

SECOND BAPTIST CHURCH

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

Dr. Maurice Watson, Senior Pastor

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Let's Grow Together: By Being Wise in How We Use Our Spiritual Gifts

1 Corinthians 14:1-39

The issue of spiritual gifts was one of the frequent topics that Paul discusses in this letter to the Corinthian Church. This church excelled in terms of its giftedness; however, problems arose concerning how they were being used in public worship settings.

Warren Wiersbe indicated that there are three principles: edification, understanding, and order.¹

I. Spiritual Gifts Should Be Used to E _____ the Church

A. Prophecy and Tongues (v 1-5, 26b)

In verse 1, Paul encouraged the Corinthians to “**pursue**” love. The word “**pursue**” means to “hasten,” “run after,” and “aspire to.”

Paul told them to pursue love and “**desire**” spiritual gifts.

Paul expressed his desire that the Corinthians would “**especially**” desire the gift of “**prophecy**” more than they desired the gift of speaking in tongues.

*Prophecy edifies the church, tongues edify only the S_____.*²

The key words in verse 3 are: edification, exhortation, and comfort. “**Edification**” means to “B_____” to “mature.” The word “**exhortation**” means to

“E_____.” And the word “**comfort**” means to “C_____” or “give hope.”

Paul emphatically stated that the gift of speaking in tongues is an inferior gift to the gift of prophecy when used in a public worship setting, except for occasions when someone is present to interpret what is spoken in tongues.

B. Tongues Must Be I_____ (v 6-20)

II. The Effects on Visitors of Intelligible and Unintelligible S_____ (v 20-25)

III. The Importance of Having O_____ in the Use of Spiritual Gifts (v 26-35)

IV. Concluding Admonishment (v 36-39)