- **2** And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.
- **3** And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them.
- 4 And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

See the emphasis on "ALL" there. It says all were filled, which means it is the right of every believer to speak in tongues.

Acts 10:44-46 (KJV)

- 44 While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word.
- **45** And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the aift of the Holy Ghost.
- 46 For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God. Then answered Peter,

See another emphasis on "all" there, meaning the Holy Ghost came on people who heard Peter, zand all of them spoke in tongues.

Acts 19:6 (KIV)

And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied.

Paul laid hands on them and they spoke in tongues!

1 Corinthians 14:18 (KJV)

I thank my God, I speak with tongues more than ye all: Paul thanks God that he speaks in tongues more than them, but that is because they all speak in tongues.

The emphasis of Paul here is to show that he speaks more than they all do, implying that whoever the letter is addressed to already speaks in tongues. Tongues is meant for prayer or for praise. It can be used in fellowship and for the development of our spiritual life. The things of the spirit involve your will, if you tell yourself that

you do not want to speak in tongues, you will not speak. It is a function of your will, all you have to do is just speak and you can do so now. Every believer has the right to speak in tongues, so open your mouth now and begin to speak. Lay hold of this truth today and begin to speak!

WHAT SHOULD A BELIEVER PRAY ABOUT?

Now that you can pray in tongues, what should you pray about;

Timothy 3:16 (KJV)

All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness

The scripture is the fundamental way we can find every subject matter as touching bible doctrine. The scripture is able to teach us, it serves as our evidence, it corrects us and instructs us. If we

teach from the scripture, get men saved by the scripture, then

we also pray from the scriptures.

So as believers, what do we pray about?

1. We pray for the spread of the Gospel 2 Thessalonians 3:1 (KJV)

Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may have free course, and be glorified, even as it is with you:

A believer must know that the will of God on earth is twofold: he desires all men to be saved and he desires all men to come to the knowledge of the truth. Without prayer, the will of God will not be done on earth; men won't be saved or come to the knowledge of the truth.

God will do nothing on earth except a man prays. (John Wesley)

For the word of God to have a free course, for the word to spread around we must PRAY! When we see that the gospel is not spreading somewhere, we take it up in the place of prayer and we will see the results. You want nations to be taken for the gospel, it is done by prayer.

List down some places the gospel needs to be spread to and PRAY!

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WHAT IS PRAYER?

Mark 11:23-24

23 For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith.

24 Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them

The first thing to note is that prayer must be verbalized. It has to be done via words, it is not done by thinking, but by speaking. Prayer is a means to communicate with God. Prayer means making your desires known unto God, our father. It implies to ask, to make petitions, or to make a request. Prayer is not a means to an end; it is actually an end on its own. Prayer is a lifestyle and every believer should pray daily. Prayer is not based on asking for natural desires. Though it is not bad to have natural desires, that should not be what your prayer life should be all about. If you have all the things you desire, would you still pray? That is to show you that prayer is not just about asking for things. Prayer is a necessity, it is constant and it must be a continuous activity. Prayer is acting on God's will, whenever God wants to do something on earth, he gets men praying.

WHY DO WE PRAY?

Ask yourself this question: why am I praying, why should I pray? Are you the type of believer who sees his/her spiritual life as a means to an end, who only prays because of the situations they are going through? Once the situation is over, do you just thank God and revert back to your old ways? Do you only pray when you are struggling or facing challenges? If that is how you live your life, you are actually in trouble and you just don't know it yet. When you pray only when you are facing challenges then you are finished already.

May it not be found among you or be your portion that when you have a problem that is when you are running around praying. Amen!

As a believer, why exactly do you pray? Prayer is God's will for your life. Prayer prepares you for upcoming challenges. As you pray, you will receive guidance, you will find direction, and you will find wisdom. Decisions are made in the place of prayer. When you don't pray it is a sign that you now only depend on strategies and not God.

Acts 6:4 (KJV)

But we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the word.

