

1 Corinthians 14:26-40
Guiding Principles for Worship and Life

What then, brothers? 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. If any speak in a tongue, let there be only two or at most three, and each in turn, and let someone interpret. But if there is no one to interpret, let each of them keep silent in church and speak to himself and to God. Let two or three prophets speak, and let the others weigh what is said. If a revelation is made to another sitting there, let the first be silent. For you can all prophesy one by one, so that all may learn and all be encouraged, and the spirits of prophets are subject to prophets. For God is not a God of confusion but of peace.

As in all the churches of the saints, the women should keep silent in the churches. For they are not permitted to speak, but should be in submission, as the Law also says. If there is anything they desire to learn, let them ask their husbands at home. For it is shameful for a woman to speak in church.

Or was it from you that the word of God came? Or are you the only ones it has reached? If anyone thinks that he is a prophet, or spiritual, he should acknowledge that the things I am writing to you are a command of the Lord. If anyone does not recognize this, he is not recognized. So, my brothers, earnestly desire to prophesy, and do not forbid speaking in tongues. But all things should be done decently and in order. (1 Corinthians 14:26-40 ESV)

What is the main concern in this passage? When you gather for worship, everything you do should be for the building up of the whole body, and it should be done decently and in order.

Two Guiding Principles:

1. Love
2. The Glory of God

I. On Worship

Prophecy- *“It seems most fitting to say that a prophet is a person who brings the truths of God to bear on the realities of the day. As a person is soaked with the Word of God, and is led by the Spirit of God, he or she is able to speak from those truths and encourage others” as the Spirit of God leads.*

Tongues- Two Different Kinds

1. The ability to speak a known language that someone did not previously know, for the sake of teaching the gospel.
2. The speaking of unknown languages that no one knew, which required an interpreter- someone gifted by God to make the speech intelligible.

Michael Green-wisdom for judging prophecies:

1. Does it glorify God?
2. Is it in accord with the Scriptures?
3. Does it build up?
4. Is it spoken in love?
5. Does the speaker submit to the wisdom of the congregation?
6. Is the speaker in control of himself?
7. Is good fruit evident in the life of the speaker?

Should this be the way we look to arrange our worship services here at Caz? Should we dismantle all that we do, and have what looks like a spontaneous service?

II. About Women

“I want you to understand that the head of every man is Christ, the head of a wife is her husband, and the head of Christ is God. Every man who prays or prophesies with his head covered dishonors his head, but every wife who prays or prophesies with her head uncovered dishonors her head, since it is the same as if her head were shaven.” (1 Corinthians 11:3-5 ESV)

Let a woman learn quietly with all submissiveness. I do not permit a woman to teach or to exercise authority over a man; rather, she is to remain quiet. For Adam was formed first, then Eve; and Adam was not deceived, but the woman was deceived and became a transgressor. (1 Timothy 2:11-14 ESV)

III. A Warning