

The Priority of Prophecy

November 28th, 2021 – Pastor Nick Neves

1 Corinthians 14:1-5

All of the spiritual gifts are blessing from God, but should some take precedence over others? Paul argues that indeed, there is a priority to the spiritual gifts.

1 Corinthians 14:1 – *Pursue love, and earnestly desire the spiritual gifts, especially that you may prophesy.*

Paul's argument for the priority of prophecy is straight forward:

The one who speaks in tongues edifies _____

The one who speaks prophetically edifies the _____

CLARIFICATION: What is specifically meant by *prophecy* here?

CLARIFICATION: What is specifically mean to be the gift of tongues here?

Paul lists three key characteristics that should help us to see why prophecy has priority over speaking in tongues:

Prophecy _____ the listener

The Greek word used here is a combination of two other words:

DEMOS – to _____

OIKOS – a _____, or a dwelling place

*for what? For the Holy Spirit!

In what ways has God used prophetic expression to edify you?

Prophecy _____ the listener

How is encouragement different from flattery?

To encourage a brother or sister in Christ is to *add courage* to them, by way of the sure testimony of God's scripture.

Prophecy _____ the listener

Encouragement adds courage to the listener.

Consolation subtracts _____ from the listener.

Psalm 94:19 – *When the cares of my heart are many, your consolations cheer my soul.*

1 Corinthians 14:4 – *The one who speaks in a tongue builds up himself, but the one who prophesies builds up the church...*

Is it *wrong* to build up one's self?
