

Equip
Session 2

Supernatural Manifestations

Updated: June, 2013

SUPERNATURAL MANIFESTATIONS

In our last session we learned that continual Praise needs to be the environment in which the believer lives out his Christian life. We are to “**enter His gates with thanksgiving and come into His courts with praise**”

* In Thanksgiving we express our gratitude for the many ways in which He blesses and protects us

* In Praise – we offer our complements - How we feel about all that He is and all that He has done. We begin to come closer to Him and to the place where He dwells (“God inhabits the praises of His people”)

* In Worship – we **honor and respect** Him. We get caught up into His living presence. (Hebrews 10:19-20) We bow down in humble adoration.

Isaiah 2:3

* As praise evolves into vital worship, God becomes so real that it seems as if we can touch Him, hear His voice, See His majestic arm coming down and know that He is working in the world and will work in our lives.

- Thanksgiving is the doorway
- Praise is the foyer
- Worship is the dwelling place

Our foremost goal:

To enter into this place of worship and fill our hearts and minds with His presence

As we adore and worship, God responds with **Supernatural Manifestations!!**

In Acts 2 and Acts 5 God’s people were filled with awe and wonder in His Presence. This should be the norm in our day as well – God regularly manifesting and ministering in the midst of His people.

SUPERNATURAL MANIFESTATIONS

With THANKSGIVING — We express our gratitude

With PRAISE — We express our compliments

- Then, Praise gives birth to worship -

In WORSHIP — We honor and respect the Lord.

*“Come let us go up to the mountain of the Lord
to the house of the God of Jacob
He will teach us His ways
so we shall walk in His paths
The Lord will cause His glorious voice to be heard
and show the descent of His arm.”*

Isaiah 2:3 and 30:30

Worship takes us into the Living Presence of God: behind the veil and into the Holy of Holies

*Therefore, brethren, having boldness to enter the Holiest by the blood of Jesus
by a new and living way which He consecrated for us, through the veil,
that is, His flesh—Heb. 10:19-20*

—There to magnify and glorify His name

—There to be instructed in His ways

—There to be empowered by His presence

IN THE MIDST OF TRUE WORSHIP WE OFTEN FIND GOD RESPONDS WITH

SUPERNATURAL MANIFESTATIONS

As believers are able to experience the powerful presence of God together in their corporate worship; often various manifestations of God’s Spirit are released.

Several things happen when God is truly worshipped by His people

- * A powerful sense of His Presence begins to effect those present.
 - There is a strong incentive to “get right” with the Lord
 - Altars are full, people are convicted and moved even though no word of admonition has been spoken.
- * Miracles begin to take place:
 - healings spontaneously occur
 - supernatural revelation comes
 - people begin to see things about themselves which they need to offer up to Him

Illustration:

As a young missionary during the early part of the last century, Dr. Bob Finley, Founder and President of Christian Aid, had his carefully constructed theology blown apart one day between the border of China and Tibet. Never before had he experienced such Spirit-led worship. As the assembled believers sang in the Spirit it sounded like an angel choir.

And then, the Holy Spirit began to move in the midst and almost instantaneously 50 incurables were supernaturally healed. In the days that followed Dr. Bob saw all of the manifestations spoken of in the New Testament take place.

He was never the same again

- * People falling down before the awesome Presence of God
 - John on the Isle of Patmos
 - multiple hundreds during Kathryn Kuhlman’s meetings

(Read the following to your group) When our hearts are united with His heart in true worship and when He is released to manifest Himself as He wants to do in our midst, then you had better know that miraculous things will begin to take place as God is powerfully present with His people!

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As believers are able to experience the powerful presence of God together in their corporate worship; often various manifestations of God's Spirit are released.

