



Rev. Melvin E. Wilson, Pastor/Teacher

Email: [pastorwilson@stmatthewame.org](mailto:pastorwilson@stmatthewame.org)

Cell: (914) 562-6331

## **A Deeper Dive Into The Gift of Speaking in Tongues**



### **Lesson 2 – Part 1**

**Tuesday, June 2, 2026**

**Online Bible Study**

**6:30 pm**

Streaming at [stmatthewame.org/streaming](http://stmatthewame.org/streaming)

YouTube - [@stmatthew336](https://www.youtube.com/@stmatthew336) Facebook Live - [@stmatthewamechurch](https://www.facebook.com/@stmatthewamechurch)

**Zoom Meeting ID 973 678 1217, Passcode 6781293**

**Call-In 929-205-6099, Meeting ID 973 678 1217**

## I. Quick Review of Last Week

- A. Defined and described most of the gifts of the Holy Spirit
- B. Asked the questions:
  1. What is your gift?
  2. Are you operating in your gift?
  3. Responses
  4. Reminder: Take a Spiritual Gift Inventory

## II. Tonight's Focus – 1 Corinthians 14

- A. Why 1 Corinthians 14?
  1. I have mentioned several times that I was going to teach from it.
  2. I did teach from this in October, 2025. I feel led to teach from it again.
  3. It is relevant to the Season of Pentecost
  4. 1 Corinthians 14 goes deeper into the gift of speaking in tongues.

## III. The Key Concepts to Remember When Studying or Encountering the Gift of Tongues

- A. The purpose of the tongue-speaking experience is for:

/,edəfə'keɪʃən/ <sup>(-n)</sup> - [ed·i·fi·ca·tion]

# edification

*The act of edifying, or the state of being edified; a building up, especially in a moral or spiritual sense; moral, intellectual, or spiritual improvement; instruction.*

Subscribe our channel to get more helpful videos

© learn2pronounce.com

- B. Tongues serve no purpose unless there is:

# UNDERSTANDING



#### IV. Part 1 – 1 Corinthians 14:1-25 (Part 2 Next Week)

##### 1 Corinthians 14:1-25 NIV

<sup>1</sup> Follow the way of love and eagerly desire gifts of the Spirit, especially prophecy. <sup>2</sup> For anyone who speaks in a tongue does not speak to people but to God. Indeed, no one understands them; they utter mysteries by the Spirit. <sup>3</sup> But the one who prophesies speaks to people for their strengthening, encouraging and comfort. <sup>4</sup> Anyone who speaks in a tongue edifies themselves, but the one who prophesies edifies the church. <sup>5</sup> I would like every one of you to speak in tongues, but I would rather have you prophesy. The one who prophesies is greater than the one who speaks in tongues, unless someone interprets, so that the church may be edified.

<sup>6</sup> Now, brothers and sisters, if I come to you and speak in tongues, what good will I be to you, unless I bring you some revelation or knowledge or prophecy or word of instruction? <sup>7</sup> Even in the case of lifeless things that make sounds, such as the pipe or harp, how will anyone know what tune is being played unless there is a distinction in the notes? <sup>8</sup> Again, if the trumpet does not sound a clear call, who will get ready for battle? <sup>9</sup> So it is with you. **Unless you speak intelligible words with your tongue, how will anyone know what you are saying?** You will just be speaking into the air. <sup>10</sup> Undoubtedly there are all sorts of languages in the world, yet none of them is without meaning. <sup>11</sup> If then I do not grasp the meaning of what someone is saying, I am a foreigner to the speaker, and the speaker is a foreigner to me. <sup>12</sup> So it is with you. **Since you are eager for gifts of the Spirit, try to excel in those that build up the church.** <sup>13</sup> For this reason the one who speaks in a tongue should pray that they may interpret what they say. <sup>14</sup> For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my mind is unfruitful. <sup>15</sup> So what shall I do? I will pray with my spirit, but I will also pray with my understanding; I will sing with my spirit, but I will also sing with my understanding. <sup>16</sup> Otherwise when you are praising God in the Spirit, how can someone else, who is now put in the position of an inquirer, say "Amen" to your thanksgiving, since they do not know what you are saying? **<sup>17</sup> You are giving thanks well enough, but no one else is edified.**

<sup>18</sup> I thank God that I speak in tongues more than all of you. **<sup>19</sup> But in the church** I would rather speak five intelligible words to instruct others than ten thousand words in a tongue. <sup>20</sup> Brothers and sisters, stop thinking like children. In regard to evil be infants, but in your thinking be adults. <sup>21</sup> In the Law it is written: "With other tongues and through the lips of foreigners I will speak to this people, but even then they will not listen to me, says the

Lord.” <sup>22</sup> **Tongues, then, are a sign, not for believers but for unbelievers;** prophecy, however, is not for unbelievers but for believers. <sup>23</sup> So if the whole church comes together and everyone speaks in tongues, and inquirers or unbelievers come in, will they not say that you are out of your mind? <sup>24</sup> But if an unbeliever or an inquirer comes in while everyone is prophesying, they are convicted of sin and are brought under judgment by all, <sup>25</sup> as the secrets of their hearts are laid bare. So they will fall down and worship God, exclaiming, “God is really among you!”

