



# 1 Corinthians WORSHIP WARS

## 1 Corinthians 12-14

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### BIG PICTURE

In 1 Corinthians 12-14, Paul is answering specific questions he has received via a letter from the Corinthian church. This section is particularly focused on the public worship services being conducted in Corinth. Evidently, the Corinthian church was in chaos with regards to public worship and the utilization of the public gifts of prophecy and tongues.

### VOCABULARY

*Glossai/Glossalalia* - “Tongues” or “Speaking in Tongues”- a form of this term appears 21 times in in this section of 1 Corinthians, and never appears again in Paul’s writings. In this specific section of Scripture, the word means to “speak in an unintelligible language that must be interpreted to be understood by the church.”

*Propheteia/Propheteuein/Prophetes* - “Prophecy”, “to Prophesy”, “Prophet” - this word cluster appears 20 times in 1 Corinthians 12-14. This gift was the “sharing of a message revealed by God to gifted people in the church.” The prophet was used by God to build up the body of Christ.

### 1 CORINTHIANS 12

In this text, Paul introduces the Corinthians’ letter to him. He begins his answer with lessons on pneumatology and ecclesiology.

- Introduction to spiritual gifts
- Various gifts
- Diversity and unity in the Body of Christ

## 1 CORINTHIANS 13

The ethic of love that contextualizes the relationships within the Body of Christ

## 1 CORINTHIANS 14

In this chapter, Paul compares the use of tongues and prophecy in public worship. He also addresses proper order for worship.

- The proper use of tongues and the value of prophecy
- How to conduct an orderly worship service
- Relational considerations - Husbands/Wives