BALANCING TRUTHS ABOUT SUPERNATURAL MANIFESTATIONS

1. Natural Abilities vs. Supernatural Manifestations

“Natural Abilities”

* All of us have different – e.g. mechanics, mathematics, art, music, social activity, administration, intuitive awareness, research, etc.
God will lay His hand on these and bless their use in His Kingdom

“Supernatural Manifestations”

* Happenings, events, experiences, ways of working in God’s Kingdom that we would not experience were it not for the Holy Spirit’s presence and the power of God within us.

2. **Supernatural** does not mean **spectacular**.

* God wants to be supernatural in us, but He also wants us to be natural. (His plan is for the supernatural to take place in and through us in a natural way)

Illustration:

Feeding the 5,000 -
He didn’t make a spectacle out of it.

* There is always a danger here in becoming “SIGN FOLLOWERS”

- We are soon going to have another huge outpouring of the Spirit. “Sign followers” will go wherever the action is the “hottest.” This can result in an infantile church.

- It is easy to escape the dealings of God and His maturing process by always running around looking for the thrills of the supernatural.

- The real work of God is done in the local fellowship where we settle down to committing ourselves to the rest of the Body, to day by day receiving teaching and admonishment, and to dealing with what needs to be cared for and accomplished in our lives

HOWEVER, SEVERAL UNDERSTANDINGS SHOULD BE KEPT IN MIND

1) These evidences are “supernatural” manifestations as contrasted with
“natural abilities”

—but—

2) Supernatural does not equal Spectacular

3) These evidences are manifested “as the Spirit wills” I Corinthians 12:4, 7, 11

v. 4 People are not the source
There is a diversities of gifts but the same Spirit

v. 7 All believers are to be involved
*But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one
for the profit of all*

v. 11 The Spirit decides when, where and how
*But one and the same Spirit works all these things,
distributing to each one individually as He wills.*

4) These evidences are part of the “Lifestyle of Worship” which Christ’s body will displayed (most often as the body comes together in corporate worship gatherings) but also, as occasions arise, in the normal flow of life as well.

WE CAN DISCERN THREE MAJOR CATEGORIES OF MANIFESTATIONS

as listed in I Corinthians 12

For to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit to another gifts of healings by the same Spirit, to another the working of miracles to another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits, to another different kinds of tongues to another the interpretation of tongues.

I Corinthians 12:8-10 (NIV)

I. REVELATIONS Knowledge, wisdom, discernment

These Revelation manifestations consist of information supernaturally revealed from God for the protection, upbuilding and ministry of the believers.

3. “As the Spirit Wills” I Corinthians 12: 4, 7, 11

vs. 4 **People are not the source** – the power and release are from Him.
Let’s not ever think it is from us.

vs. 7 **All believers are to be involved**. It is not just the
elders, or pastors, but God wants each of us to
be involved in the manifestations which He is going to release
into the world through His Body, the Church.

(List the nine manifestations listed in I Corinthians 12: 2-10 printed in the pupil’s notes
We’ll talk about each one later in this session, but for now realize that v. 11 is the
conclusion of it all)

vs.11 **The Spirit decides when, where, and how** these manifestations are to be used

4. God wants to take these manifestations outside of the church confines into the world all
around us as well.

Illustration:

Ken Meloche’s serious injury as our church team
played in a city softball tournament. Up in the stands we could hear
the crack as Ken slid into second base. The team immediately
surrounded Ken on their knees. God healed dramatically as the
team laid on hands and prayed. In a few minutes Ken was up walking
around and taking his position to complete the game.

To everyone’s amazement God demonstrated Himself through
His Body right there on a public ball field!

WE CAN DISCERN THREE MAJOR CATEGORIES OF MANIFESTATIONS

* The first major category are the “**REVELATIONS**” gifts

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1. WORD OF KNOWLEDGE

- Jesus and the woman at the well
- Peter, Ananias and Sapphira

- Kathryn Kulhman: Words of Knowledge were the basis of her amazing healing ministry. The Holy Spirit would reveal the Word to her. As she gave the Word those afflicted would be healed.