#### V. **Lessons on the Gift of Tongues from 1 Corinthians 14**

- A. We should “eagerly” desire [to know] our spiritual gifts.
- B. **All of the spiritual gifts are intended to be useful and understood by those who use them or experience them.**
- C. The gift of prophecy should be desired more than the gift of tongues. Why?
  - 1. Prophecies speak to people for their strengthening, encouragement, and comfort
  - 2. Prophecy edifies the church
- D. Those who speak in tongues speak to God
  - 1. Tongues edify (build up) the speaker
  - 2. Speaking/praying in tongues is a spiritual experience
- E. Most people do not and will not understand people who speak in tongues.
- F. Tongues require interpretation into the language of the hearers. Tongues are not helpful without interpretation.
  - 1. By the speaker or someone with the gift of interpretation
  - 2. Tongues are for instruction (the interpretation)
  - 3. Tongues must be spoken in worship in order. If there is no interpreter, do not speak **to the church**; speak to God.
- G. There is a significant difference between tongues and prophecy.
  - 1. Tongues – a sign for unbelievers
  - 2. Prophecy – a sign for believers
  - 3. Prophecy should be orderly
- H. The gift of prophecy is preferred over the gift of tongues because prophecy is given in the language of the hearers.
- I. All of the gifts are **for the building up of the church!**
- J. Speaking in tongues should always be allowed, but there must be an interpreter, and the interpretation is a word of instruction for the house.
- K. The use of gifts requires spiritual maturity.
- L. Tongues (and their interpretation) are a sign for unbelievers.

#### V. **Which Type of Church Member Are You?**

- Credit: Facebook

4 CHURCHES IN 1

The graphic features a central circular emblem. At the top and bottom of the circle are two church icons each, arranged in a 2x2 grid. The top-left icon is red, the top-right is white, the bottom-left is gold, and the bottom-right is white. The word '4' is on the left, '1' is on the right, and 'CHURCHES IN' is in the center. The '4' is red with a white outline, 'CHURCHES' is silver with a white outline, 'IN' is gold with a white outline, and '1' is gold with a white outline. The background is black with a white and gold circular border.



# 1. THE ALL-IN MEMBERS

---

These are the individuals striving to be true disciples of Jesus Christ. They **love their church, honor leadership, embrace accountability, and are committed to spiritual growth.** They don't view church as a place they attend but as **a family they help build.** They understand that every ministry has challenges, but they refuse to allow challenges to become excuses.

---

When issues arise, they ask, **"How can I help?"** rather than, **"Who can I blame?"** They are invested in the success of the ministry because they understand that healthy churches are built by healthy people. Their maturity allows them to overlook minor offenses, extend grace, and remain focused on the bigger picture. These members become pillars because **their commitment is deeper than their emotions.**



## 2. THE CONVENIENTLY COMMITTED

---

These individuals can be absolutely phenomenal... when it's convenient. They are gifted, capable, and often supportive, but **their commitment fluctuates** based on their schedule, feelings, preferences, and circumstances. They **love the vision until the vision requires sacrifice.**

---

They are present when it's comfortable but often absent when it becomes costly. Their challenge is not capability; it's consistency. Spiritual maturity teaches us that **faithfulness is not proven when things are easy but when things are difficult.** The Kingdom is built by people who remain **committed beyond convenience.** The danger is that convenience can masquerade as commitment for a season, but eventually the difference becomes visible.



# 3. THE VICTIMIZED MEMBERS

---

For these individuals, someone is always talking about them, somebody always has a problem with them, and they often feel **overlooked, rejected, or targeted**. Every correction feels personal. Every disagreement feels like an attack. Every oversight feels intentional.

---

The unfortunate reality is that many times these perceptions are rooted in **immaturity and a lack of accountability**. Instead of asking, “**What can I learn?**” they ask, “**Why are people against me?**” Over time, a victim mentality creates a distorted lens through which every interaction is interpreted negatively. Growth begins when we stop assuming everyone else is the problem and honestly evaluate ourselves. Maturity teaches us that **not every uncomfortable moment is persecution; sometimes it is development.**



## 4. GIFTED, NECESSARY, BUT CONTAMINATED

---

These are some of the most talented people in the church. They can preach, sing, lead, organize, build systems, and make things happen. Their gifting makes them valuable, but **their susceptibility to influence makes them vulnerable.**

---

Instead of evaluating situations through truth and wisdom, they often evaluate through conversations, rumors, opinions, and emotional reactions. **One unhealthy voice can alter their perception. One negative conversation can shift their loyalty. One offense can cloud years of positive experiences.** Their gifts keep them active, but contamination slowly damages their perspective. A gift may get you into the room, but **maturity is what allows you to remain healthy in the room.**



# THE REAL ISSUE: MATURITY, PERCEPTION, PREFERENCE, AND INFLUENCE



Many church **conflicts** are not really about **doctrine**.  
**THEY ARE ABOUT MATURITY.**



Many church **frustrations** are not really about **leadership**.  
**THEY ARE ABOUT PERCEPTION.**



Many church **departures** are not really about **conviction**.  
**THEY ARE ABOUT PERSONAL PREFERENCE.**



Many church **divisions** are not really about **righteousness**.  
**THEY ARE ABOUT INFLUENCE.**



Two people can sit in the same service and hear the same sermon.  
One leaves **inspired** while another leaves **offended**.  
One sees **opportunity** while another sees **problems**.  
One sees **family** while another sees **flaws**.  
The church didn't change. **The lens changed.**



# ASK YOURSELF



Am I helping **build** or merely **evaluating**?



