SERMON NOTES & LIFE GROUP QUESTIONS

YOU TOO: GREATEST GIFT EVER? Curt Brunk 2.21.10

God's wants us to know His heart and mind even more than we do. So much in fact, He has given us a way to know that ever more precisely

Spirit gives tongues and interpretation, 1Cor 12:7-11

There is much corruption, perversion of what this is, to make it weird, out of reach, etc. This series defining gifts by Word, not tradition, to recapture the natural thing God intended

This gift, which is so readily corrupted, Paul/God is clothing with "greatest care" because it has "greater honor," 1 Cor 12:23-24

Paul/God clearly speaking about tongues as is evident by the overall context: 1 Cor 13:1, 14:2

So let's not do what scripture tells us to not do, 1 Cor 14:23

Key to getting it right is found right in the list: tongues and interpretation, 1 Cor 12:10

Note where Paul's emphasis is, namely understanding/interpretation, 1 Cor 14:5-15

So too in Romans, emphasis is on praying according to God's will, which we do not know, Rom 8:26-27

Pattern is: from God's understanding, to groaning too deep for words, to syllabic tongues, to our understanding

True both in public and private praying in the Spirit, Eph 6:18, Jude 20

When we put emphasis where God does, on revelation – brining His heart and mind to ours – takes emphasis off sign, to purpose…releases gift

So why does God use tongues? Why not just bring revelation directly?

First, because tongues still our thoughts – the act of nonsensical speaking quiets both verbal and non verbal processors

Allows for His "still small voice" to be heard, 1 Kings 19:12

Second, because humbles us – His heart and mind, not mine, 1 Cor 2:14

NEXT WEEK: NEW SERIES: So Crazy It Just Might Work

LIFE GROUP QUESTIONS

1. In your exposure to church, what was the first teaching that you received about the gift of tongues? Tongues & interpretation in public? What were the key verses emphasized? How has this weekend's teaching impacted your understanding of this Gift of the Holy Spirit?
2. What have you discovered is required for you to "quiet yourself" before the Lord? What forces, ideas compete with this process? How have you seen God causing you to embrace "humility" in this process of receiving and utilizing Gifts of the Spirit? Explain?
3. Digging Deeper: Find 2 sections of Scripture (utilize 1Corinthians & Acts for your search) that help explain God's intent for "tongues' & how they work. How would you share what you have learned to a friend?
4. What does Speaking in Tongues seem to reveal to us about the way God works? Which "parts" seem mysterious to you? How will you discover more?

TODAY'S OPPORTUNITY: (Remember to watch for God to move this week and tell us your testimony!)

I will pray for _____ to come to Jesus