

EIGHT SCRIPTURAL REASONS YOU SHOULD BE PRAYING IN TONGUES

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The Sermon in a Sentence: There are many positive reasons believers should embrace speaking in tongues.

Sermon Purpose: That believers will be baptized in the Spirit and utilize the gift of tongues in private devotion and public worship.

Text: 1 Cor. 14:18

Introduction:

1. The Pentecostal church today is distinguished by many things (i.e., zeal, worship, preaching).
2. Nothing distinguishes us more than the practice of speaking in tongues.
3. Some have asked, "Why do you Pentecostals emphasize speaking in tongues? What good is it?"
4. In this sermon I will answer that question!
 - a. Eight benefits of praying in tongues, or . . .
 - b. Eight scriptural reasons you should be speaking in tongues everyday:

I. Because Speaking in Tongues Is the Biblical Evidence of Being Baptized in the Holy Spirit.

- A. It is the recurring sign in the book of Acts (Acts 2:4; 10:46; 19:6).
- B. When you are baptized in the Holy Spirit, you will know!
 1. Don't be cheated out of the real thing!
 2. **ILLUS:** Someone asked, "Do I *have* to speak in tongues to be filled with the Spirit." The preacher answered, "You asking the wrong question. The right question is, "Do I *get* to

speaking in tongues? Speaking in tongues is a wonderful privilege of Spirit-filled believers."

II. Because Praying in Tongues Builds Will Build You up Spiritually (Read: 1 Cor.14:4)

- A. Just as our physical bodies need exercise to grow strong, our spiritual man also needs exercise.
- B. One form of spiritual exercise is praying in tongues.

III. Because Speaking in Tongues Is a Powerful, God-given Means of Intercessory Prayer (Read: Ro. 8:26-27).

- A. This text tells us four things about our prayer lives:
 1. We don't know how to pray as we should.
 2. The Spirit will help us to pray.
 3. The Holy Spirit will pray through us with "groans that words cannot express" (NIV).
 4. He will pray according to the will of God.
- C. Here is how it works:
 1. You begin to pray.
 2. During a time of intercession the Spirit takes over.
 3. Sometimes,
 - a. there are needs that you don't know about.
 - b. there are needs that you know about, but you don't know how to pray for them.
 4. At such times, yield to the Holy Spirit. Let Him pray through you!

IV. Because Praying in Tongues Creates an Awareness of God's Indwelling Presence.

- A. In the Bible we are given some wonderful promises of God's presence:
 1. i.e., (Matt: 28:20; Acts 17:27-28; Heb. 13:5)
 2. And yet, sometimes He seems so distant.
- B. Praying in tongues is a wonderful remedy for this problem.

V. Because Praying Is Tongues Will Build Faith in Your Heart and Life. (Read: Jude 20.)

- A. The Bible speaks of a number of ways we can build up our faith:
 - 1. Through reading and practicing the Word of God
 - 2. By exercising the faith that we have.
- B. One oft-neglected way is praying in tongues (Jude 20).

VI. Because Praying in Tongues Is a Way to Wrap Yourself in the Love of God. (Read: Jude 20-21 Rom. 5:5.)

- A. We sing a song: “Jesus loves me this I know, ‘cause the Bible tells me so.”
 - 1. An it true—whether I feel it or not!
 - 2. But oh, how wonderful it is to experience and feel the love of God!
 - 3. Have you ever really felt God’s love for you?
- B. One way we keep ourselves in the love of God is prayer in the Spirit.

VII. Because Together with the Gift of Interpretation of Tongues, It Is a Means by Which God Communicates a Prophetic Word with His Church. (Read: 1 Cor. 14:5.)

- A. Sometimes God wants to speak directly to a congregation through the gifts of tongues and the interpretation of tongues.
- B. At such times the church is edified and built up.

VIII. Because Praying in Tongues Provides a Perfect Channel for Joyous Praise and Worship. (Read: John 4:24.)

- A. Have you ever been so filled with joy and gratitude that you could find no words to express that joy?
- B. Prayer and praise in tongues is a perfect means to express that joy and gratitude.

Conclusion and Altar Call

- 1. No wonder Paul said, “I thank my God that I speak in tongues more than you all.”
- 2. Come now to be filled with the Spirit.

— Denny Miller