Am I committed only when it's **convenient**?



Do I constantly see myself as the **victim**?



Have unhealthy influences **contaminated** my perspective?



Am I growing in **maturity** or simply growing in **opinions**?



Do I protect **unity** or contribute to **division**?



Am I a **disciple** or merely an **attendee**?

# NEWARK DISTRICT *Church School Convention*

*A Lit Church School in a Changing World*

*"Ye are the light of the world. Shine & glorify your father in heaven."*

*Matthew 5:14, 16*

Saturday, June 13, 2026

9:00AM-2:00PM

*Saint Luke AME Church*

*146 Clinton Avenue, Newark NJ*



*Host Pastor*

REVEREND DR. JOSEPH A. HOOPER  
& FIRST LADY THERESA Y. HOOPER



*Morning Preacher*

REV. BRITTANY BETHEA  
*Pastor of St. Paul AME, Kenilworth*

**Sis. Francine Davis, Host Superintendent**  
**Sis Lois Myers, NDCS Superintendent**



*Presiding Elder*

REVEREND DR. JO-AN L. OWINGS



Concert Now Being Held at the Greater Allen Cathedral



Come With Us

# JUNETEENTH

## June 19, 2026



Location Changed to Greater Allen Cathedral

Forest Hill Stadium  
Queens, New York

**DONATION: \$50**

Includes Concert Ticket & Transportation

Bus Leaving St. Matthew Church 2:00 PM

Tickets must be purchased by  
June 10, 2026

Register  
@<https://bit.ly/RTBJuneteenthNY26>

Rev. Melvin E. Wilson  
Pastor/Teacher

27th  
JUNE

A Servant Church  
**SAINT MATTHEW**  
AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
*God's Love for God's People*  
*Recover • Refresh • Renew • Restore*  
Rev. Melvin E. Wilson, Pastor/Teacher

Annual  
**PRAYER  
BREAKFAST**

*The Importance and Power of Prayer*

**1 THESSALONIANS 5:16**

Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

**FREE WILL OFFERING \$20**

**Saturday, June 27, 2026, at 9AM - 12PM**

*8AM Individual Chapel Prayer*

**336 Oakwood Avenue, Orange, NJ 07050**

*A Servant Church*  
**SAINT MATTHEW**  
AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
Orange, New Jersey  
*God's Love for God's People*  
*Recover • Refresh • Renew • Restore*

# TRAVEL

*By Bus*

**ATLANTIC CITY, NEW JERSEY**



## JULY 6-9, 2026

Departing & Returning From St. Matthew AME Church  
336 Oakwood Ave., Orange, NJ

**Donation: \$40**

To Register & Pay Go To:  
<https://bit.ly/Bus2ASPIRE>

Departure: Monday, July 6 8 AM  
Return: Thursday, July 9 1 PM

Rev. Melvin E. Wilson  
Pastor/Teacher

# Travel with US

A Servant Church  
**SAINT MATTHEW**  
AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
Orange, New Jersey  
*God's Love for God's People*  
Recover • Refresh • Renew • Restore



## Itinerary

### Saturday, August 8

- Departure from St. Matthew AME Church 7:30 am.
- Lunch @ Nordic Lodge, Charlestown, RI. 11 am - 1 pm
- Travel to Six Flags New England, Agawam, MA  
In park from 3 pm - 8 pm
- Travel to Marriott Hartford/Windsor for overnight stay.

### Sunday, August 9

- Departure @ 10:15 am for worship at Allen Chapel AME Church, Hartford, CT
- 11 am service and lunch at the church
- 2 pm departure for return to St. Matthew AME Church

## Costs

Includes Nordic Lodge, Six Flags, Hotel, Transportation, Gratuities

**1 Person, 1 King - \$455**

**2 Persons, 1 King or 2 Doubles - \$360 per person**

**3 Persons, 2 Doubles - \$330 per person**

**4 Persons, 2 Doubles - \$320 per person**

Children 8-12 years, Deduct \$85 per child (must room with an adult)

Children 3-7 years, Deduct \$110 per child (must room with an adult)

**\$150 Deposit Due June 28**

**To Register & Pay Go to:  
<https://bit.ly/StMattTrip>**

**FOR INFORMATION CALL (973)-678-1217**  
SAINT MATTHEW AME CHURCH  
336 Oakwood Avenue | Orange, NJ

Rev. Melvin E. Wilson  
Pastor/Teacher