

First Corinthians 14:13-19
Godward Edification in the Congregation part 2

Communicate clearly—14:13-15

- 1) A command—14:13-14 ¹³ *Therefore* (in light of 14:5, 12) *let the one who is speaking a language pray that he may translate.* (cf. 14:27-28)
 - Apparently the foreign language speaker knew when he was going to use that gift.
 - a) Why? ¹⁴ *For if* (3rd class condition; possible) *I pray in a language, my spirit prays, but my mind is unproductive/unfruitful.*
- 2) A question—14:15a ¹⁵ *What is it* (the result) *then?*
- 3) A principle of determination—14:15b (don't bypass the rational)
 - a) To pray productively—*I will pray with the spirit, and I will also pray with the mind.*
 - b) To sing productively—*I will sing with the spirit, but I will also sing with the mind.*

Express our gratitude toward God so others can understand—14:16-19

- 1) Think of others—14:16-17
 - a) A practical question—14:16 ¹⁶ *Otherwise* (if you don't follow v. 15), *if* (3rd class condition; possible) *you should bless* [*eulogeo*] *with the spirit, how will the one who occupies the place of the untrained/unlearned* [*idiotes*] *say "Amen"* (express their agreement) *at your gratitude* [*eucharistia*], *since he does not know what you are saying?*
 - b) The principle—14:17 ¹⁷ *For you* (emphatic) *give thanks* [*eucharisteo*] *well, but the other person is not edified.*
- 2) Benefit others—14:18-19
 - a) Speaking to unbelievers (cf. 14:22)—14:18 ¹⁸ *I thank my God I speak in languages more than all of you*^{pl},
 - b) Speaking to believers—14:19 ¹⁹ *but in the congregation I want to speak five words with my mind in order to instruct* [*katecheo*] *others, than ten thousand* [*murioi*] (the largest number in Greek) *words in a language.*
 - i) Incomprehensible jabber instructs no one.

- ❖ Horizontally, public services are for mutual edification, not private enjoyment.
- ❖ As Christians, we *respond* to truth with our **emotions**, but we must first *apprehend* it with our **understanding** and *submit* to it with our **will**.