

What do we mean by prophecy?

14:20-40 Paul is telling the Corinthians to grow up and think.

14:20-25 If the gifts are used properly then it will convert non Christians.

14:26-40 Meeting together should reflect Gods orderliness.

Application:

- Respect for all gifts but priority for ones we can understand
- Orderliness

Implications for us

- Don't envy others gifts
- Don't look down on others gifts
- Work out how we can practically love others rather than naval gaze
- Seek to excel in gifts that build up the church
- We would rather speak 5 intelligible words to instruct others, than 10000 in a tongue
- Seek to build up the church by everyone doing what they can
- Make everything clear for an unbeliever to understand.

The spirit gives gifts to unite the church through maturity, so we should use our gifts to build up the church

The Holy Spirit

Session 4: The Gifting Spirit



Their positive practice – Eph 3 and 4

Eph 3

God shows he is wise in the heavenly places by uniting people together, through the gospel, into local churches.

If God is going to be glorified in the heavenly realms because of a united church, how are we all going to stay united?

Eph 4:7-16

The ascended Christ gives grace gifts

- Teaching gifts
 - Apostles & prophets
- Gifts that build up the church

Goal: God glorified in the heavenly realms by the united church.

Method: Church united because of maturity, because all in the church use their gifts, because teaching gifts are exercised.

What happens if the teaching gifts are no longer practised?

What happens if works of service don't happen?

A negative example – 1 Corinthians 12-14

12:1-3 No one can be a Christian without the work of the Holy Spirit

12:4-7 Why is there a refrain of; same God, in v4-6?
Who receives the gifts of the spirit? From whom? Why?

12:7-11 A gift list

12: 12-26

What is the image used in v12?

Why ?v13-26

What were some of the possible problems in the Corinthian church?

The greater gifts are loving.

14:1-18

Therefore the priority when they meet is to love each other. This has 2 implications:

- Speaking in tongue is inferior because by itself it doesn't help anyone else.
- Prophecy is superior as it is able to build up people.