

**(SLIDE 1) Uncommon Myths about Speaking in Tongues**

Last week was pretty stinking awesome! Hope you enjoyed Pastor Jason Branson as he shared about getting your voice back.

(SLIDE 2) Speaking in Tongues can be kind of weird, maybe even a little freaky. Can't it? But is it Uncommon?

I want to spend some time tonight debunking some Myths of the Holy Spirit and Speaking in Tongues.

But before we get to the Myths, Let's get to the Message by going to a part of the scripture where speaking in Tongues becomes an important part of the church and church culture...

(SLIDE 3) It all started on the Day the Bible refers to as the ***Day of Pentecost***.

Interestingly enough, the day of Pentecost happens 52 days after Jesus is resurrected on Easter and here is what the Bible says about this day...

(SLIDES 4-8) Acts 2: 1-12

“On the day Pentecost was being fulfilled,<sup>[a]</sup> all the disciples were gathered in one place. <sup>2</sup>Suddenly they heard the sound of a violent blast of wind<sup>[b]</sup> rushing into the house<sup>[c]</sup> from out of the heavenly realm. The roar of the wind was so overpowering it was all anyone could bear! <sup>3</sup>*Then all at once a*

*pillar of fire appeared before their eyes.*<sup>[d]</sup> It separated into tongues of fire that engulfed<sup>[e]</sup> each one of them. <sup>4</sup>They were all filled and equipped<sup>[f]</sup> with the Holy Spirit and were inspired<sup>[g]</sup> to speak in tongues—empowered by the Spirit to speak in languages they had never learned!”

Pretty awesome right, but the story goes on and it says,

<sup>5</sup> Now, at that time there were Jewish worshippers<sup>[h]</sup> who had emigrated from many different lands to live in Jerusalem.

<sup>6</sup> When the people<sup>[i]</sup> of the city heard the roaring sound, crowds came running to where it was coming from, stunned over what was happening, because each one could hear the disciples speaking in his or her own language. <sup>7</sup> Bewildered,

they said to one another, “Aren't these all Galileans?”<sup>[j]</sup> <sup>8</sup> So how is it that we hear them speaking in our own languages?

<sup>9</sup> We are northeastern Iranians,<sup>[k]</sup> northwestern Iranians,<sup>[l]</sup> ... (Bible mentions all the nations represented in the court).....

<sup>11</sup> Yet we hear them speaking of God's mighty wonders in our own dialects!”<sup>[s]</sup> <sup>12</sup> They all stood there, dumbfounded and astonished, saying to one another, “What is this phenomenon?”

(SLIDE 9) This moment shifts church culture.

All of a sudden what John the Baptist says way back before Jesus even begins his earthly ministry in John 3:11 where he says,

(SLIDE 10) “<sup>11</sup> “I baptize you with<sup>[b]</sup> water for repentance. But after me comes one who is more powerful than I, whose

sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with<sup>[c]</sup> the Holy Spirit and fire.”

It’s a moment where not only is scripture and prophesy fulfilled, but a moment that takes the church and brings a whole new element to every believer, “The Power of the Holy Spirit.”

(SLIDE 11) We are taught many things about the Holy Spirit. Common teachings are that the Holy Spirit is a Comfort and a Guide, and those are completely true. But I believe we miss a huge component of the Holy Spirit and that is that there is POWER in the Holy Spirit.

The Power for what though? To speak in a crazy language. To go in a Trance. To Handle Snakes? There is a lot of Myths about the Holy Spirit and a Lot of Myths out there about speaking in tongues and tonight I want to address some of these head on and then give you some time to ask questions if you have some.

(SLIDE 12) 4 common Myths about the Holy Spirit and you may have walked in here believing but my hope and prayer tonight is you walk out with a fresh understanding of this Power and you decide where you stand on it!

**(SLIDE 13) Myth #1-THE HS was only applicable for Biblical Times.**

Many Churches teach that the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, especially speaking in tongues, was for Biblical times only.

(SLIDE 14) They refer to a passage in 1 Corinthians 14:18 where Paul says, “<sup>18</sup>I thank God that I speak in tongues more than all of you. <sup>19</sup>But in the church, I would rather speak five intelligible words to instruct others than ten thousand words in a tongue.”

Paul did speak about the Baptism of the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues to clear up an issue and I believe that some have taken this to mean it’s not something we need, although Paul clearly puts an emphasis on it in his own life.

He goes on to clear things up even further as he states that Tongues are signs for Unbelievers to get their attention, and Tongues for the Believer is a Prophecy and Prayer Language that shouldn’t be used to confuse each other, but to speak truths to each other.

As a participant in the Upper Room Experience that is why Paul had authority to speak on this insight because you need to understand, anything can be taken out of context and can be misused or manipulated, and Paul knew this and had the authority to speak to it as a mouthpiece of Jesus Christ.

Through one crazy awesome moment in the streets outside of the upper room in Act’s thousands of people came to realize that they wanted to plug into that same power.

That same power is still relevant in bringing people to Christ today, but the Speaking in Tongues is only one area of the power!

**(SLIDE 15) Myth #2-Speaking in Tongues is the pinnacle of the Holy Spirit Experience.**

We must understand that Speaking in Tongues is a part of an amazing power, but ultimately that Power Enters you when you as Jesus to Come into your heart and take residence.

This power is relevant to the believer today as much as it was in Christ's message as he looked at his disciples before he was ascended to heaven.

(SLIDES 16-17) Read what he says in Mark 16:15-18

<sup>5</sup> He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation. <sup>16</sup> Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.

