

How To Exercise Vocal Gifts 3019

I. Introduction

- A. 1 Cor. 12:7–11—Each of these gifts is a manifestation of the Holy Spirit within a believer
- B. Eph. 4:8–11—The *ministry* gifts are various ways in which Christ extends His ministry through a believer
- C. The gifts of the Spirit may be divided into three categories—

II. Gifts Of Revelation

- A. *A word of wisdom*: Wisdom is *directive*, tells us how to act (Eccl. 10:10)
- B. *A word of knowledge*: Knowledge is *informative*, tells us the facts
- C. *Discernings of spirits*: ability to recognize different kinds of spirits and to distinguish between them

III. Gifts Of Power

- A. *Faith*: i.e. supernatural faith—“the faith of God” imparted by the Holy Spirit. Distinguish:
 - 1. “Faith to live by”—the normal basis of all Christian living
 - 2. The fruit of faith—an aspect of Christian character
- B. *Gifts of healings*: God’s power restoring health to the sick
- C. *Workings of miracles*: God’s power producing organic or structural changes—restorative and creative

IV. Vocal Gifts

- A. *Kinds of tongues (languages)*. Four aspects of tongues:
 - 1. Culmination of the baptism in the Spirit
 - 2. A language for personal communion with God. Three results:
 - a. We speak to God
 - b. We speak mysteries
 - c. We edify ourselves (1 Cor. 14:1–4; Jude 17–20).
Our *spirit* communicates direct with God (1 Cor. 14:15).
 - 3. A supernatural sign to unbelievers. A believer speaks a language which he does not know, but which is recognized by an unbeliever (1 Cor. 14:21–22, Is. 28:11–12)
 - 4. A public utterance in “the church”—requiring interpretation to make it effective
- B. *Interpretation of tongues*. Transmits to “the church” the meaning of a preceding utterance in an unknown tongue. Promotes independence; captures attention.
- C. *Prophecy*. Speaking out, by inspiration of the Holy Spirit, words that do not proceed from our own reason or understanding, in a language that we understand and that is understood by those to whom we speak.
 - 1. Three *differences* between *tongues* and *prophecy* (1 Cor. 14:2–4):

Tongues	Prophecy
Speaking to God	Speaking to men
Mysteries	Things that are understood

Edifies the speaker

Edifies those spoken to

2. Three *objectives* of prophecy: edification, exhortation, comfort

V. Seeking Spiritual Gifts

- A. 1 Cor. 13:31; 14:1, 39—We are exhorted to seek *all* spiritual gifts, but especially *prophecy*
- B. 1 Cor. 14:5—*All* may speak with tongues. But prophecy is preferable to tongues without interpretation (compare 1 Cor. 14:39)
- C. 1 Cor. 14:12–13—The one who speaks in tongues is urged to pray for interpretation
- D. 1 Cor. 14:24, 31—All may learn to prophesy

VI. Conclusion

Practical instruction on how to receive:

- 1. Interpretation
- 2. Prophecy