

# **“Untangling Tongues”**

## ***Part 2***

### **SLIDE 1**

God wants us to enjoy Him.

God wants us to have a full and abundant life.

God wants us to receive all that He has for us.

I hope you came today to enjoy. Enjoy the presence of God, the people of God and the Father's love.

I am not diminishing the fact that there are many Jesus loving and God fearing good people that have many hardships and struggles. Life can beat you up sometimes but, I also believe many Christians do not realize the importance of the Holy Spirit and His role in their lives.

Look, for us guys we get the hunt. We like to hunt. Women, they like to graze. When I go shopping, I like to get in and get out and hopefully no one gets hurt. I am on the hunt to get what I need and get out.

Now my wife and girls more Alycia than Rebecca, they like to graze. A little here a little there. Let's try this on but I know I am not going to buy it but let's just see what it looks like when I try it on.

**That's why we like to hold the remote. It's like a gun. Let's hunt for what is on.**

It's like when a man is trying to woo his potential bride. We will do all the romantic things that are needed to capture what we are in the hunt for. We will camouflage ourselves with sensitivity and unselfishness. And after we say I do at the wedding we are done. But to the bride we've only just begun.

The same can happen to believers with the Holy Spirit. In so many charismatic circles, once someone receives the baptism of the Holy Spirit and they receive their prayer language and they are able to speak in tongues, they decide that's all they need and they will think they have made it and now don't have to seek anything more from God but in reality God is saying "We've only just begun".

If you read though the book of Acts you will see that over and over again, when they asked if someone received Christ and were saved they would then ask them if they were baptized in the holy Spirit and if they were speaking in tongues.

**We just don't ask that in today's church do we?**

Many people and many denominations would consider that insulting.

We don't want to compromise what the Word of God says here just because it may be offensive. Believe me the word of God is offensive.

**If it is in this Book, I want it.**

So, today we are going to talk about:  
It's one thing to water it's quite another to jump in the water.

One the water is in you... the other is you are in the water.

It is one thing to be filled with the Holy Spirit, it's quite another to be led by the Holy Spirit.

In Acts 19:1-6

## **SLIDE 2**

1 And it happened, while Apollos was at Corinth, that Paul, having passed through the upper regions, came to Ephesus. And finding some disciples 2 he said to them, **"Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?"**

So they said to him, “We have not so much as heard whether there is a Holy Spirit.”

3 And he said to them, “Into what then were you baptized?”

### **SLIDE 3**

So they said, “Into John’s baptism.”

4 Then Paul said, “John indeed baptized with a baptism of repentance, saying to the people that they should believe on Him who would come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus.”

5 When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. 6 And when Paul had laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied.

**“Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?”**

### **SLIDE 4**

We just don’t ask that question do we?

When was the last time you said to someone that you believe in Jesus and when you believed, you then were baptized in the Holy Spirit and now you speak in tongues?

It just doesn’t come up does it?

But Paul brought it up. He thought it important enough to bring it up.

What was the result of being baptized in the Holy Spirit?

**They spoke in tongues and prophesied.**

We don’t get to pick out of the Bible what we decide is ok for us and what is not ok.

If it is in this book, I want it. If it is not in this book I don't want it. Simple. This was very important to Paul. So important it was his first question to the followers of Jesus.

So my question is the same as Paul's. Have you receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit? How would you and I know if you did? Well, are you speaking in tongues are you prophesying?

So what are the benefits of speaking in tongues? Why do we want or even need this?

Let's go back again to the New Testament day of Pentecost. Of all the gifts or things that God could of done when the Spirit came down, He gave tongues.

**Look, if God told me to climb one of these beautiful trees** that we have in this area, If God told me if I climb a tree that I would have power in my life to overcome the enemy, the destruction of this world, or power to pray for others, discernment and all the benefits that the Holy Spirit can give me if I climb a tree? You would find me up in that tree everyday. People would come to the church and ask Brenda in the office if I was in and she would tell you that Pastor was up in that tree again.

**If God told me every morning I was to look in the mirror and slap myself in the face and in doing that I would be super healthy? Just call me "Pastor Slappy".**

The gift of praying in tongues is also, that you don't know all you are praying for.

Let me tell you, you do not want to know everything you are praying for. Sometimes it is best not to know the future. If you knew as you were praying, that something bad was going to happen to your child if they went to school? Your child would never end up going to school. You would keep the home and they would never get the education that they need. If you were told you would be hurt in a car you would never get in a car.