<sup>17</sup> And these signs will accompany those who believe: In my name they will drive out demons; they will speak in new tongues; <sup>18</sup> they will pick up snakes with their hands; and when they drink deadly poison, it will not hurt them at all; they will place their hands on sick people, and they will get well."

That's Jesus words, not mine...

If I could put it in my words I would say, it's the realest thing in my life that I have ever experienced.

The truth is the Power of The Holy Spirit is just a relevant today as it was then.

There is power in laying hands on the sick and they are being healed that comes through that power.

There is power in praying for a family that is facing divorce and it being reconciled and healed that can come through that power.

An addict being freed from addiction that comes through that power.

It's a supernatural, reality defying truth because God is a Supernatural, reality defying God. He doesn't work in or without our reality if he doesn't want to. He is God.

**(SLIDE 18) Myth #3-If I am not speaking in tongues that means I am not as spirit filled as other people.**

This myth is a lie created by the father of lies to get you to get you so frustrated that you will stop even trying and give up on something you already have possession of.

Not just that, but comparison is a trick of the enemy to get your focus off Jesus and on you and what you don't have.

The truth is the Spirit enters you when you accept him as your Lord and Savior. It's your source of strength and power to overcome the lies and strongholds of the enemy.

In a world that the enemy wants you to fall flat on your face and fail in, doesn't it seem plausible that he would plant this lie in you that if you're not speaking in tongues that must mean you aren't good enough?

Here is the truth-You were so valuable to the Lord that he sent his Son to die on the cross for your sins and raise from the grave so you could have life and have it to the fullest.

If the enemy can get you on a technicality guess what, you're not living life to the fullest.

**Myth #4-It's my fault if I don't speak in tongues because I didn't do something right.**

I've got good news for the people that have been to camp for years and on Thursday night "AKA Holy Spirit Night" nothing ever seems to happen...

It's not on you, it's on him...and that is OKAY!

(SLIDES 20-21) 1 Corinthians 12:4-11 says,

<sup>4</sup>There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. <sup>5</sup>There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. <sup>6</sup>There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work. <sup>7</sup>Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. <sup>8</sup>To one there is given through the Spirit a message of wisdom, to another a message of knowledge by

means of the same Spirit, <sup>9</sup>to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, <sup>10</sup>to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, <sup>[a]</sup> and to still another the interpretation of tongues. <sup>[b]</sup> <sup>11</sup>All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he distributes them to each one, just as he determines."

But should you stop praying for the gifts just because you don't experience 1?

Here is what I know to be true about anything God given in life If the enemy can get you to give up, he has nothing to worry about.

**(SLIDE 22) Myth #5-Speaking in Tongues is only for certain situations or people.**

It's only for Camp, it's only for My parents, it's only for the Pastors, it surely can't be for me.

The truth is speaking in tongues is for everyone...everyone has access. But let's understand the application of that access real quick

(SLIDE 23) There are three types of Speaking in Tongues lined out in scripture and they are available to everyone at any time if it's the Lord's will.

1. **(SLIDE 24) A Supernatural Ability to speak in a foreign language to communicate God's Truth.**

Like what happened on the day of Pentecost. I have heard stories from men and women who I trust and know personally that have traveled to countries that didn't know the language of the area that they were in. The translator had to cancel last minute before they were about to speak, and the Holy Spirit gave them the POWER to speak in the native tongue and they were able to speak, and many people come to Jesus.

**2. (SLIDE 25) A Message from God spoken through an individual in tongues that is interpreted for use as a prophecy.**

In many churches all across America it is not Uncommon to have someone stand up in a public service setting and speak in tongues with authority over a church, and pretty soon afterwards, someone else or that same individual speaks in the native tongue of the congregation for edification of the body.

Wow, did you catch that Big word there, Edification? It literally means, to instruct or benefit, or to uplift.

The person who delivers it is commonly referred to as an "Interpreter."

**3. (SLIDE 26) A Private Prayer Language.**

A prayer language enables a person to connect with God in a more intimate way.

Here is where issues start to happen, because the enemy is the author of chaos, how do we distinguish between Public and Private? What needs an interpreter and what doesn't?

It can get frustrating cant it.

So, let's look at last week with Pastor Jason.

Although he had the mic, he was speaking in tongues, it was coming from his private prayer language as he was encouraging you to be filled with this evidence to also embark on having a private prayer language too.

I do want to say that if you only focused on that one part of the night, you are missing the entire truth that was preached and I encourage you to go back and listen to the message again cause getting your voice back is a powerful truth you need to get a hold of in today's world and culture.

I want you to know tonight that regardless of what happened last week or any night at camp, I want you to listen to what I am about to say, because ultimately here is my heart on the issue.

**(SLIDE 27) The deeper meaning of speaking in tongues isn't the main thing, the main thing is relentlessly going after God and asking him to bring you to a deeper level of love, a deeper level of understanding, a deeper level of more, a deeper relationship with him.**

That's what it's all about. The POWER is found in his presence.

We should all be constantly going after The Gift Giver, knowing the Gifts will come in his perfect will.

I want to leave you with this scripture and then I will get to some questions if you have any:

(SLIDE 28) 1 Corinthians 2:9-11 It is written: “What no eye has seen, what no ear has heard, and what no human mind has conceived” the things God has prepared for those who love him <sup>10</sup> these are the things God has revealed to us by his Spirit. The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God. <sup>11</sup>For who knows a person’s thoughts except their own spirit within them? In the same way no one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God.”

(SLIDE 29) We have to expect Deep things to Happen when we are going Deep.

Speaking in Tongues, Healing, Knowledge, Wisdom, Strength, Boldness, all of these gifts are going to come on his timing, why? Because you are going Deep in him.

Go Deep!

(SLIDE 30) UNCOMMON PRAYER

Q&A Time