

I. HOW SHOULD SPIRITUAL LANGUAGE BE EXERCISED?

A. In personal prayer and praise to God. Don't pray into the air. Pray to God.

1 Cor. 14:2 For he who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God.

B. Interspersed with your own language (1 Cor. 14:15). After praying in the spirit, pick a topic that flows out of the time of prayer in the spirit, and pray with your understanding, then go back into praying in the spirit.

1 Cor 14:15 What is the conclusion then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will also pray with the understanding. I will sing with the spirit, and I will also sing with the understanding.

C. A lot and often (1 Cor. 14:18).

D. In love (1 Cor. 13). With a heart to edify others. In public, you don't need to "rev up." It doesn't bother me if people do, they are earnestly seeking God, and doing what they usually do in their private times with God. But you don't have to. Question: Does it add to God's glory? Does it edify the other person more? If not, don't do it.

E. Decently and in order. Some people fear that they will lose control. You can receive it and exercise it peacefully, fully in control. Emotions are good, but *emotionalism* is not necessary.

1. Move beyond fear. You always maintain control, your spirit prays (1 Cor. 14:15; 32).

2. Do not fear darkness more than the power and desire of our loving Father in heaven (Luke 11:13).

3. Don't let people's use or abuse of something rob you of a beautiful gift from God.

F. Under submission to spiritual leadership and spiritual protocol (1 Cor. 14:32, 27ff, 37).

G. With confident faith. The world will not understand it. The secular worldview excludes the supernatural. God is supernatural. The Bible is supernatural (1 Cor. 1:27; 2:14).

1 Cor. 12:1 Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I do not want you to be ignorant:² You know that you were Gentiles, carried away to these dumb (mute, silent) idols, however you were led.

1 Cor. 2:14 But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

II. HOW DO WE SEEK AND RECEIVE THE GIFT OF SPIRITUAL LANGUAGE?

A. Be open to the Lord. Come to Him on *His* terms. Different people receive in different ways.

1 Cor. 12:11 But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills.

B. God sometimes gives a sovereign outpouring of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2). Suddenly.

- C. See it in the Bible, believe it, and just start doing it. This is a great way to receive anything from the Lord. With a childlike heart of faith.
- Luke 11:13 "If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!"***
- D. By impartation (Acts 19:6), through the anointing of the Holy Spirit and strong presence of God for breakthrough. Within a spiritual culture that expects a visitation from God, in unity of heart with other believers (Acts 2:1). Two or more gathered in Jesus' name in agreement.
- Acts 19:6 And when Paul had laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied.***
- Rom. 1:11 For I long to see you, that I may impart to you some spiritual gift, so that you may be established.***
- 1 Tim. 4:14 Do not neglect the gift ("Charisma" – spiritual gift) that is in you, which was given to you by prophecy with the laying on of the hands of the eldership.***
- E. Actively, pursuing the fullness of Christ. With eager expectation and desire. The believers waited expectantly on the Lord. (Acts 1:4, 14; 1 Cor. 12:31; 1 Cor. 14:1).
- 1 Cor. 14:1 Pursue love, and desire (burn with zeal) spiritual gifts, but especially that you may prophesy.***
1. We are commanded to eagerly desire spiritual gifts. Seek after it with prayer.
 2. *You* have to act and speak. The Holy Spirit doesn't do it for you. He gives you the utterance, but *you* need to speak it (2 Tim. 1:6)
- Acts 2:4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.***
- 1 Cor 14:15 ..I will pray with the spirit, and I will also pray with the understanding. I will sing with the spirit, and I will also sing with the understanding.***
3. With patience and persistence (1 Cor. 12:11). Everyone is given a different measure of faith (Rom. 12:3). Be grateful for and be faithful with what you have.
 4. You need to grow and develop in all the gifts.
- Heb. 5:14 But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.***
- F. Being convinced that God desires for you to be blessed (1 Cor. 14:5, 18). We sometimes don't pray because we're not convinced of God's goodness (1 Cor. 14:5; Luke 11:13)
- Luke 11:13 If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!***
- G. Pursuing the fullness of Christ. Are you willing to be stretched? "I may think I have enough, but am I willing to passionately pursue *God's measure* for my life? "(Eph. 3:19; 4:3).