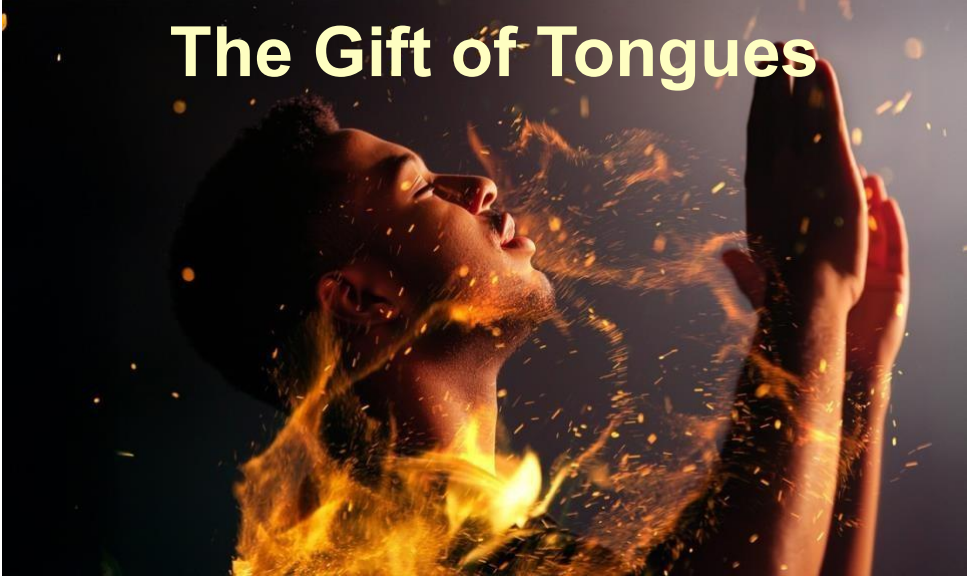


Ipswich International Church

# Daily Devotion

## The Gift of Tongues



Monday 31<sup>st</sup> March – Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2025

Week	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
14	31	1	2	3	4	5	6
15	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
17	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
18	28	29	30				

# Introduction

As we continue to look at the manifestation of the gifts shown in **1 Corinthians 12:7-10**, we are looking at a gift that is very known within Pentecostal churches. This is the gift of tongues.

This is a gift that is known within our prayer life and is part of our prayer life that is not earned or learnt but is a gifting that we receive. As we study the word this week we will delve into the passages that reveal what tongues are and the purpose of tongues. We will also see how biblically we are to use tongues, in a way not to hinder the use of tongues but to enable the glory of this heavenly gift to be expressed in an effective way for gathered worship.

Throughout this week we would encourage you to be open to the guiding of the Holy Spirit and to have a posture ready to receive more of His giftings for us. It maybe that you are beginning this week not speaking in tongues or it being a gift that you don't practice much. Be ready to receive this gift and attentive to the Holy Spirits leading as He may cause you to receive this gift or even to grow in a new tongue.

This week has been written in a joint effort and pray that it will bless you as you read and study the word both independently and corporately.

God Bless

David Howe & Tracey Mauge

## The Promise and giving of Tongues



### Mark 16:16-17 (ESV)

*Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned. And these signs will accompany those who believe: in my name they will cast out demons; they will speak in new tongues.*



### Acts 2:1-4 (ESV)

*When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.*



In Mark's account of Jesus commissioning the disciples (Mark 16), we see Jesus declaring that signs will accompany those who believe. Among these signs is the power and authority we

have in His name, including the ability for believers to speak in new tongues.

On the Day of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit descended upon those gathered in one place. The manifestation of these new tongues was evident as the Spirit gave them utterance. This miraculous event served to display the glory of the Lord, as many in the crowd heard the disciples speaking in their own languages. Remarkably, these languages were not spoken through human ability but by the power of the Spirit working through them.

This moment marks the fulfillment of Jesus' promise—not only for the believers then but also for us today. As followers of Christ, we too are empowered to speak in tongues by the Holy Spirit.



Lord, may we receive your promise of the Holy Spirit with power and the fullness of the gifts that come with the blessing of the Spirit.

## What are Tongues



### 1 Corinthians 14:2-4 (ESV)



*For one who speaks in a tongue speaks not to men but to God; for no one understands him, but he utters mysteries in the Spirit. On the other hand, the one who prophesies speaks to people for their upbuilding and encouragement and consolation. The one who speaks in a tongue builds up himself, but the one who prophesies builds up the church.*



The gift of tongues is a supernatural language given by and through the Holy Spirit. It is something we receive, and all believers are encouraged to do so. This gift allows us to communicate with God on a deeper level—beyond what our natural language may be able to express. It's important to recognize that, because tongues are from the Holy Spirit, the personal edification mentioned in Scripture comes from our spirit connecting with His Spirit. As we pray in tongues, our spirit is being empowered and built up. This is often why we experience a heightened awareness or deeper sense of connection with the Holy Spirit during these moments of prayer. Speaking in tongues is not something we can learn or be taught through reading or practice. However, it is something we can grow in. When we first receive the gift of tongues, it may feel unfamiliar or even uncomfortable. We might wonder, "Am I doing it right?" The beautiful truth is that there is no single or correct way to pray in tongues—it is a gift to be used, not perfected. As we continue to practice and yield to the Spirit, our fluency and confidence in using this gift will grow and deepen over time.



