

Introduction: God, in His infinite Wisdom, gave believers access to a gift after the day of Pentecost and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, that would serve as a power to embolden us, encourage us, empower us, and uplift us. I want to focus on that part of the gift that was given to uplift us. Let's unpack just one aspect of this gift in Scripture.

Many denominations have dismissed this function of the gift by saying it is dead, non-existent, and some have even called it demonic. And although this function of the gift is more for personal and individual use, it can set a believer on a journey of faith, intimacy and uplift that literally becomes Built in to your life. One of the beauties of it, in my opinion, is that with prayer, focus and faith, you can tap into it at just the right times you need it!

Text: Acts 2:1-4 (NLT)

Outline:

I. The Gift's Source:

A. The Holy Spirit – was poured out on the believers 49 days after Jesus Resurrection and 9 days after His ascension into Heaven. Jesus said that the Gift of the Holy Spirit would give them boldness to be His witnesses everywhere!

B. It was defined as an Ability given by the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit gives the ability, but we do the speaking. When someone is filled with the Holy Spirit, the evidence that God has filled them to overflow, is when their speech is even charged by God using their tongue to speak. With everything that God does, He does not make you, you have to be a willing instrument. Finding this balance is not easy, but it is a Gift God gives us and it is free! - No more faith is needed to receive this gift than what you applied to be Saved and gave your life to Jesus.

1 Corinthians 14:1-3

II. The Purpose:

A. Tongues is a Gift that is Shared Personally with God.
(Illustration video) – When you pray in Tongues: You are,
Speaking to God

- By the Power of the Holy Spirit &
- You are speaking mysteries.

1 Corinthians 14:4

B. To be Personally Strengthened, Edified – Built up!

1 Corinthians 14:14

C. To Pray in the Spirit.

1 Corinthians 14:15

D. To Sing in the Spirit. These are enhancements to our personal worship to God. These are not for show or public display, but for personal enjoyment between you and God.

E. Help us Pray. Romans 8:26

Jude 1:20

III. The Uplift! I don't know about you, but that sounds like God is saying to us, when you pray in the Spirit...

A. Praying in the Spirit is praying in Tongues. You have the ability to be uplifted. So why sit around Downtrodden? Defeated? Or Discouraged? Pray in the Spirit!

- **B.** Doing so Builds you up and Strengthens your Faith!
- C. What Happens when you pray in tongues? **Romans 8:27** (CSB)

My challenge to you today: Seek God for the Infilling of the Holy Spirit. Read about it in the Word of God. Study it. <u>Can you deny it</u>? Don't take my word for it. This message is just a summary to get you started. Find it, read it, Listen and receive! God will give you this gift too if you only ask Him!

For those who have received; life's turns can cause us to drift away from our focus. Let the Holy Spirit empower your prayer time again! Pray with words you understand and pray in tongues - pray in the Spirit! It is just Bible! It is just the Gift of Uplift!