

THOUGHT PROVOKING QUESTION:

Are the tongues of today the same as the New Testament gift of tongues?

By Brent Willey

When you compare the proper definition of the gift of tongues [glossa: "the supernatural gift of speaking another language without its having been learnt: (Vine)] with what is going on today, there are some definite problems. Modern tongues are nothing more than ecstatic babble without structure or grammar. And they definitely cannot be considered actual languages. They just don't fit the New Testament definition of the gift of tongues.

William Samarin, Ph.D. in linguistics and professor of linguistics at the University of Toronto says: "Over a period of five years I have taken part in meetings in Italy, Holland, Jamaica, Canada and the United States. I have observed old-fashioned Pentecostals and neo-Pentecostals. I have been in small meetings in private homes as well as in mammoth public meetings. I have seen such different cultural settings as are found among the Puerto Ricans of the Bronx, the snake handlers of the Appalachians and the Russian Molokans of Los Angeles... I have interviewed tongue speakers, and tape recorded and analyzed countless samples of Tongues. In every case, glossolalia turns out to be linguistic nonsense. In spite of superficial similarities, glossolalia is fundamentally not language." (Tongues of Men and Angels, pp 103-128)

Dr. Samarin has confirmed our suspicions that there is a vast difference between the legitimate tongue speaking of the New Testament apostolic age and the nonsensical gibberish uttered by the pseudo tongue-speakers today. The lucid model of valid tongue speaking is found in Act chapter 2. Were the apostles speaking recognizable languages? Absolutely! The circumstances are recorded from the viewpoint of the hearers, because to those in whose language the utterances were made it came across as an incredible feat performed by uneducated men from Galilee: "When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard them speaking in his own language. Utterly amazed, they asked, 'Are not all these men who are speaking Galileans? Then how is it that each of us hears them in his own native language?'" (versus 6-8)

This should create serious doubt in the minds of all who are honestly searching for the truth in this matter. If a man with a Ph.D. in linguistics does a study of modern tongues and determines that what we're hearing today is not language, then it's not what the Bible says the gift is. So be careful not to be fooled by emotional frenzy!

For additions or corrections to the directory please contact Mike Mendez

Church of Christ, P.O. Box 231005, Sacramento, CA 95833
(916) 428-1956 / 428-1967 website: www.mackroadchurchofchrist.com

For corrections, suggestions, or to have something included in the bulletins, please contact Ryan or Jennifer Stiltz at 924-0435 or email at stiltz_family@sbcglobal.net

WELCOME

to the
Church of Christ
meeting at Mack Road

This morning's sermon:
Where did all the miracles go?
1 Corinthians 13



Congregational Meeting Times:

Sunday

Morning Bible Study 9:30 am

Worship Service 10:30 am

Evening Service 6:00 pm

Wednesday

Morning Bible Study 10:00 am

Evening Bible Study 7:00 pm

Visitors

The members here would like to offer a special welcome to our visitors today. Please allow us to shake your hand and talk with you, as we take great joy in getting to know you. Visitor cards are available at the pews for you to provide us with a record of your attendance. We appreciate you taking the time to fill these out.

Important dates to remember:

February:

Sun. 22nd - Last Sunday of the month singing during evening services

March:

Sun. 1st - 5:00 PM Teachers meeting for teachers, parents of children, and members that may have interest in helping out in the bible classes.

Fellowship Opportunities:

Sun. 22th - **Group 1** meets following evening services

Fri. 27th - Family Night Potluck at the Uptegrove's home, 6:30pm

Classes

Growing Kids God's Way: Tuesdays at 6:45pm at the Stiltz home.

New Converts Class: 2nd and 4th Sundays at 5:00 at the building.

Young Adults Class: Friday nights at Steve Sarff's home. See Caleb for details.



Ladies House to House Fellowship

We are starting a new book, it is from the Life Principles Study Series
Lesson Book: *"Developing Inner Strength, Living in the Joy of God's Love"*

Next class: Sunday, **March 15th** at **Mavrey Uptegrove's** home.

Please prepare lesson 1. If you do not have a lesson book, please see Mavrey Uptegrove.

April 19th - Jennifer Stiltz

MEMBER'S CORNER

Our LORD, you bless everyone
who lives right
and obeys your Law.
You bless all of those
who follow your commands
from deep in their hearts
and who never do wrong
or turn from you.
You have ordered us always
to obey your teachings;
I don't ever want to stray
from your laws.
Thinking about your commands
will keep me from doing
some foolish thing.
I will do right and praise you
by learning to respect
your perfect laws.
I will obey all of them!
Don't turn your back on me.

Psalm 119:1-8 (Contemporary English Version)

Birthdays this week:

Helen Turner

Feb 26