

## 5 Little Words

<b>Scripture:</b>	
<b>Announcements:</b>	
<b>Scripture Reading:</b>	
<b>RECAP:</b>	<p>Last week we spent a lot of time talking about the pattern of life that God calls us as believers in Christ to.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— We looked at the fact that if we are going to use our gifts well we are going to have to love and live a life pattern controlled by the Spirit of God.</li> <li>— — We spent a lot of time talking about 2 gifts: prophecy and tongues that Paul used to make the point that spiritual gifts that God gives us can be perverted to be about us instead of God.</li> <li>— — — Paul focused on these gifts but any of the spiritual gifts can easily become about us and not about God and the church.</li> </ul>
<b>INTRODUCTION:</b>	<p>Today we are going to hear a lot about tongues but we are also going to be about other things as well.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— We are going to look at how we speak.</li> <li>— We are going to think about if we are thinking about non-believers in our church and in our walks.</li> <li>— Once again we will see the point of spiritual gifts.</li> <li>— We will look at spirituality and intellect.</li> </ul>
<b>Passage Begins</b>	

Scripture:	
<p><b>1 Corinthians 14:6–19 (NAS):</b> 6 But now, brethren, if I come to you speaking in tongues, what will I profit you unless I speak to you either by way of revelation or of knowledge or of prophecy or of teaching?</p> <p>7 Yet even lifeless things, either flute or harp, in producing a sound, if they do not produce a distinction in the tones, how will it be known what is played on the flute or on the harp?</p> <p>8 For if the bugle produces an indistinct sound, who will prepare himself for battle?</p> <p>9 So also you, unless you utter by the tongue speech that is clear, how will it be known what is spoken? For you will be speaking into the air.</p>	<p>Paul now breaks down why it is important for gifts to be used in a right manner.</p> <p>— He give us a long discussion about speaking tongues and using that gift right.</p> <p>— — But how do we apply this text if we don't have the gift of tongues or if we as a church don't have a problem currently with speaking in tongues?</p> <p>— — — Well, I think there is a lot to be said about our language and the way that we speak.</p> <p>— — — — When we hear Paul talking about speaking in a way that is not profitable unless it is something that is explained should hit home for us.</p> <p>— — — — — Often time we as Christians speak in ways that can not be understood by other believers or non-believers.</p>
	<p>Christians we can be so unproductive by the things that we say.</p> <p>— We should be people who are building up, encouraging, and speaking good treasures.</p> <p>— — <b><i>READ: Ephesians 4:29 (NAS):</i></b> 29 Let no unwholesome word proceed from your mouth, but only such a word as is good for edification according to the need of the moment, so that it will give grace to those who hear.</p> <p>— — <b><i>READ: 1 Thessalonians 5:11 (NAS):</i></b> 11 Therefore encourage one another and build up one another, just as you also are doing.</p> <p>— — <b><i>READ: Hebrews 3:13 (NAS):</i></b> 13 But encourage one another day after day, as long as it is still called "Today," so that none of you will be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.</p> <p>— — <b><i>READ: Luke 6:45 (NAS):</i></b> 45 "The good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth what is good; and the evil man out of the evil treasure brings forth what is evil; for his mouth speaks from that which fills his heart.</p>

**Scripture:**

We need to be able to speak to one another in ways that are loving but we also need to speak to the world in ways that it can understand.

- If we try and share with the world but we use “Christian-ies” then they will have no clue what we are saying.
- — Most people in our world have no clue about Christ and Christian things.
- — — We have to stop pretending like they do, and explain the things that we mean.
- — — — We can not expect the world and non-believers to understand what we are talking about.

Paul give us a perfect example of what tongues without an interpreter is like.

- But he also, helps us understand what it is like when we talk to a non-believer without breaking down what we are talking about.
- — He says if we play a flute or harp in just some random fashion producing sound but the hear is not able to tell what the song is, it just sound without meaning.
- — — I love this analogy because when someone is playing music, they can be super passionate about it, and the music might even sound really good, but if the hearer doesn’t know the song they do not know the meaning.
- — — — The music will not be appreciated like it should be.
- — — — — To me this applies to speaking to non-believers. We can speak passionately and elegantly but if we are not tell them the song (the gospel), what it means, how it could change them, and if we are not living it as well then the passionate speaking is like these flutes or harps being played.

**Scripture:**

This next section I think fits best with the believers speaking to other believers.

