

STIR UP THE GIFT OF GOD

2 Timothy 1:6

When Paul the Apostle was in prison, awaiting his beheading by Emperor Nero, he penned his last letter to Timothy.

It was a "swan-song" letter...a dying man's last words---the greatest advise he could possibly pass on. At the very outset of the letter, Paul made sure to mention to Timothy to: "Stir up the gift of God which is in thee." **2 Timothy 1:6**

It is accepted among Biblical discerners that this is a reference to the Gift of speaking in Tongues---an unknown language, understandable only to God.

"He that speaketh in an unknown tongue speaketh not unto men, but unto God." **1 Corinthians. 14:1**

"He that speaketh in an unknown tongue edifieth himself." **1 Corinthians. 14:4**

To edify one's self means to build up, or **to make strong** (build up courage) as Paul explained when he

stated: "For God hath not given us the spirit of fear but of power [to overcome],

and of love [to forgive through prayer; harbor no ill-will],

and of a sound mind [stable, unmoved, at peace]. **2 Timothy.1:7**

All these benefits of peace would be produced in the person who exercised daily his communication with the Godhead in Tongues....

"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" (**I Cor. 14:15**) [Just like Paul and Silas did at midnight in jail when God sent an earthquake **Acts 16**]

Now, is Tongues real?..Yes.

Why do Tongues exist? **To Strengthen believers in times of persecution**, peril, confusion, trials, temptations.... and also increases Discernment.

The Gift of Tongues takes prayer requests to God in nano-seconds---requests we don't even know of, or find hard to say:

"Likewise the (Holy) Spirit also helpeth our infirmities [sicknesses, weaknesses] 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.

And He that searcheth the hearts (**Rev. 2:23 and Hebrews 4:12**) knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because He maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God." **Romans 8:26,27**

How do you get the gift of Tongues?

By asking your heavenly Father for the Gift: "Ask, and it shall be given you.

For everyone that asketh, receiveth. If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your Heavenly Father GIVE THE HOLY SPIRIT to them that ask Him?" [Luke 11:5-13](#)

'Well, I've asked, but I still don't have the Gift'.

OK, two things could be getting in the way:

1. High-mindedness (pride). From my own personal experience, it was education, logic, reasoning and intellectualism that held me back from a total surrender needed for the imparting of this gift.

I just felt too 'educated' to speak words I didn't understand.
So I plugged-up the grace of God by my own reluctance.

"Thus saith the LORD, 'Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, neither let the mighty man glory in his might, let not the rich man glory in his riches:
But Let him that GlorietH Glory in this,
That he UNDERSTANDETH and KNOWETH ME.'" ([Jeremiah. 9:23,24](#))

2. Or it could be the lack of contact, or fellowship, with other believers who have this gift that holds us back. This Gift usually comes by the "laying on of hands"...[ACTS 8:18...](#)

[1 Timothy. 4:14](#) and [Hebrews 6:2](#). It may come when administered, or in my case, it came 2 years later. (I really needed to surrender).

We need the fellowship of others who have this Gift-- not as a peacock, but like a dove-- in lowliness and meekness of spirit.

Fellowship (contact or communication) with other believers builds up our Faith.

"I believe; help Thou my unbelief" [Mark 9:24](#)

And then with Great Determination, I APPLIED myself to expressing this Gift by saying over and over again.."Abba, Abba (Father) Abba..

"We receive the Spirit of adoption whereby we cry 'Abba, Father' ,
the Spirit Itself beareth witness with our spirit that we are the children of God".

[Romans 8:15,16](#)

[JESUS SPOKE IN TONGUES](#)

Our Lord Jesus Christ Himself cried out in His agony in the Garden of Gethsemane, "Abba, Father"..([Mark 14:36](#)).....

His indication of the power of Tongues during His great anguish, as it is most probable, He prayed in tongues at this time.

When Jesus died upon the Cross, He cried out in unfamiliar language,

"Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?"([Mark 14:34](#))

saying in ancient Aramaic,"My God, My God, why hast Thou forsaken Me?"

The power of Tongues lies not only in being an unknown language, but also in its' ability to be interpreted into foreign languages, as was done on the Day of Pentecost by the Disciples.

([Acts 2:4-6](#)).

Those are just two examples from Mark's Gospel. Actually John-Mark's Gospel gives us the only FOUR times Christ manifested tongues. Two of them we just read about, and then there is the time He healed the deaf and dumb man: "**Eph'phatha**" (**Mark 7:34**) ; and then also when He raised Jairus' daughter back to life again from the dead:

"**Talitha cumi**" (**Mark 5:41**).

So tongues is definately an empowerment Christ sanctioned, and even hoped for every Believer when He said : "and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto My Father". **John 14:12** [thus imparting His Spirit, in order for us to be Spirit-filled].

'Well, why can't we just talk to God---why do we need an unknown language?'

We must remember that:

"My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways
My ways, saith the LORD.

For as the Heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts." **Isaiah 55:8,9**

One of the greatest advantages of having Tongues is to enable the Believer to by-pass Satan and all of his fallen angels when communicating with God.

