

## DO YOU HAVE A FEAR OF TONGUES?

Luke 11<sup>9</sup> “So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you.<sup>10</sup> For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened.

<sup>11</sup>“Which of you fathers, if your son asks for a fish, will give him a snake instead?<sup>12</sup> Or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion?<sup>13</sup> If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, **how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!**” NIV

A Baptist preacher once said, “If you are afraid of tongues let me set you at ease. Anything that the Holy Spirit does you don’t have to be afraid of.”

### I. Why are tongues emphasized in scripture?

A. Leadership in the church is required to be full of the Spirit.  
Acts 6<sup>3</sup> Deacons in the church are encouraged to be “full of the Holy Ghost”.

Acts 2 The apostles were filled.

B. Jesus prophesied that believers would speak with tongues.  
Mar 16<sup>17</sup> “These signs shall follow them that believe.....they shall speak with new tongues”.

C. Paul desired believers to speak with tongues.  
Paul commands the church “be not drunk with wine wherein it is excess but be ye filled with the Spirit

**1Co 14<sup>5</sup> I would like every one of you to speak in tongues,...**

To be full of the spirit includes “speaking in tongues”

### II. A FEAR OF THE UNKNOWN

**The bible implies that tongues would be controversial.**

- A. It is indicated by the question Jesus ask in Luke 11 11-12.  
If you ask your father for fish would he give you a snake?  
an egg would he give you a scorpion?
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B. The crowd outside the upper room was amazed.  
Acts 2 12 “...what meaneth this?”

C. New people coming into the church.

1Co 14 <sup>2</sup>For anyone who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God. Indeed, no one understands him; he utters mysteries with his spirit.

1Co 14 <sup>16</sup>If you are praising God with your spirit, how can one who finds himself among those who do not understand say “Amen” to your thanksgiving, since he does not know what you are saying?

1Co 14 <sup>23</sup>So if the whole church comes together and everyone speaks in tongues, and some who do not understand or some unbelievers come in, will they not say that you are out of your mind?

**Man fears what he does not understand.**

### **III. THE FEAR OF LOSING CONTROL OF OUR BODY?**

Does the Spirit take control over me? NO!

“I am afraid if I speak in tongues it will be me and not God”, is often a thought the devil uses to hinder the desire for the baptism in the Spirit.

1. The spirit is subject to the control of the one in whom he dwells.

1Co 14 <sup>32</sup>The spirits of prophets are subject to the control of prophets.

2. The spirit leads, but does not drag or force one.

3. The human will is not violated but is surrendered.

Acts 2 “..and began to speak as the Spirit gave them utterance”.

You will speak under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

**God has subjected his Spirit to my willingness to follow.**

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I am responsible for what I do.

4. We can quench the Spirit.  
1Th 5 19 “Quench not the Spirit”.  
NIV says, “Do not put out the Spirit’s fire”.

Thus we need not fear losing control of our lives because the freedom to quench the spirit is ample proof we are not going to lose control of our free will.