Illustration:

Marty Farrell was in Mexico and George Elsasser in Michigan. Marty had been unsuccessfully seeking to repair a huge machine.

He called George. The Holy Spirit revealed to George a mental picture of an actual blue print that “pin pointed” the repair which needed to be made.

The repair was accomplished in five minutes.
This happened on several occasions with these two men.

Illustration:

In one of our services, a word of knowledge was given:
“if you give in to the Lord and forgive that person,
your overpowering headache will be gone.”

The afflicted woman fought against the word for 3 days. Finally she gave in, offered forgiveness, and the headache immediately lifted.

- our Prayer Teams often seek God for a Word of Knowledge as they minister week by week. As God reveals a specific Word at least two good things happen:

(1) people know that God is present and at work.

(2) the team gets direction for their prayer.

- the Lord wants this manifestation operating in His Body all the time so that people will realize that:

* God knows my problem, and I can't hide from Him

1. The Word of knowledge

The supernatural revelation of facts—past, present or future—which were not learned through the efforts of the natural mind.

2. The Word of wisdom

The supernatural revelations of what to do with the knowledge God has given or with the situation at hand—proper judgment for action.

3. The discernment of spirits

Supernatural revelation concerning what spirit is motivating a person or a situation. This manifestation is for the protection and deliverance of God's people.

II. EMPOWERINGS —Faith, healing, miracles

These expressions of God's power through the believers are the continuation of Jesus' compassionate ministry to those in need.

1. Manifestations of faith

The enablement to believe God for some particular thing.

2. Manifestations of healings

The supernatural curing of injuries, handicaps, and diseases without the aid of natural means or human skills.

(please note: God often chooses to use natural means in His response to prayer for healing rather than these supernatural manifestations of His healing power)

3. Manifestations of miracles

The expression of the power of God through believers in such a way that the events which take place and/or their timing simply cannot be explained as occurring by natural processes.

2. WORD OF WISDOM

- This is often a companion manifestation to the word of knowledge
- It is the application for what to do with the knowledge.

Illustration:

A child can know that the ingredients in a cake are butter, flour, cream, etc.

But if the child doesn't know what to do with the ingredients in making a cake, it results in an awful mess.

- Jesus responded with such wisdom it totally confounded His enemies

“Let him without sin cast the first stone”

“Give to Caesar what is Caesar's and to God what is God's”

- He knew the basic problem of the young ruler – sell it all and come
- He told His followers that it would be given to them what to say when the time of need came.

Illustration:

Stephen in Acts 7, confronted and confounded the Jews.

- In the counseling ministry, often God will not only show the counselor what is going on and but also how to deal with it.
- who to select as leaders within the church
- During worship: God's order and direction for His gathered people

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3. DISCERNMENT OF SPIRITS

(Next week we're going to have a whole session devoted to dealing with evil spirits, but we will make some preliminary comments now)

- Jesus dealt with evil spirits all the time in His ministry.

- We need this gift manifested in the church so that we can know what demons are present so that they can be dealt with.

Illustration:

Cleansing of a home.
These people had been harassed for some time.
A deliverance team was sent from the church.
Those with discernment recognized the presence of the enemy. It all came down to an old suit of armor in which the evil spirits had taken up their abode, perhaps for generations.

The demons were expelled and the whole attitude of the family and the atmosphere in the home dramatically changed from that day on.

- The Bible tells us to test and know the spirits.
 - * It reveals many things about demonic activity and warns about false prophets.
 - * In our Body life together we need to be able to discern what is motivating people and situations in which demonic spirits are active.

- Herman Riffel's chapter on this manifestation is the most sound, balanced and instructive which I have read.
I urge you to read it over several times. (pages 89-96)
 - * In the chapter Herman insists we realize that THE ENEMY IS DEFEATED, THE VICTORY IS WON, so don't give undue concern or concentration to the enemy. He loves to have the limelight.