Lord, help me to yield to your Spirit and trust in the heavenly language you have given. Teach me to pray beyond my natural understanding and grow deeper in my communion with you.

## The Purpose of Tongues



### Romans 8:26-27 (ESV)



*Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.*

### Romans 8:16-17 (ESV)

*The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.*



The purpose of tongues, as indicated in Romans 8, is to enable us—as vessels of the Spirit—to connect with the very mind and heart of the Spirit, and, in turn, with the Father. As the Spirit intercedes through us and with our spirit, tongues become the expression of that intercession. It is a heavenly language, not known to the natural mind, through which we align ourselves with the Spirit's prayers.

Tongues allow us to participate in the Spirit's intercession. This connection can become so powerful and deep that it moves beyond words—sometimes turning into physical groans birthed out of intense anguish or deep spiritual travail. These groans are a sign of the Spirit interceding through us in ways words cannot express.

Tongues are also a sign that the Holy Spirit dwells within us and that we belong to Him. The Holy Spirit is the seal—the witness in the spiritual realm—that we are children of God. The gifts of the Spirit are the outward evidence and manifestation of this truth, and tongues are one of those gifts. Though not the only sign, tongues are often one of the more visible indicators of our connection to the Spirit and to the Father.



Lord, may I be a vessel in prayer. Throughout my life, use me to intercede for the things of the Spirit. May I see your heart as I grow deeper in you. Continue to reveal what it means for us to be your children.

## Defining the role of Tongues



### 1 Corinthians 14:26 – 29 (ESV)



*What then, brothers? When you come together, each one has a hymn, a lesson, a revelation, a tongue, or an interpretation. Let all things be done for building up. If any speak in a tongue, let there be only two or at most three, and each in turn, and let someone interpret. <sup>28</sup> But if there is no one to interpret, let each of them keep silent in church and speak to himself and to God. Let two or three prophets speak, and let the others weigh what is said.*



In 1 Corinthians 14, Paul speaks about both tongues and prophecy, and how each is to be used in both public and private times of prayer. He outlines how tongues should be practiced in a way that

avoids confusion and brings benefit and encouragement to those who hear. Paul defines tongues in two key ways:

1. **Personal Prayer Language** – This is the use of tongues for private edification and spiritual growth. As Paul writes in 1 Corinthians 14:4: “The one who speaks in a tongue builds up himself.” This confirms what we’ve explored in previous days —that tongues are a means of personal strengthening and communion with God.
2. **Public Tongues with Interpretation** – Paul also encourages the use of tongues in public gatherings, but with the important instruction that interpretation should accompany it. This ensures that the whole church is edified. When tongues are used publicly, we are to seek interpretation, either from ourselves or another gifted believer, so that the message can be understood and received by all. This shows us that the gift of tongues should not be avoided in corporate worship settings. Instead, it should be exercised thoughtfully and with the desire to bless the gathered body of believers.



Lord, I desire to grow in the gifts you have given. Use me to encourage others and build up the body of Christ as You lead. Give me discernment and understanding of when to use these gifts wisely.

## The benefits of Speaking in Tongues



**Jude 1:20- 21 (ESV)**



*But you, beloved, building yourselves up in your most holy faith and praying in the Holy Spirit, keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ that leads to eternal life.*



The passage in Jude reveals that tongues, while being a powerful gift for prayer and intercession, also bring tremendous benefits to our personal walk and growth in relationship with God.

### 1. It Builds Up Our Spirit

Just like exercising a muscle strengthens the body, praying in tongues strengthens our spirit. It increases our spiritual stamina and resilience. As our spirit becomes stronger, we grow more attuned to the Holy Spirit, becoming more aware and discerning of what He is doing in and around our lives.

### 2. It Deepens Our Intimacy with God

As highlighted in earlier days, tongues enable us to have deeper communion with God. It enriches our prayer life, giving us a way to express what words often cannot. This deeper connection cultivates intimacy and spiritual sensitivity.

### 3. It Grows Us in the Love of God

As we grow in the Spirit and in our connection with the Father, we begin to experience and understand more of His love and His heart toward us. This transforms our ability to love others—even those who may be difficult to love. It is a spiritual love that surpasses natural limitations, rooted in God's own love.

In all these ways, the gift of tongues not only empowers our prayer life but enriches our spiritual journey, drawing us deeper into the heart of God and equipping us to live powerfully by His Spirit..



Lord, I thank you for the gift of tongues. Help me to walk daily in the power and refreshing of your Spirit. Reveal how I am being transformed by your spirit.

