

## **Study Guide on 1 Corinthians 14:12-26**

New Revised Standard Version

Assign each person in the class one or more verses to study.  
Each person should answer these two questions on their assigned verse.

1. What does this verse say?
2. What does this verse mean to me?
3. Discuss your answers with the class.

### **1 Corinthians 14:12-26**

**(1 Corinthians 14:12)** So with yourselves; since you are eager for spiritual gifts, strive to excel in them for building up the church.

**(1 Corinthians 14:13)** Therefore, one who speaks in a tongue should pray for the power to interpret.

**(1 Corinthians 14:14)** For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays but my mind is unproductive.

**(1 Corinthians 14:15)** What should I do then? I will pray with the spirit, but I will pray with the mind also; I will sing praise with the spirit, but I will sing praise with the mind also.

**(1 Corinthians 14:16)** Otherwise, if you say a blessing with the spirit, how can anyone in the position of an outsider say the "Amen" to your thanksgiving, since the outsider does not know what you are saying?

**(1 Corinthians 14:17)** For you may give thanks well enough, but the other person is not built up.

**(1 Corinthians 14:18)** I thank God that I speak in tongues more than all of you;

**(1 Corinthians 14:19)** nevertheless, in church I would rather speak five words with my mind, in order to instruct others also, than ten thousand words in a tongue.

**(1 Corinthians 14:20)** Brothers and sisters, do not be children in your thinking; rather, be infants in evil, but in thinking be adults.

**(1 Corinthians 14:21)** In the law it is written, "By people of strange tongues and by the lips of foreigners I will speak to this people; yet even then they will not listen to me," says the Lord.

**(1 Corinthians 14:22)** Tongues, then, are a sign not for believers but for unbelievers, while prophecy is not for unbelievers but for believers.

**(1 Corinthians 14:23)** If, therefore, the whole church comes together and all speak in tongues, and outsiders or unbelievers enter, will they not say that you are out of your mind?

**(1 Corinthians 14:24)** But if all prophesy, an unbeliever or outsider who enters is reprobated by all and called to account by all.

**(1 Corinthians 14:25)** After the secrets of the unbeliever's heart are disclosed, that person will bow down before God and worship him, declaring, "God is really among you."

**(1 Corinthians 14:26)** What should be done then, my friends? When you come together, each one has a hymn, a lesson, a revelation, a tongue, or an interpretation. Let all things be done for building up.

**Write the verse or verses you have been assigned in the space below:**

**Answer These Questions for Class Discussion or Study**

1. What does the verse say?
2. What does the verse mean to me?