GOD WANTS TO BLESS EACH BODY OF BELIEVERS WITH THOSE WHO MANIFEST THE GIFT OF DISCERNMENT

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When Jesus left this earth, He sent the Holy Spirit to indwell and to empower His followers. We have learned that the Holy Spirit has supernatural ways by which He wants to manifest His presence through us.

We have learned that the first three supernatural manifestations listed in I Corinthians 12 are called the Revelational Manifestations.

The next group of three supernatural manifestations can be referred to as the **Empowerings Manifestations**.

* These include:

- Faith
- Healings
- Miracles

These empowering manifestations are the expressions of God's power through believers which will continue Jesus' compassionate ministry to those in need.

Illustration:

Orville Fletcher, Superintendent of the B. & O. Railroad
Early in my ministry, during the time I was searching,
Orville was dying due to a huge stomach cancer.

I was obedient to anoint and pray; God healed all of the
cancer on the spot.

This empowering manifestation totally changed the direction of my life and
ministry.

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MANIFESTATIONS OF **FAITH**

The word “Faith” is used in different ways in the New Testament.

* Sometimes it refers to the fruit of faith – a growing reality of trust and belief.

* On other occasions it refers to the character quality of faithfulness exhibited in a person’s life and ministry.

In contrast, the Gift of Faith (a Supernatural Manifestation) which Paul lists in I Corinthians 12 is an instantaneous surge of faith for a huge (and often seemingly impossible) task.

Illustration:

Peter and John at the temple’s Gate Beautiful as they took the cripple by the hand and pulled him to his feet.

There are so many other examples of the Gift of Faith in Scripture:

* Daniel made a pillow out of the lions

* Peter sleeping the night before his execution, angel had to wake

*Elijah on Mt. Carmel

Illustration:

Dick Marrs at his sister- in- law’s accident.
As he saw her thrown into the air by a passing car, Dick had an instantaneous and absolute assurance that she was going to be all right.

Illustration:

Betty Richmond
Tests revealed she had been healed from high blood sugar, but the symptoms persisted for over a year.
All that time she had to exercise faith.

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MANIFESTATIONS OF **HEALINGS** (in the plural – various kinds)

This manifestation involves direct supernatural cures or the supernatural arrangement of circumstances which result in a cure.

- * Healing was so large in the ministry of Jesus that we should expect this manifestation to be large in the ministry of the church as well.
- * We invite people during every Sunday service (and during the week as well) to come for healing prayer.

Our next session will explore God’s desire for us to be in good health, but for right now, let’s note that:

- * Oftentimes healings are in conjunction with a Word of Knowledge
 - Onalee’s back was healed as those praying for her were directed through Words of Knowledge being given over the phone by Sharon
 - Kathryn Kulmann operated by using Words of Knowledge almost exclusively

Most of the time God is far more interested in the health of the whole person than He is in just relieving the physical symptoms.

He wants to construct us as whole new persons on the inside as well as on the outside. (Remember this was God’s purpose for us in the “Trial By Fire” session)

Illustration:

I am a testimony to this. For 10 years I was sick, sometime days at a time. I cried out to the Lord all during this period. Finally God dramatically and instantaneously healed me, but it was a result of the healing of my inside man (through a “healing of the memories”).

The physical symptoms immediately disappeared and have never come back!

Please also refer to the second paragraph in the class notes. God’s healing work is not confined only to supernatural events. Often God will use natural means in His response to healing prayer such as doctors, medicines, healing herbs, correct nutrition, chiropractors, etc.