There are things in this life that God will take care of but He does not want us to spend our days just worrying about every little thing. But He does want us to pray.

If you are offended by something that someone has done or you have been hurt by someone, pray for them in tongues.

I don't know about you, but it is hard to pray for someone you are upset with. And when you are mad at them your prayers might not be in their best interest. Maybe you might pray, "Lord let them spill coffee on their new outfit or make their car break down"

**When you pray in the spirit you cannot pray selfishly. You cannot pray selfish prayers in tongues.**

## **SLIDE 5**

But when you pray in tongues, you can only pray the perfect will of God.

And anything you ask in accordance to God's will, will be done.

One of the biggest problems we have today in the charismatic Pentecostal church today is that many see the Baptism of the Holy Spirit as a sign in the Bible and that's all. That's it. And they never exercise or access this gift.

**Now, many will exercise this gift ONLY when they come to church.**

This was one of the problems that Paul was having with the church in Corinth.

Now, this was the "Gift" of tongues and the Bible is clear that if there is no interpretation that we should keep quiet. That is the "Gift" of tongues.

All of us, who are believers, have the signs that Jesus said in Mark. One of these signs is that we would speak with new tongues.

## SLIDE 6

Mark 16:17

17 And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues.

**This is for “believers”.**

This is your holy language to God. This goes from you to God.

Now in Corinthians, the “Gift” of tongues is from God to the church. This is why we must have an interpretation.

So Paul was telling the church of Corinth, the largest of all the churches Paul established.

The church of Corinth was incredibly blessed and was very charismatic. They were exercising their gifts not for building up their faith but themselves. They were boasting about themselves and trying to elevate their position in the church.

**Paul did not say to stop and never pray in tongues again.** Paul says in

## SLIDE 7

1 Corinthians 14:18

18 I thank my God I speak with tongues more than you all.

**Some think that they have to feel or sense the Holy Spirit. It is better to be full of the Spirit than to just have a sense.**

We need to MOVE in the gifts and power of the Holy Spirit.

Ok, Let’s review a little of last week. We talked about Mt. Sinai God gave Moses the ten commandments fifty days after the first fruits feast and that was the feast of Pentecost.

This was the first day of Pentecost and the result of them worshipping the golden calf was that 3,000 men were slain by the sword by the judgment of God.

The second Pentecost was in Acts chapter 2 and once again, it was 50 days after the festival of first fruits and the Holy Spirit was given and 3,000 men were saved.

The old covenant says unless you keep all of God's laws, rituals and traditions, God will not bless you. But if you do, I will give you land, crops and rain. He says to the Jews you will be the head and not the tail. Your enemies will not be triumphant.

The old covenant was dependant only on what you are doing.

So when God gave the 10 commandments, God says the focus is on what you do and don't do. The focus is not on God.

God does not say "I will"

He says,

"You shall not lie"

"You shall not steal"

"You shall not have any other god's"

"You shall not covet"

"You shall not commit adultery"

But in the new covenant, 3,000 saved. The Spirit Gives life.

## **SLIDE 8**

Acts 2:1-4

1 When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. 2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. 3 Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. 4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

## **The Holy Spirit is a gentleman, He will not force.**

That is why sometimes when you seek the baptism of the Holy Spirit, you want Him to do it for you. But He won't. This is something you do. He will encourage but He will not force Himself on you.

He is not going to open your mouth and pull out your tongue and make it work for you.

## **SLIDE 9**

### **Acts 2:7-11**

**<sup>7</sup> Then they were all amazed and marveled, saying to one another, "Look, are not all these who speak Galileans? <sup>8</sup> And how *is it that* we hear, each in our own language in which we were born?"**

*<sup>9</sup> Parthians and Medes and Elamites, those dwelling in Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, <sup>10</sup> Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya adjoining Cyrene, visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, <sup>11</sup> Cretans and Arabs—*

**we hear them speaking in our own tongues the wonderful works of God."**

Galileans were not highly educated. They were mostly fisherman and farmers. So when they were asking, "Are they not Galileans?" it was like they would be asking, "How come these men are speaking with such intelligence?"

I love this part and we talked about this last week a bit.

**"And how *is it that* we hear, each in our own language in which we were born?"**

In verses 9 through 11 it tells us all these different languages that they were hearing. Not that the disciples were speaking.



They were each hearing in their own language. And what were they hearing?

