

Summit Woods Baptist Church
First Corinthians Sermon Study Equipping Class

1 Corinthians 14:26-33

Remember to begin your study early in the week so that you have time to really think (and keep thinking) about the passage without being rushed.

❖ Day 1

For these lessons, the sermon text is provided in a format that visually helps display the structure of the paragraph or section of text. The main verbs are underlined. Commands are double-underlined. Generally, the main indicative clauses remain to the left, and the other clauses are either directly underneath when they have equal priority to what comes before, or are tabbed to the right when the clause supports, develops, or draws a conclusion from a neighboring clause.

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

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1. Summarize Paul's argument in the chapter, and particularly what he was arguing for in v. 20-25.

2. How would you describe the relationship between v. 20-25 and v. 26

3. Why do you think Paul continues to address the Corinthians as "brothers" in this section (and in the book as a whole)? How should this help our approach to those we are seeking to humbly correct as well as those we simply disagree with?

4. What is the main command that Paul stresses in v. 26? How does this speak to the purpose for the gifts we have seen in this section all along? What impact does this have on how we are to exercise gifts in the church?

5. What is the scenario for the command that Paul gives in v. 26? How does this tie into Paul's argument in chapters 12-14?

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6. What is the list that Paul gives in v. 26? (Note: “hymn” is simply the noun form of the verb “sing” in v. 15)

❖ Day 2

Read 1 Corinthians 14:26-33 again.

7. What are the 3 rules that Paul lays out for the speaking of tongues in the gathered congregation in v. 27-28?
8. What error would this first rule be correcting? Why is this rule important?
9. What error would the second rule be correcting? Why is this rule important?
10. What error would the third rule be correcting? Why is this rule important?

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11. What would Paul have those who would speak in tongues without an interpreter do? How does this admonition align with Paul's previous comments about tongues without an interpreter?

12. What are the instructions Paul gives for prophecy?

13. How are the instructions for prophecy similar to those for tongues? How are they different?

❖ Day 3

Read 1 Corinthians 14:26-33 again.

14. What does Paul mean when he says prophets are to "weigh what is said"?

15. What are the 2 reasons in v. 31-32 Paul gives for one prophet speaking and the others listening (v. 30)?

16. For what purpose are the prophets to speak one by one? Why does this matter?

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17. What does v. 32 mean? (Verse 29 may be helpful as you consider) Why is this important?
18. What is the overarching reason Paul gives for the instruction that he has given in this section?
19. How does the character of God impact the exercise of gifts in the local church?
20. How does the fact that the character of God has such specific impact on Paul's instructions regarding gifts, reveal how we should think about every detail of church life and life in general?
21. What are some broader implications of this passage on the life of the church?

In preparation for Sunday, pray that God's Word would be boldly and clearly proclaimed, that the hearts of the hearers would be submissive to what is preached, that the Spirit of God would use the Word of God to sanctify the children of God and save the lost, and that the character of God would be on display.