

Assignment #7 “Spiritual Gifts: Yesterday and Today”

Principle:

Passages:	<u>Background</u>	<u>Speaking in Tongues</u>	<u>Baptism of the Holy Spirit</u>
	Ephesians 2:19-20	Acts 2:4, 10:46, 19:6	Acts 8:4-17
	Jude 3, 17	1 Corinthians 12	Ephesians 4:4-5
	Acts 2:43, 14:3	1 Corinthians 14	Romans 8:9
	2 Corinthians 12:12		1 Corinthians 3:16
	Hebrews 2:3-4		1 Corinthians 12:12-13

Please study these verses and then answer the following questions. Be concise in your answers. List specific principles that you glean from your study of these passages and give the accompanying scripture reference.

1. Ephesians 2:19-20 refers to the apostles as being the “foundation” of the church? Why was their role so important in the establishment of the early church? How do the verses in Jude contribute to this idea?
2. According to Acts 2:43 and 14:3, 2 Corinthians 12:12, and Hebrews 2:3-4 what is the connection between the role of the apostles and the abundance of super-natural or “sign” gifts in the early church? How might this help us understand the role these gifts should play in the church today?
3. What role does the book of Acts play in relation to the entire New Testament? What is the book of Acts about? How is it different than the gospels that precede it and the letters that follow?
4. What was the context for each occurrence of tongues recorded in the book of Acts? Why is the context important for understanding this issue?
5. Based on your answer to the previous question and according to 1 Corinthians 12-14, what is biblical tongues and how do you see its role in the church today?
6. You may meet someone who asks if you have been “baptized in the Spirit” or if you have received “the second baptism?” The implication is that at some point after salvation the Holy Spirit comes into a believer to empower them for ministry and fruitful service. Typically, it is said that this baptism will be evidenced by speaking in tongues or other supernatural, outward signs, and they would point to Acts 8:4-17 as an example in scripture.
 - What do Ephesians 4, Romans 8:9 and the passages in 1 Corinthians have to say regarding this idea? When does a person receive the Holy Spirit?
 - Are the events in Acts 8 meant to describe the way it will happen for all people? If not, how are we to understand those events? Why did they receive the Holy Spirit later?
7. How would you summarize these passages into one or two short principles (respond in the space provided above)?