- If we are sounding off like a bugle for battle but no one know the battle call then we are not going to go to battle.
- — If we are speaking to our fellow Christians in ways that they can not understand then they are missing the call to arms.
- — — If our words are not clear, if the trumpet sound is not clear, then it has failed its purpose.
- — — — **READ: Proverbs 12:18 (NAS):** 18 There is one who speaks rashly like the thrusts of a sword, But the tongue of the wise brings healing.
- — — — — **READ: Matthew 12:36–37 (NAS):** 36 “But I tell you that every careless word that people speak, they shall give an accounting for it in the day of judgment. 37 “For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned.”
- — — — — — Paul follows up this section by saying if we are not clear in what we are saying and meaning then we are just speaking to the air. The air does not need salvation, encouragement, building up, and good treasures.

Scripture:	
<p><b>10 There are, perhaps, a great many kinds of languages in the world, and no kind is without meaning.</b></p> <p><b>11 If then I do not know the meaning of the language, I will be to the one who speaks a barbarian, and the one who speaks will be a barbarian to me.</b></p> <p><b>12 So also you, since you are zealous of spiritual gifts, seek to abound for the edification of the church.</b></p>	<p>Paul then speak about the variety of languages out there and that they are useful.</p> <p>— Thomas Schriener wrote this, “But if a person does not understand the language antlers is using, conversation and understanding will be impossible between the two people; they will be foreigners to one another.”</p> <p>— — We see the passage once again point to the gift of tongues but really all gifts.</p> <p>— — — The gifts purposes is for the edification of the church; the building up of the church.</p> <p>— — — — <b>READ: 1 Corinthians 13:4–5 (NAS):</b> 4 Love is patient, love is kind and is not jealous; love does not brag and is not arrogant, 5 does not act unbecomingly; <b>it does not seek its own</b>, is not provoked, does not take into account a wrong suffered,</p> <p>— — — — — Schriener wrote, “The church will flourish and prosper when gifts are sought for the sake of others.”</p> <p>— — — — — Leon Morris said this about the gifts, “If they do not edify they do not matter.”</p>
<p><b>13 Therefore let one who speaks in a tongue pray that he may interpret.</b></p> <p><b>14 For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my mind is unfruitful.</b></p> <p><b>15 What is the outcome then? I will pray with the spirit and I will pray with the mind also; I will sing with the spirit and I will sing with the mind also.</b></p>	<p>Edification comes through understanding.</p> <p>— If the church can’t understand it can not be edified.</p> <p>— — This verse is not saying that tongues can only be used in prayer but that while someone prays in tongues they should also pray for understanding of the tongue.</p> <p>— — — What Paul is saying is that Christians have a tendency to swing either too far “spiritual” or to far “intellectual.”</p> <p>— — — — Paul is saying that we can not live like that as believers.</p> <p>— — — — — We have to find a middle ground when it comes to our intellectual understand and our spiritualness.</p>

Scripture:	
<p><b>16 Otherwise if you bless in the spirit only, how will the one who fills the place of the ungifted say the “Amen” at your giving of thanks, since he does not know what you are saying?</b></p> <p><b>17 For you are giving thanks well enough, but the other person is not edified.</b></p> <p><b>18 I thank God, I speak in tongues more than you all;</b></p> <p><b>19 however, in the church I desire to speak five words with my mind so that I may instruct others also, rather than ten thousand words in a tongue.</b></p>	<p>This is why I really enjoy Paul’s writings, because he put evangelism frequently in his writing.</p> <p>—Paul is saying here if we are doing things that are un-understandable to those non-believers that come in our door then how can they come to be in agreement with what is being said?</p> <p>— —Not only is Paul concerned about those believers in the church not be able to understand what is being said but he is concerned about those outside the church who are searching for Christ not understanding what is going on.</p> <p>— — —A bad church experience can distance even Christians from the church but it can turn off non-believers even faster.</p> <p>— — — —What are we doing as a church to help potential non-believers who come into our church?</p>
	<p>Lastly, Paul then lets us know that he speaks in tongues...a lot.</p> <p>—But Paul would also rather speak 5 words that are important, intelligible, impacting, encouraging, and loving that 10,000 in tongues that can not be understood.</p> <p>— —Paul give us the reason for speaking which is as Schriener wrote, “The purpose of speaking is to instruct others, not to display one’s spiritual gift.”</p> <p>— — —What about you? Do you speak 5 utterly important to the point words or 10,000 un-understandable words?</p>

**Scripture:**

What does this mean for us today?

- We as a church need to not only pay attention to the way we do things but to the things we say.
- We as Christians need to not only pay attention to the way we do things but to the things we say.
- Spiritual maturity is seeing past ourselves and being concerned with other and seeking to edify them not edification from them.
- We have got to use our brains. We have to understand and not just make everything hyper spiritual with ambiguous meanings.
- We have also got to uses our spiritual side. God will do things in us that are hard to explain and we can't just see everything intellectually.

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