## **SLIDE 10**

**Verse 11 “The wonderful works of God”.**

Who’s works were they hearing about? Your works? Man’s works? No. They were hearing “The wonderful works of God”

The first Pentecost when God gave the 10 commandments God talks about the works of men. You shall not do this you shall not do that. You should honor your mother and father.

You see here that our works produce nothing. The 10 commandments reveal and amplify that apart from Christ, we can do nothing.

**So, first Pentecost works of man.**

**Second Pentecost, the wonderful works of God.**

The wonderful works of God are that He died for our sins, He redeemed us. Now all the blessings of God are ours to receive. Not because of our obedience but because of Jesus’ obedience.

These are just some of the wonderful works of God. Refreshment, comfort, wisdom, counselor, helper, discernment,. These are the wonderful works of God that we receive by the power of the Holy Spirit.

He is our counselor you need for you job, family, life decisions, your marriage, friendships. So how do you draw from this well of living water?

**This gift is the gift that gives all these gifts.**

This one gift brings or draws out of you the power God has given you through His Holy Spirit.

Rest, refreshing, power against the enemy, intercession, protection, all with this one powerful gift.

Do you really think God would give you an inferior gift? a gift that would do just a little bit?

This one gift brings you the other 9 gifts.

Tongues cannot exist under the law.

Tongues are only for those under the grace of God not the law of God.

There are those that would say. "I will never speak what I don't understand".

That is why tongues can be so humbling. You need to let God do something that you do not understand.

**Let Him pray. You don't get to know. Sorry. Just like Isabel says "That's God's business".**

Some are just too smart for their own good. Your mind is the biggest problem in your life. It just doesn't add up. God doesn't add up  $1+1=2$ . Sometimes God can make it  $1+1=3$  or 4 or whatever he want. Let me tell you, God will not fall into some formula that you have decided He should fall into. There is no category no boundaries or borders. His ways are not our ways. Who can know the mind of God?

Just as Jesus said to a group of professional fisherman, "Cast your net on the other side of the boat"

They must of said to themselves, "Look, we know what we are doing and it makes no difference what side of the boat we cast our nets on. The fish just are not there." "How would this carpenter know how to fish?"

**My mind says, "I know better."**

How about the walls of Jericho?

Walk around the walls of the city over and over again. Don't you think their enemy made fun of them?

Don't you think that those that were obedient to what God was telling them felt stupid? Walk around and don't make any noise. This is dumb.

They must have been embarrassed. Until that last day when they rose with a shout of triumph!!!

No one had to shoot an arrow or take some kind of huge hammers to the walls. They just shouted and played the trumpets and the walls came down.

The Bible tells us that tongues bring refreshing that the Holy Spirit is the refresher. It says that it causes the "weary" to rest.

The first time we see this word for "weary" or "stressed" is in the story of **Jacob and Esau**. (Gen 25:29)

Esau, Jacobs twin, comes back in from hunting and it says he was tired and "stressed" and Jacob was making some stew.

Esau says to Jacob, "hey, I'm weary, I am stressed, give me some of that stew."

So, Jacob says ok, if you give me your birthright. Your part of the inheritance.

**From the first mention of the word "weary" or "stressed" we find that people who are weary and stressed, do stupid things. They give up their inheritance for one bowl of stew.**

What have you given up because of weariness or stress? What have you forfeited in your life because of just being tired and weary and stressed?

When you are tired and weary and running on empty on the inside, that is the time when people are vulnerable to sin, affairs, stupid decisions.

**But there is a way to be re-charged, refilled when you are on empty. That is praying in tongues.**

**SLIDE 11**

Isaiah 28:11-12 says:

11 For with stammering lips and another tongue  
He will speak to this people,  
12 To whom He said, "This is the rest with which  
You may cause the weary to rest,"  
And, "This is the refreshing";

**And yet God says in the end of verse 12, "Yet they will not hear."**

That is true. Many do not hear this.

So, they will try to come up with own solutions, the world's way of self-help.

Meditations, deep breathing exercises, punch a bag or a wall to get out your aggressions.

**But all those things are still just the works of man.**

But God from heaven has sent us a gift. **And it is not COD!**

It has already been paid for by the blood of Jesus Christ.

And in this gift, if you will receive it, and use this gift, you will find yourself refreshed.

Not at first. When you use this gift it might feel like work. But keep going and you will suddenly find God doing miracles in your life. Peace in your life. None of it dependent on your works, on what you do but all from the gift of God.

Now, understand, when some of you begin to pray in tongues, some of you will feel strange, others will feel rest, others peace, but for many, all hell will break loose!