Let's face it, we're involved in mortal combat, the forces of Darkness vs. the forces of Light. It is a life and death struggle (**John 10:10**) and an eternal damnation vs. eternal glorified life struggle (**Colossians. 1:12,13**).

We are ordered by Our Commander-in-Chief of the Heavenly Armies (**Joshua 5:14**) to first bind the Strongman who comes against us (**Matt.12:29; Mark 3:27; 2Cor.10:4**).

Ephesians 6:12 tells us:

"For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities [territories], powers [forces of nature, governments, etc.]
against the rulers of the darkness of this world [the rank and file of the 'cosa nostra' demons]

spiritual wickedness in high places [the occult and demon worship].

Satan is the "god of this world" (**2 Cor.4:4**) and "the prince of the power of the air" (**Ephesians 2:2**).

As such, he is the line-blocker of the heavens, ever thwarting our communications with God [see **Daniel Chapter 10** for a real eye-opener].

The Gift of Tongues is God's cryptic-code between Believers and Himself that no fallen angel can decipher. It's our guaranteed Anti-Virus for pure communication---
faster than 911 :

"before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear"
(**Isaiah 65:24**).

No Defense Department on earth has an encryption code as fail-safe.

You see, "The kingdom of Heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force."
(**Matt. 11:12**). Let us therefore come boldly to the Throne of Grace (**Hebrews.4:16**).

Let us put on the whole armour of God as it says in [Ephesians 6:11](#) and be strong in the Lord ([Ephesians 6:10](#)) "that you may be able to withstand in the Evil Day, and having done all to STAND ([Ephesians 6:13](#)).

We are to be shielded with Truth [24 hour honesty], and righteousness [obedience to God] having the Gospel of peace (forgiveness for sin) with us and an unmovable Faith when the Enemy tempts us to doubt God in our trials and temptations ([Ephes. 6:14-16](#))

"Let no man say when he is tempted, 'I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth He any man:

But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed.

Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death." [James 1:13-15](#)

We are to have on the helmet of salvation which is our Blessed Hope of Christ's return ([Eph. 6:17](#); [I Thess. 5:8](#) and [Titus 2:13](#)), along with the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God.

When Satan tempted Our Lord out in the desert during His 40 day fast, he parlayed with Jesus, Scripture for Scripture. Though Satan may have his P.h.d. in religiosity, he had nothing on Jesus.

Our Lord took that sword of the Word and with the skill of a Surgeon, cut the Evil One right out of the scene.

"For the Word of God is quick and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart." ([Hebrews 4:12](#))

And most importantly of all, [Ephesians 6:18](#) declares:

"Praying Always, with ALL PRAYER [includes Tongues] and supplication IN THE SPIRIT."

The Apostle Jude--brother of Jesus--implores us in his epistle [[Jude 20](#)]:

"But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy Faith, PRAYING IN THE HOLY GHOST, Keep yourselves in the love of God." [Jude 20,21](#)

Keeping ourselves in the Love of God is really what it's all about.

It's that spiritual niche we are in all day long that reminds us we are at "home" wherever we are... that we have a hot-line to God, our red phone, if you will.

Right now you are reading this text, because first it was put into an "unknown language", HTML [HyperText Markup Language].

We accept this as a matter of fact in our modern age. Just as readily, we should accept the miracle-mystery of Tongues.

The Holy Spirit is our Translator. He takes those very deep and hidden things, repressed in our souls, and transports them to the Mercy Seat of God in Heaven. Then the Greatest Discerner and Understander of who we really are takes them lovingly into His care. And if we are patient [God is not our Genie] the answers come.

Admittedly, we are living in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation (**Phil. 2:15**). We do not know what the future may hold. Tomorrow may bring pain, rejection, ridicule, harassments, and eventually even imprisonment and martyrdom.

Do we have the Right Stuff?

Not if we're depending on our own grit. But when we **build ourselves up in the Most Holy Ghost, praying always in Tongues, we are strengthened in the inner man:**

"Let the weak say, 'I am strong' " **Joel 3:10 and Mark 16:17&18**

Today, ask the Father for this sustaining Gift. Apply yourself until the generator 'kicks in'. It will, when we are humble enough to let go of our higher intellect and connect with the Highest Intellect of all--our Most High God.

I Cor.1:26-29:

"For you see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called:

But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world

to confound the things which are mighty;

And base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are:

That no flesh should glory in His Presence.." **I Cor. 1:26-29**

Therefore dear ones:

"May He grant you, according to the riches of His glory,
TO BE STRENGTHED WITH MIGHT BY HIS SPIRIT in the inner man
and to know the **LOVE OF CHRIST**, which passeth knowledge,
that ye might be filled with all the fullness of God.

Now unto Him Who is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think according to the Power that worketh in us.

Unto Him be glory in the church [separated ones] by Christ Jesus throughout all ages world without end. Amen" **Ephesians 3:19-21**

Additional websites on tongues:

Holy Spirit Gifts http://www.garg.com/ccc/meditations/van_cleef.004.html

Berean Bible Study <http://home.interpath.net/songbird/comfort.html>

The Power of the Holy Spirit

<http://www.discover.net/~ajgood/pow.html>

www.cybertime.net/~ajgood

www.discover.net/~ajgood