

SCRIPTURAL REFERENCES TO PRAYING / SPEAKING IN TONGUES by Fr. Robert DeGrandis, SSJ and Fr. Robert Hilz, TOR

Praying or Speaking in Tongues:

1) is for everyone. "Signs like these will accompany those who have professed their faith: they will use My Name to expel demons, they will speak entirely new languages, (handle serpents, drink poison without harm,) and the sick upon whom they lay their hands will recover," Mk 16:17-18.

2) is God's plan as revealed in Scripture. "This faith, hope and love, ..." will not leave us disappointed, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us," Romans 5:5.

3) was experienced at Pentecost by all. "All were filled with the Holy Spirit. They began to express themselves in foreign tongues and make bold proclamation as the Holy Spirit prompted them," Acts 2:4.

4) is power for ministry. The foreign visitors "...each hears them speaking in his own tongues about the marvels God has accomplished. They were dumbfounded and could make nothing at all of what had happened," A 2:11-12.

5) is simple, but not easy. "And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Spirit came on them; and they spoke with tongues and prophesied," Acts 19:6.

6) is important for our spiritual growth in love. "If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal," 1 Cor 13:1.

7) is a type of communication with God (as in the Prayer of Quiet or of the Heart). "A person who speaks in a tongue is talking not to people but to God. No one understands that one. Because he/she utters mysteries in the Holy Spirit," 1 Cor 14:2.

8) revolutionizes your prayer life. "He or she who speaks in a tongue builds up themselves, but the one who prophesies builds up the church. I should like it if all of you spoke in tongues, but I much prefer that you prophesy (in the assembly)," 1 Cor 14: 4-5 a.

9) is the Holy Spirit praying through you but your mind is bland. "If I pray in a tongues my spirit is at prayer but my mind contributes nothing," 1 Cor 14:14.

10) is also thanksgiving yet others don't understand. "If your praise of God is solely with the Holy Spirit, how will the one who does not comprehend be able to say 'Amen' to your thanksgiving?" 1 Cor 14:16.

11) is a grace given by God. "Peter had not finished these words when the Holy Spirit descended upon all who were listening to Peter's message (Cornelius' family). (45) The circumcised believers who had accompanied Peter were surprised that the gift of the Holy Spirit should have been poured out on

the Gentiles also, (46) whom they could hear speaking in tongues and glorifying God," Acts 10:44-6.

12) is a prayer for all times. "At every opportunity pray in the Spirit, using prayers and petitions of every sort," Eph 6:18.

13) needs more solid teaching to be given by leaders. "And God has appointed in the church: apostles, prophets, teachers, then miracle workers, then healers, helpers, administrators, speakers in various kinds of tongues," 1 Cor 12: 28.

14) is necessary to produce an atmosphere of praise. "It is written in the law, 'In strange tongues and in alien speech I will speak to this people, and even so they will not heed Me, says the Lord.' The gift of tongues is a sign, not for those who believe but for those who do not believe, while prophecy is not for those who are without faith but for those who have faith," 1 Cor 14: 21-22.

15) is a fruit bearer. "To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. To one is given through the Spirit... to another various kinds of tongues. All these are inspired by one and the same Spirit, who apportions to each one individually as He wills," 1 Cor 12: 7,8,10,11.

16) means that you must yield your voice to the Holy Spirit's new language (s). In the Baptism in the Holy Spirit you yield your spirit; in the Gift of Tongues you yield your voice mechanism; in the Gift of Prophecy you yield your mind; and in "Resting in the Spirit" you yield your Body.// "I thank God that I speak in tongues more than any of you, but in the church (assembly) I would rather say give intelligible words to instruct others than 10,000 words in a tongue," 1 Cor 14:18-19

17) is a powerful prayer of intercession. See # 20 below. Rom 8: 26-7.

18) Is not to be forbidden yet all done in order. "Set your hearts on prophecy, my brothers and sisters, and do not forbid those who speak in tongues, but make sure that everything is done properly and in order." 1 Cor 14: 39-40.

19) is a powerful prayer, "The Holy Spirit too helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought; but the Holy Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groaning (or sighs) that cannot be expressed in speech.< yet from our experience of over 30 years mostly uses praying in tongues>. He who searches hearts knows what the Holy Spirit means, for the Holy Spirit intercedes for the saints as God Himself wills," Rom. 8:26-7.

20) Jude 20 "But you, beloved, grow strong in your holy faith through prayer in the Holy Spirit." (TonguesScrTxt6.06.wpd)