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MANIFESTATIONS OF **MIRACLES**

In the early days of the Spirit our church people had lots of “car miracles”

- * Refer again to our family trip in the ancient Oldsmobile as we praised down the highway into New York City with the all the gas leaking out of the engine. “Undriveable,” said the mechanic
- * One family with their gas gauge on empty were 100 miles from home, and they had no money. They laid hands on their car and cried, “multiply this gasoline, Lord” and proceeded to drive all the way on home on “fumes!”
- * Appliances repaired themselves as owners laid on hands and prayed.
- * The regular raising of the dead as it takes place in Mexico with brother Hogen’s ministry.
- * A demon-controlled lion arrested in mid leap at an Easter service in Tanzania
- * Phillip transported in Acts 8 (so was David DuPlessis)

Illustration:

Angie Alban is our miracle baby. As a fetus she was all entangled with a huge fibroid tumor in her mother’s womb. There was no way her mother could carry, let alone deliver this child, said the doctors.

She refused to let them take her womb and the baby.

After a powerful prayer session, the tumor went one way and the baby went the other way, and stayed that way throughout the rest of the pregnancy.

Baby Angie was delivered naturally. It was God!

This was all written up in the Wayne State medical records as an unexplainable event.

God does unexplainable things!

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THE FINAL THREE GIFTS ARE UTTERANCES MANIFESTATIONS

Read I Corinthians 14: 26-33

v. 26

Be honest. How many have felt that you basically came to the worship service to listen? If that is true then you have missed the whole ballgame. The entire congregation is the choir in our church!

The Holy Spirit wants to move through and to use all of us as we pray, as we praise, as we express ourselves before God, as we give and receive warm hugs, as well as on those occasions when we share a prophecy, a tongue, a scripture, or a testimony out of our life.

THE BASIC PRINCIPLE OF THE UTTERANCE GIFTS

- * When we use these utterance gifts in a public setting, it should never be simply for our own benefit
 - * Everything is to be under the control of the Holy Spirit
 - * Use of these gifts must be useful to all for the strengthening of the church
- Useful to all of those worshipping with us rather than:
- * what might be important just to us or to some other individual

Illustration:

Marvin B's "Amens"

- * what might just be termed as a conditioned response

MANIFESTATION OF (1) TONGUES AND (2) INTERPRETATION

- the ability to pray, sing, and speak the mind of God in a language unknown to the speaker

III. UTTERANCES —Tongues, interpretations, prophecy

I Corinthians 14:26-33 describes these utterance manifestations at work in the corporate worship and gives explicit instruction.

How is it then, brethren? Whenever you come together, each of you had a psalm, has a teaching, has a tongue, has a revelation, has an interpretation. Let all things be done for edification.

If anyone speaks in a tongue, let there be two or at the most three, each in turn, and let one interpret. But if there is no interpreter, let him keep silent in church, and let him speak to himself and to God.

Let two or three prophets speak, and let the others judge. But if anything is revealed to another who sits by, let the first keep silent. For you can all prophesy one by one, that all may learn and all may be encouraged. And the spirits of the prophets are subject to the prophets.

For God is not the author of confusion but of peace, as in all the churches of the saints. v.26

— The basic principle is that all we do must be: useful to all
for the strengthening of the church

1. & 2. The manifestations of tongues and interpretation

The ability to pray, sing, and speak the mind of God in a language unknown to the speaker.

—both a public and private use of tongues is clearly implied.
 (v.27-28)

—speaking forth the message

not more than two or three

The use of **public** tongues (v. 27-28)

- * this is when the Spirit of God wants to bring a message to the gathered group, out loud, in a meeting of some kind.

The use of **private** tongues

- * this use is for our own benefit ; we call it our “prayer language”
- * it’s purpose is for communion between our heart and the Lord

Specific instruction for the “PUBLIC” use of tongues

- * Not more than **two or three** people should speak in tongues publicly so that it won’t dominate everything else in the meeting
- * persons should speak in tongues publicly **one at a time**
 - the gift of tongues is a language, nothing “spooky” or “weird”
 - as we speak, the Lord fills our mouth with a language which He gives
 - in faith we yield our vocal chords to the Lord; we are an active participant.

