



**Title:** God-Centered Order (First Corinthians)

**Text:** 1 Corinthians 14:26-40

**Speaker:** Brad Evangelista

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*26 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.*

- Paul is interested in the operation of all the gifts God has given coming to bear for the good of the whole church.

*27 If any speak in a tongue, let there be only two or at most three, and each in turn, and let someone interpret. 28 But if there is no one to interpret, let each of them keep silent in church and speak to himself and to God.*

- Seemed to be two functions of the gift of tongues: private (v.18-19) and public.
- Gift of tongues should only function publically when there is an interpreter present.
- Public tongue speakers are under control. They can wait their turn.

*29 Let two or three prophets speak, and let the others weigh what is said.*

- NT prophecy is to be “weighed” (diakrino): separated, judged, evaluated carefully

*30 If a revelation is made to another sitting there, let the first be silent. 31 For you can all prophesy one by one, so that all may learn and all be encouraged, 32 and the spirits of prophets are subject to prophets. 33 For God is not a God of confusion but of peace.*

- Again, the gifts do not take control of a person and make them ecstatic or out of control.
- Results of these gifts should be peace and clarity, not confusion.

*As in all the churches of the saints, 34 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. 35 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.*

- Does this contradict 1 Cor 11:5 where Paul clearly endorses women praying and prophesying in church, just with a head covering, or, in a posture of submission to authority? No.
- The context of the silence Paul calls for here from women relates back to v.29 and the weighing or judging of the prophecies.
- Carson: Paul refused to permit any woman to have a teaching-authority over men (1 Tim 2:11) and the careful weighing of prophecies falls under that function.

*36 Or was it from you that the word of God came? Or are you the only ones it has reached? 37 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. 38 If anyone does not recognize this, he is not recognized.*

- This is a stern rebuke and warning from Paul for the Corinthians to not elevate what they perceived to be their gifting and revelations above his authority as an Apostle.
- The gifts of tongues and prophecy were subordinate to the Apostolic writing, which we now know is the New Testament.

*39 So, my brothers, earnestly desire to prophesy, and do not forbid speaking in tongues. 40 But all things should be done decently and in order.*

- We should earnestly desire the gift of prophecy be at work in our church.
- We should not forbid tongues.

### **2 Questions:**

1. How should we pursue these gifts today?
2. How should they function at CrossPointe?