## The Witness of Tongues



### Hebrews 2:3-4 (ESV)



*How shall we escape if we neglect such a great salvation? It was declared at first by the Lord, and it was attested to us by those who heard, while God also bore witness by signs and wonders and various miracles and by gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to his will.*



The book of Hebrews speaks of our salvation and how the Holy Spirit bears witness to it through signs, wonders, and miracles in our lives. One of these signs is the gift of tongues. As we've explored throughout this week, tongues are one of the most evident indicators of the Holy Spirit's active presence in the life of a believer. It serves as a witness—both to ourselves and to those around us—of the reality of His indwelling power.

With this understanding, we begin to see that tongues can also be a witness to those who have yet to believe. As we walk in step with the Spirit and His signs become more evident in our lives, others may begin to take notice. These signs stir curiosity, prompting people to ask questions and wonder about the source of what they are witnessing. In this way, the gift of tongues becomes more than a personal expression—it becomes a testimony that our faith is not simply religious tradition, but a living, dynamic relationship with God.

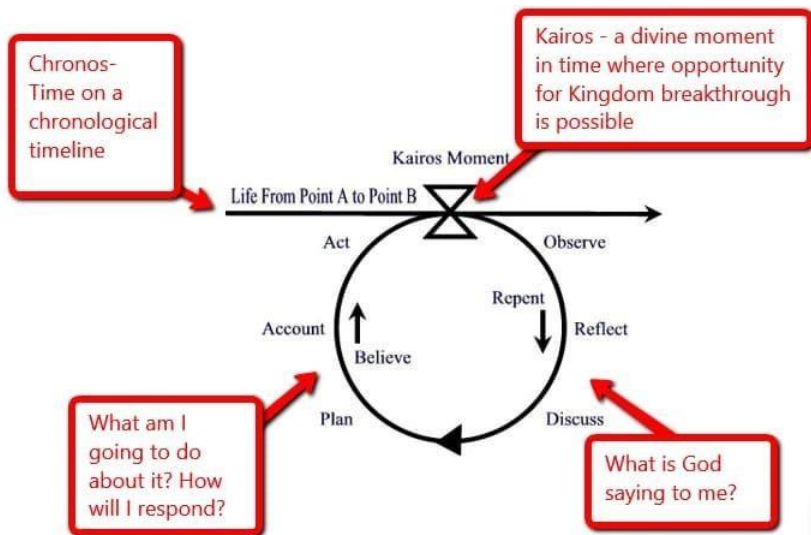
It also testifies to the reality of the Holy Spirit and His work in and through us. When the Spirit moves, He draws people into a desire for relationship with God. But as this happens, we must be prepared to give a clear explanation of what they are seeing. As Paul cautions, without understanding, some may view these manifestations as confusion or even madness (1 Corinthians 14:23). Our role is to provide insight, bringing clarity and pointing them to Jesus.



**Holy Spirit, I receive the gift of tongues by faith. Let it be a witness to those around me, both believers and unbelievers, that you have marked me and set me aside to live a life in the spirit.**



# Pause. Reflect. Process



It's time to pause, reflect, process and act on your week's Kairos moment(s).

This week, \_\_\_\_\_

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# A New Rhythm of Fasting: Mark your Calendar

The Monthly Fast ends with a corporate prayer meeting in the Church Building in Barrack Corner, Ipswich IP1 2NB, at 7:30pm

## Wed, 2 – Fri, 4 April 2025

Week	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
14	31	1	2	3	4	5	6
15	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
17	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
18	28	29	30				

## Wed, 30 April – Fri, 2 May 2025

Week	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
18	28	29	30	1	2	3	4
19	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
20	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
21	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
22	26	27	28	29	30	31	

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## Wed, 4 – Fri, 6 June 2025

Week	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
22	26	27	28	29	30	31	1
23	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
24	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
26	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
27	30						



## October 2024 Vision

For months, God has been revealing things to me during worship, though I didn't fully understand them until Sunday morning when everything came together with clarity for Ipswich International Church.

I often sense a mighty Angel of the Lord over the platform, leading an army of smaller angels who move among the congregation, delivering God's instructions. The angel's tasks include comforting broken hearts and grief, and grounding people to the Holy Spirit's healing. Next, releasing provision, where those in need receive from God's abundance, often through others in the congregation. Then, sharing Truth and securing us firmly in Jesus to ensure we remain steady and secure. Lastly, I saw a covering of protection, like the angel's garments stretched over the people, symbolising peace and sanctification.

**God is preparing Ipswich International Church for what is to come—not just superficially but in deep wholeness.** This preparation is corporate, requiring unity. **“What you have now is one tenth of what I have planned for you to take hold of,”** he says. He is expanding His people's influence in Ipswich and beyond, calling them to replant stakes in new ground.

The church is being established as an epicentre of provision, both physical and spiritual, to release life. God's people must be whole to display His glory in the places He is calling them to.

A member of the Church submitted this vision via email, and it has been condensed for clarity and brevity. We have prayed about it and looked at how God has been leading us over the past few years. We believe it is truly from Him. Now, we share it clearly for everyone. Each of us has a place in what God is saying. Let's seek Him together, trust His plan, and walk forward with faith and unity.



# Our Priorities