Illustration: It is not like a ventriloquist and his dummy

*an **Interpreter** must be present for the public use of tongues

(1) If the entire congregation is praising or singing out loud, interpretation is not needed. This use of tongues is not bringing a message from God to the group

(2) When it is quiet enough so that the speaker is clearly heard by the congregation, then the need for an interpreter exists

- It is best if someone other than the tongues speaker interprets (often the leader of the meeting, or one whom the Spirit gifts for that occasion).
- However, the speaker can also pray to interpret themselves should no one else be forthcoming.

(3) Interpretation is not translation

- for example, a 24 second word vs. a two minute interpretation
- the interpretation merely gives the general sense of what the word is saying not a literal translation.

Illustration: Daniel 5: 25-26 (mene, mene, tekel parsin)

III. UTTERANCES —Tongues, interpretations, prophecy

I Corinthians 14:26-33 describes these utterance manifestations at work in the corporate worship and gives explicit instruction.

How is it then, brethren? Whenever you come together, each of you had a psalm, has a teaching, has a tongue, has a revelation, has an interpretation. Let all things be done for edification.

If anyone speaks in a tongue, let there be two or at the most three, each in turn, and let one interpret. But if there is no interpreter, let him keep silent in church, and let him speak to himself and to God.

Let two or three prophets speak, and let the others judge. But if anything is revealed to another who sits by, let the first keep silent. For you can all prophesy one by one, that all may learn and all may be encouraged. And the spirits of the prophets are subject to the prophets.

For God is not the author of confusion but of peace, as in all the churches of the saints.

v.26

— The basic principle is that all we do must be: useful to all
for the strengthening of the church

1. & 2. The manifestations of tongues and interpretation

The ability to pray, sing, and speak the mind of God in a language unknown to the speaker.

—both a public and private use of tongues is clearly implied.
(v. 27-28)

—speaking forth the message

not more than two or three

they speak one at a time

an interpreter must be present

To **Himself** and to **God**

* This instruction presupposes that the whole process is under the control of the person who is giving the message. They can start, stop, or refrain. When we follow these instructions it takes the mystery out of it!

- God wants us to be in control, but to be yielded to the prompting and the enabling of the Holy Spirit.
- Sometimes we have to instruct and counsel people about the way they are using tongues if it is not edifying or if it is not being used according to these guide lines, but that is very rare.

(3) THE MANIFESTATION OF **PROPHECY**

* The ability to speak the mind of God by the direct inspiration of the Holy Spirit in a language of those present.

* v. 28 “Two or three, each **in turn**”

* v. 29 “**Weighed** and **Discerned**”

- Those who are spiritual leaders especially need to weigh and discern what is said and give a sense as to whether, indeed, it is God speaking to us or not.

- Prophecy must be listened to and acted upon; taken seriously

* “Despise not Prophecy” (I Thessalonians 5:20)

- If we don't properly steward this gift of prophecy and if it is not weighed and discerned, then prophecy will be taken lightly by the people

- those who prophesy may get in the habit of giving things out of their own spirit rather than seeking to be certain that what they are saying is prompted by the Holy Spirit

—if an interpreter is not present, then he must speak to himself
and to God.

3. The manifestation of Prophecy

The ability to speak the mind of God by the direct inspiration of the Holy Spirit in a language of those present.

v.28 two or three may speak, each in turn

v.29 what they say is to be weighed and discerned by others.

v.30-32 the ability to both start and stop is to be present within the person who prophesies.

—TWO PRINCIPLES ARE BASIC as these gifts are being manifested.

1. Everything must be for the upbuilding of the whole body of Christ. (v. 26 and v. 31)
2. Everything that is said must be under control of the person who is speaking. (v. 32)

—PAUL'S FINAL COMMENT on the widespread use of these gifts and the order which should be present in public worship is enlightening.

vs. 33 God finds this kind of harmony in all the
other churches (Living Bible)

CONCLUSION — Following the day of Pentecost, the followers of Jesus immediately began to duplicate the ministry of Jesus. Many were healed, freed from demons, and set free to live fruitful lives. When God shows up in the midst of His “Worshipping People” we can expect the exact same response today.

