

16: Speaking in Tongues Provides a way to Pray Perfectly

Rom 8:26 KJV

26 Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

This verse is telling us in no uncertain terms that we don't know what we should pray for when we pray. This would be praying with our understanding ("**... for we know not what we should pray for as we ought...**"), this is why we need our gift holy spirit to help us, or to assist us in this infirmity. When we speak in tongues our gift holy spirit makes intercession for us or intercedes on our behalf with unspeakable groanings or yearnings.

Speaking in tongues opens up the availability to pray for things that are important¹ to us and because our spirit knows what is on our heart,

¹ Jas 5:15-16 KJV

15 And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, ...

... The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

it can assist us to pray for the right things to God. This is effective praying, not only in content to God but in the results this kind of prayer can achieve. Isn't that what we want when we pray? We want to pray to God that returns the results we have in our heart. We want our prayer to God to be effective, we want God to answer our prayers. There are two ways to pray according to 1st Corinthians 14:15, to pray by the spirit and to pray with our understanding. If the spirit is helping us to pray, which way are we praying? We are praying by our spirit, that is; by our gift of holy spirit.

1Co 14:15 KJV

15 What is it then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will pray with the understanding also: I will sing with the spirit, and I will sing with the understanding also.

Now we need to understand that it is our spirit that is praying, we are speaking in tongues, but we don't understand it. But we are speaking mysteries to God and this communication between our spirit and God is also kept secret from Satan, God's arch enemy. Rest assured that your prayer by speaking in tongues is totally private between your spirit and God. Our spirit is making intercession for us when

we speak in tongues, we can think about those that have a need as we pray for them. We can see them getting better, or God answering their need. You cannot pray selfishly when you speak in tongues, Why? Because it is our spirit that prays, and our spirit searches our heart and then prays to God.

1Co 14:2 KJV

2 For he that speaketh in an *unknown* tongue speaketh not unto men, but unto God: for no man understandeth *him*; howbeit in the spirit he speaketh mysteries.

1Co 14:14 KJV

14 For if I pray in an unknown tongue, my spirit prayeth, but my understanding is unfruitful.

Rom 8:27 KJV

27 And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to *the will of God.*

When we pray this way, by speaking in tongues, God knows what is in our heart and mind (or thoughts) of our spirit. Remember that our spirit has no will of its own, but is

subject to our will (John 16:13, 1st Corinthians 14:32). So, our will becomes our spirits will when we pray for others.

When we pray this way, God promises that “... **all things work together for good ...**” for us. In the context of this area speaking in tongues for prayer is about making intersection for our fellow believers to God.

Rom 8:28 KJV

28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to *his* purpose.

This verse also tells us speaking in tongues from Romans 8:26 is one of the purposes that we have as our calling from God. And we know that all things work together towards a common goal because they love God.

The words “work together” in Rom. 8:28 in the Greek is the word “sunergeo” (G4903) and is the verb form and means: *To work together with someone, cooperate, be a co-worker, fellow laborer. Hence, generally it means to help, aid, with the dative case it is expressed or implied. Of things, to work together for something, cooperate, contribute to an end or a goal. Followed by the dative and “eis” (G1519) unto, with the accusative*

(Rom. 8:28).²

Romans 8:28 in the Greek:

28 Οἶδαμεν δὲ ὅτι τοῖς ἀγαπῶσιν τὸν Θεὸν
πάντα συνεργεῖ^(G4903) (ὁ θεὸς) εἰς^(G1519) ἀγαθόν
ν, τοῖς κατὰ πρόθεσιν κλητοῖς οὖσιν.

The Greek word that is translated “GOD” “(ὁ θεὸς)” is moved in the translation to English to adhere to English grammar. You will note the word “eis” (G1519) in the Greek follows the Greek word for “work together.” Therefore, when we speak in tongues all things work together **unto the goal** to them that love God. What is the goal? What or who are you praying for when you speak in tongues?

Those images of deliverance you have for others or yourself **are the goals** you are praying for. Who are you **working together with?** Is it just those that you asked to pray with you for something? Could it be your spirit also that is praying to God as you speak in tongues is also working together with you? Your spirit is making intercession for your desires of your heart as you pray. Your mind and your spirit are in harmony when you pray

²Zodhiates, Spiros, Th.D., (*The Complete Word Study Dictionary: New Testament*), AMG Publishers, Chattanooga, TN., Revised 1993. p. 1341, ref: 4903

by speaking in tongues.

Mat 18:19 KJV

19 Again I say unto you, That if two of you shall agree on earth as touching any thing that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven.

This goes along with Romans 8:26-28 when talking about prayer also. But if we back up to Romans 8:1-25, we read about how we as believers look forward to the deliverance we will receive when we renew our mind to live God's Word. As sons of God, we wait for the return of Christ, and the creation waits for the sons of God to be manifested also, and in the future, the creation waits for full redemption when we receive our new body and the rest of our inheritance where there will be no more corruption. Then in Romans 8:26 the first word is "Likewise" referring to the previous three examples of hope to be delivered by God's wonderful works. When we pray by speaking in tongues we likewise have a hope and expectation of a future deliverance for the things we are praying for. When we pray, a part of our mindset is to expect a future deliverance from the things we are praying for. Believing that what we pray for by speaking in tongues will come to pass is the same mindset,

it is to expect a future deliverance from God.

Mar 11:24 KJV

24 Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive *them*, and ye shall have *them*.

Heb 11:1 KJV

1 Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

Jas 5:16 KJV

16 ... The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

Because speaking in tongues are words that are supplied by God to our spirit, the prayer is perfect and cannot be selfish, the check and balance are that God searches our heart and therefore knows our heart. When we speak in tongues, our spirit makes intercession for us with the right words (supplied by God) to pray to God. How is that for helping us pray to Himself by way of our spirit when we speak in tongues! It is like a father giving a child money to buy a birthday gift for their dad.

Rom 8:26 KJV

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