

# Tongues

## READING

Acts 2  
Acts 10  
Acts 19  
1 Corinthians 12  
1 Corinthians 13  
1 Corinthians 14

*Even if I speak with the tongues of people, and of the messengers, but I don't have love, then I've become a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal.*

**R**ead through each chapter.  
Ask God to show you what you need to see.  
Discuss anything that seems interesting and see where it takes you.  
As you read each new chapter, look for common themes, and also discuss how it relates to the others.

And finally ask yourself, "So what?"  
Was this just some interesting information? Or is it life changing?  
What are you going to do differently from now on?  
What choices are you going to need to change?  
How is this study going to influence your lifestyle?

Is tongues of fire and tongues of language more than a play on words in Acts 2?  
Did different people hear one person in multiple languages at once, or were multiple people speaking one language each?  
Where did this ability come from? Do you think they ever studied these languages?  
Were they able to use this gift to talk about anything at all? Or was there always a theme to what they spoke?

What deduction did the leaders make when they found out people were speaking in tongues? What did it indicate to them?

How many kinds of tongues are there?  
Does anyone have them all?  
Does everyone have one?  
Why do we need an interpreter, can't everyone just hear it in their tongue?  
Why does the person speaking even need an interpreter?

How would you feel if you suddenly started saying stuff you couldn't understand yourself?  
How would you feel if you realised that some of the people around you could understand it even though you can't?  
How would you feel if you found out you were praising God in a powerful way?

Is tongues better than prophecy?  
Is it better than love?  
If I offered you the choice of a new house or a new car which would you take?  
Is it OK to want to be able to speak in tongues?

Will they ever cease?  
When do you think that will be? Or has it already happened?  
When do you think prophecy will cease?

What are you doing when you speak in tongues? What's really happening? What's the purpose?  
So should we do it?  
Who benefits? Who is it for?  
Is there anything different about speaking in tongues when you're alone, or when you're in a church meeting?  
Who controls whether you speak in tongues or not? Can you choose not to?  
What about the hearers? Can they resist?

What is the difference between hearing a message in your mother tongue compared with hearing it in a second language? How is that like watching a foreign movie with subtitles?

Are there any downsides to us speaking in tongues?  
What can we do about that?

So what?

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