* v. 30-32 The ability to both “**Start** and **Stop**”

- the person speaking the prophecy is in control
- one does not go into a trance
- use your natural voice – not harsh or shrill,
- “King James English” is not required (nor desired)
- rather than coming forth with a “thus says the Lord!” just humbly introduce your word with, “I believe the Lord would say this to us”

Normal Use of Prophecy in Our Day is:

- to encourage
- to comfort
- to edify
- to uplift

* At times a heavy or rebuking word is needed, but this is rare in a local church service

* The Old Testament Prophets:

- God’s only spokesmen
- one or two every several hundred years

* In our time:

- the written Word and the gift of prophecy are now available to all believers
- encouraging words may be given at any time
- a corrective or directive word, however, needs to be discerned by those in charge of the meeting before it is given

Two basic principles for Utterance Manifestations:

(1) **upbuilding**

- the prophetic word is to be received for the strengthening of the church
- speak clearly and distinctly so you can be understood.
- speak as naturally as possible, not in “holy” tone or in “sanctified” language

Pray that God will release amongst us many upbuilding words for the Body of Christ

(2) **under control**

- out of control emotions are contrary to Scripture (one would have to question what kind of a spirit is operating here)
- It’s the excesses which have caused these utterance manifestations to be viewed with such disfavor in the past.

—if an interpreter is not present, then he must speak to himself
and to God.

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* v. 33 - (don't take this verse out of context)

- some say the Corinthians were highly emotional and immature. And, this is the only place these utterance manifestations are dealt with in the New Testament.

- however, there is a whole chapter here dealing with tongues, interpretation and prophecy, both validating and establishing their proper use

- Paul is not ruling them out, but just saying to the Corinthians, “when you use these gifts, this is the way God wants it to be done - as it is **in all the other churches.**”

- the occurrence of Utterance Gifts is not unique just to the church in Corinth.

- Paul is saying, “wise up and start handling these things like all the other churches are doing.”

* v. 39 “*Be eager to prophesy, and do not forbid speaking in tongues*”

CONCLUSION (Read the printed paragraph in the class notes)

Let's come together with great anticipation even as the early church did – determined to get into the presence of God and free Him up to do all He wants to do in our midst as we worship Him.

Illustration: Christopher V.'s ear

Illustration: Jim C.'s broken shoulder

* God's activity won't always be observable, on-the-spot healings. Often it will be:

- straightened out lives
- guidance and direction
- utterances of various kinds
- emotional healings

* Sometimes at the end of services, other times these gifts will be manifested right in the midst of praise and worship.

REMEMBER: We ought to expect that when God is present, so will be the manifestations He has always displayed when His people walk with Him in faith and give Him room to work.

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FIRST

Let the group share what God said to them from Philippians 4:4-9. Hand back last week's "feeding practice" sheets and collect this week's. One of the goals for this segment will be to encourage each person to get God's word flowing into their life through regular practice.

Let each one show how they made out with their "Psalm of Praise" worksheet and even share from it a couple things the Lord has helped them to remember.

NOW

Let the group share any occasions in which they have seen or experienced the "Spiritual Manifestations" of 1 Corinthians 12 and 14.

ADDITIONAL DISCUSSION QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

What is the difference between the use of tongues as a private prayer language and the public gift of tongues to bring a message to the group of believers?

What might be keeping you from exercising some of the manifestations of the Spirit?

(Note to the leaders: Some possible answers might be:)

- Pride
- Unbelief
- Fear of man
- Fear of a false gift

ASSIGNMENTS

1. Ask your group to write their own "Psalm of Praise" this week based upon the worksheet which they have completed.
2. Read carefully the chapter "the Gifts of Healing and Miracles on pages 97-109 of your manual.
3. "Eat" Mark 16:9-20.