

Scripture

1 Corinthians 14:1-25, 39-40

Acts 2:1-11, 10:44-48, 19:6

Opening Questions

- Why is it essential—yet challenging—to evaluate our personal spiritual experiences and traditions strictly through the lens of Scripture?
- What does "spiritual maturity" look like when interacting with believers who hold different views on secondary theological issues?

Digging Deeper

- Read **1 Corinthians 14:1-5**. What distinction does Paul make between the *direction* of tongues (who is being spoken to) versus the *purpose* of prophecy?
- Look at **1 Corinthians 14:6-12**. Why does Paul use the examples of musical instruments and distinct languages? What is the main point he is driving home about communication in the church?
- According to **1 Corinthians 14:13-19**, why does Paul say it is better to pray with both the spirit *and* the mind? Why is it so important that people understand what is being said during public worship?
- Review **1 Corinthians 14:20-25**. How do tongues and prophecy impact an unbeliever or outsider differently when they walk into a church gathering?
- "*We don't interpret scripture through our experiences; we interpret our experiences through scripture.*" Based on Paul's corrections, what are the dangers of reversing this order?

Living it Out

- If all spiritual gifts are given for the "common good" (**1 Cor 12:7**), how can you actively shift your focus from personal spiritual fulfillment to serving others this week?
- How does maintaining biblical order and clarity in our worship remove "needless hurdles" for unbelievers who are watching our lives and church?