He that speaketh in an unknown tongue edifieth himself; but he that prophesieth edifieth the church. (unknown was added to the Bible by the translators. It is not in the manuscripts) (The word tongue just means he who speaks in a foreign language)

<sup>5</sup>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. (If a preacher speaks a foreign language, you will need a good interpreter to also convey the meaning and the context, not just the words)

<sup>6</sup>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? (prophecy = to teach; If you can't relate to the audience, all you can convey is words)

<sup>7</sup>And even things without life giving sound, whether pipe or harp, except they give a distinction in the sounds, how shall it be known what is piped or harped? (A bunch of notes, without a tune is like machine translation of a verse, without the context or meaning. It's just a bunch of noise)

<sup>8</sup>For if the trumpet give an uncertain sound, who shall prepare himself to the battle? (A foreign language teaches no one, who cannot understand it)

<sup>9</sup>So likewise ye, except ye utter by the tongue words easy to be understood, how shall it be known what is spoken? for ye shall speak into the air. (If they don't understand the meaning of your teachings, then you are talking to no one. You're just wasting everyone's time)

<sup>10</sup>There are, it may be, so many kinds of voices in the world, and none of them is without signification. (No one language is more important than another)

<sup>11</sup>Therefore if I know not the meaning of the voice, I shall be unto him that speaketh a barbarian, and he that speaketh shall be a barbarian unto me. (Unable to really communicate with each other)

<sup>12</sup>Even so ye, forasmuch as ye are zealous of spiritual gifts, seek that ye may excel to the edifying of the church. (Use your gifts to improve the church, not yourselves)

<sup>13</sup>Wherefore let him that speaketh in an unknown tongue pray that he may interpret. (unknown tongue= foreign language) (unknown was added to the Bible by the translators. It is not in the manuscripts)

<sup>14</sup>For if I pray in an unknown tongue, my spirit prayeth, but my understanding is unfruitful. (unknown was added to the Bible by the translators. It is not in the manuscripts)

<sup>15</sup>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. (Pray and sing in the language that the people understand) (Not like a Latin mass to English speaking people)

<sup>16</sup> 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? (Otherwise the people get nothing from your teaching)

<sup>17</sup> For thou verily givest thanks well, but the other is not edified.

<sup>18</sup> I thank my God, I speak with tongues more than ye all: (Paul spoke many languages, so he taught many people in many countries. He studied the manuscripts in Hebrew, but he also spoke Latin and Greek)

<sup>19</sup> Yet in the church I had rather speak five words with my understanding, that by my voice I might teach others also, than ten thousand words in an unknown tongue. (They can't learn if they don't understand what you are saying. Speak to them in their language)

<sup>20</sup> Brethren, be not children in understanding: howbeit in malice be ye children, but in understanding be men. (Don't speak in foreign languages to impress the parishioners. Be a mature Christian, not a show off)

<sup>21</sup> 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. Isaiah-28:11-12 (Too teach too deeply will not mean anything to those whose eyes are closed. They won't understand what the teaching means)

<sup>22</sup> 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. (Simple teaching benefits those who aren't believers; Deep teaching benefit those who believe)

<sup>23</sup> If therefore the whole church be come together into one place, and all speak with tongues, and there come in those that are unlearned, or unbelievers, will they not say that ye are mad? (If everyone in the church is speaking and they all interrupt each other, when a new person comes in, they will think that you are a bunch of crazy people)

<sup>24</sup> But if all prophesy, and there come in one that believeth not, or one unlearned, he is convinced of all, he is judged of all:

<sup>25</sup> And thus are the secrets of his heart made manifest; and so falling down on his face he will worship God, and report that God is in you of a truth. (If you teach in an orderly fashion, then the new person will learn and believe. You must teach the Word completely and truthfully and not change it to suit your imagination)

<sup>26</sup> 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. (You come together with your own ideas and interpretations. All that does is create confusion and disharmony)

<sup>27</sup> 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. (Unknown tongue = a foreign language)

<sup>28</sup> But if there be no interpreter, let him keep silence in the church; and let him speak to himself, and to God. (Don't teach people in a language that they don't understand)

<sup>29</sup> Let the prophets speak two or three, and let the other judge. (judge = discern – make sure it is a true teaching of God and not traditions of men)

<sup>30</sup> If any thing be revealed to another that sitteth by, let the first hold his peace. (When someone has a question, let them speak and answer them in an orderly fashion)

<sup>31</sup> For ye may all prophesy one by one, that all may learn, and all may be comforted. (If there is more than one teacher, take your turn orderly so that everyone there can benefit from all the teachers)

<sup>32</sup> And the spirits of the prophets are subject to the prophets. (Made up doctrines cannot be authenticated, because they are not in the Word of God)

<sup>33</sup> For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints. (The Elect) (True Christian churches that teach God's Word; chapter by chapter, verse by verse. Fake churches preach sermons, written by some preacher)

<sup>34</sup> Let your women keep silence in the churches: for it is not permitted unto them to speak; but they are commanded to be under obedience as also saith the law. (speak = chatter – per Green's interlinear, but you must be able to read the Greek. It is not properly translated in the Greens Interlinear or in the Strong's Concordance)

(This applies to men and women. People in those days were chauvinist, so they translated it to apply to women. The message applies to all attendees. Be quiet in church so that the teacher can be heard and understood by all)

(Ignorant preachers will tell you that this means that women cannot become ministers or preachers – not so)

<sup>35</sup> And if they will learn any thing, let them ask their husbands at home: for it is a shame for women to speak in the church. (speak = chatter, gossip – per Green's Interlinear <in the greek only> it was not translated correctly there either – bad translation from the Greek)

<sup>36</sup> What? came the word of God out from you? or came it unto you only? (Ignorant translators caused a lot of confusion over the years)

<sup>37</sup> If any man think himself to be a prophet, or spiritual, let him acknowledge that the things that I write unto you are the commandments of the Lord. (God gave Paul credentials by working miracles through him)

<sup>38</sup> But if any man be ignorant, let him be ignorant. (Don't listen to a fool who thinks that he is a prophet)

<sup>39</sup> Wherefore, brethren, covet to prophesy, and forbid not to speak with tongues. (covet to prophesy = desire to teach; but teach in the language that the people understand)

<sup>40</sup> Let all things be done decently and in order. (As Christ taught)