The devil will kick it up because you kicked it up!

Don't be discouraged or frightened by this. The devil knows that you are close to your freedom.

**It's like you have been in a dark, prison cell** in solitary confinement. Suddenly, you are let out. What you were used to was a small, dark, confined space. Suddenly, you are let out and the sun is so bright it disorientates you and it hurts your eyes. You almost back right back into your cell because it was more comfortable there. You go back to this bondage; this prison and you back away from your freedom.

**The moment you are about to breakthrough** the devil will do anything to keep you still. He will tell you that you were just fine the way you were. That it was comfortable, that your way of doing things worked just fine for you and that was all you needed. If you believe that you will find yourself stagnate. Not flowing, not moving, not growing and you will never enter to the flow God has for you in His plan for your life!

The devil is afraid that you just might take these steps that lead you to God's fullness of life.

**What is the answer?**

Wield the sword of the spirit!

Remember the sword of the spirit is not the Bible; it is the spirit of God, the voice of God! This is the only offensive weapon in your full armor of God.

Let's look at Isaiah 59:16-21

## **SLIDE 12**

This is where Paul is getting this imagery of the armor of God.

Isaiah 59:16-21 (NKJV)

16 He saw that there was no man, And wondered that there was no intercessor; Therefore His own arm brought salvation for Him; And His own righteousness, it sustained Him. 17 For He put on righteousness as a breastplate, And a helmet of salvation on His head; He put on the garments of vengeance for clothing, And was clad with zeal as a cloak.

18 According to their deeds, accordingly He will repay, Fury to His adversaries, Recompense to His enemies; The coastlands He will fully repay. 19 So shall they fear The name of the Lord from the west, And His glory from the rising of the sun; When the enemy comes in like a flood, The Spirit of the Lord will lift up a standard against him. 20 “The Redeemer will come to Zion, And to those who turn from transgression in Jacob,” Says the Lord.

What is the Spirit? Verse 21,

### **SLIDE 13**

21 “As for Me,” says the Lord, “this is My covenant with them: My Spirit who is upon you, and My words which I have put in your mouth, shall not depart from your mouth, nor from the mouth of your descendants, nor from the mouth of your descendants’ descendants,” says the Lord, “from this time and forevermore.”

#### **This is God’s promise –**

So, Paul in Ephesians 6 verse 10 begins to give us this picture of the armor of God. He then tells us our offensive weapon against the enemy, and what do we do with it?

### **SLIDE 14**

Look at Ephesians 6:18-29

18 praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints— 19 and for me, that utterance may be given to me, that I may open my mouth boldly to make known the mystery of the gospel.

Ok, let’s talk a bit about what this sounds like. Yelling in tongues does not make it more powerful...all you are doing is yelling.

**But, praying is powerful. John Wesley said, “God does nothing but by prayer, and everything with it.”**

More than likely, you are here today because someone prayed for you.

It could have been someone who didn't even know that they were praying for you because they were praying in the spirit.

**\*BRING WORSHIP TEAM BACK\***

## **SLIDE 15**

John 7:37-39

37 On the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. 38 He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water." 39 But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

**How do you come to Him and drink?**

**Remember** in Matthew 11:28-30 (NKJV)

28 Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. 29 Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. 30 For My yoke is easy and My burden is light."

**So, how do we come to Him?**

Let's go back to John 7:38-39

38 He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water." 39 But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

**The Holy Spirit was given to you because Christ was glorified.**

**Many people love it when there is a free offer.** You know if you come in today you will receive a free gift. If you purchase this today, you will receive this free gift just for coming in.

Someone was telling me that when the casino gives away free gifts that there are lines that go all around the building and people wait for hours to receive their free gift and if they don't get their free gift they get real angry and they will talk (or yell) at someone in charge till they get their free gift.

Many Christians receive salvation and forgiveness from God and they are satisfied with that. But God tells us there is this free gift of the Holy Spirit. Yet people just go through their lives missing out on the promised Gift of God.

I don't want to miss out on anything God has for me and I hope you don't want to miss out on anything God has for you. I know when there is a good deal around here that Angel or Dawn will let you know. They will tell you that you can get a free Starbucks or a sale is at a store. Why? Because they don't want you to miss out of the benefit that they have discovered. They want you to share in this!

**I'm telling you today. Don't miss out on this great gift that God has for you today!**

We are going to sing in the spirit. Just let your voice begin to praise God. Then, let your heart pray. Let your Spirit speak. Go ahead.

**Close in Prayer and Song.**