

TONGUES AS “SELF EDIFICATION”

Edification involves spiritual growth and development of character by helping one another along the road to Christlikeness (**Ro.14:19; 15:2; Ep.4:29; 1Th.5:11**). This comes by teaching or by example. We may edify ourselves by taking in the Word of God, in prayer or worship. The sign gift of tongues is NOT on the level of taking in the Word. We never see reading God's Word, praying, or worship in any sense diminished as we do with tongues (1Co.12-14 in context). Can you abuse reading God's Word, praying, or worship?

1 CORINTHIANS 12 — Instructs Concerning Tongues in General

- 1Co.12:7, “But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all”
- 1Co.12:11, The Spirit gives gifts “as He wills”
- 1Co.12:25, “but that the members should have the same care for one another”

1 CORINTHIANS 13 — Instructs Concerning What Was Missing: Love

- 1Co.13, speaks about love which is a fruit for others. A tree does not bear fruit for itself.

1 CORINTHIANS 14 — Paul Focuses Specifically with Tongues

- v.1-19: The Place of Tongues — It is an inferior gift
- v.20-22: The Purpose of Tongues — Sign to unbelieving Jews
- v.23-40: The Practice of Tongues — Unless it is genuine, STOP!

- 1Co.14:3, “But he who prophesies speaks edification and exhortation and comfort to men.”
- 1Co.14:4, “but he who prophesies edifies the church”
- 1Co.14:5, “that the church may receive edification”
- 1Co.14:6, “what shall I profit you unless ...revelation...knowledge...prophesying...teaching”
- 1Co.14:7, “how will it be known”
- 1Co.14:8, “who will prepare for battle?”
- 1Co.14:9, “how will it be known what is spoken?”
- 1Co.14:16, “since he does not understand what you say?”
- 1Co.14:17, “but the other is not edified”
- 1Co.14:19, “that I may teach others”
- 1Co.14:26, “Let all things be done for edification”
- 1Co.14:31, “that all may learn and all may be encouraged”



We Edify ('build up') One Another