Prayer was the culture of the early church and therefore, it should be the culture of every believer. The apostles made prayer a priority. That should be your commitment, your goal, your heart cry that for the rest of your life, you will give yourself to the ministry of prayer.

Ephesians 6:18 (KJV)

Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

Prayer is an instruction to the believer. Prayer was never men tioned in the scripture as an advice, but it was an instruction. If you have missed it in your prayer life, you have missed it in everything.

HOW OFTEN SHOULD A BELIEVER PRAY? Acts 2:42 (KJV)

And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.

Colossians 4:2 (KJV)

Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving;

1 Thessalonians 5: 17 (KJV)

Pray without ceasing.

There is no end to prayer, prayer is a continuous activity! If there is anything that should remain constant and should not change in your life regardless of circumstances, it is prayer. Therefore dear believer, you need to make prayer a continuous activity in your life.

John 1:1 (KJV)

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

John 1:14 (KJV)

Luke 6:12 (KJV)

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

And it came to pass in those days, that he went out into a mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God.

The word became flesh, God became a man and God prayed. The Bible says He prayed all night and all night in the Jewish calendar means 12 hours that is; from 6 am to 6 pm. Jesus was praying every day.

Are you the type of believer whose prayer life is based on online prayer meetings or church prayer meetings? There is something as setting a time apart to pray. Dear believer, make a consecration now as you are reading this to set time apart to pray every day. God became a man and yet He prayed, how much more you, a mere mortal? When God wants to get things done on earth, He gets men praying.

"God will do nothing on earth except a man prays" (John Wesley)

Prayer is depending on God and not strategies. Your life depends on prayer. You can hear God yourself in the place of prayer. Consistency is built in the place of prayer. Boldness is found in the place of prayer, and ministry power to heal the sick, and preach the gospel is found in prayer. How can we change people's lives? By prayer.

James 5:17 (KJV)

Elias was a man subject to like passions as we are, and he prayed earnestly that it might not rain: and it rained not on the earth by the space of three years and six months

"No prayer no power",

Elias(Elijah) was a man like you and yet he prayed fervently and was able to hold the rain for 3 years and 6 months. How is your prayer life, dear believer? If you want your life to turn around, you have to pray. Prayer will bring you back to God's plan for your life, prayer will bring your desires to light, nothing defines the power of prayer.

"God trusts a man who prays than a man who knows the word, but A man who knows the word is given to prayer" (Rev Chris Segun Onayinka)

HOW SHOULD A BELIEVER PRAY? Ephesians 6:18 (KJV)

Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

A believer ought to pray in the spirit.

How will this be done?

By speaking in tongues!

Philemon 1:6 (KJV)

That the communication of thy faith may become effectual by the acknowledging of every good thing which is in you in Christ Jesus.

As a believer, there are a lot of things that you have

in Christ Jesus that you need to come to the knowledge of, and one of them is speaking in tongues. Everyone who has come to the knowledge of the gospel can

speak in new tongues, you just have to acknowledge it

Mark 16:15-17 (KJV)

15 And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.

16 He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

17 And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;

This is to show that anyone who has believed the gospel has the ability to speak in tongues. It is included in the "signs" that accompany a believer. When we try to pray in our own understanding, we find ourselves limited and we tend to end up repeating words. At times, we are even unmotivated to pray because we have prayed about everything our mind can logically think of. But when we pray in tongues, we speak mysteries.

1 Corinthians 14:2 (KJV)

For he that speaketh in an unknown tongue speaketh not unto men, but unto God: for no man understandeth him; howbeit in the spirit he speaketh mysteries.

At times, we also find that we do not know what to pray about but when we pray in tongues, we are helped by the spirit to know what to pray about.

Romans 8:26 (KJV)

Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

Tongues is a way of communicating to God, it is God's wisdom upon salvation. Tongues communicate the will and desires of God. Via tongues, we communicate with God accurately.

Tongues is meant for prayer or for praise. It can be used in fellowship and the development of our spiritual life.

Acts 2:1-4 (KJV)

1 And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.