

The background of the entire image is a photograph of a sunset or sunrise. The sky is filled with soft, golden light and scattered clouds. In the foreground, the silhouettes of eight people are visible, standing on a dark, grassy hill. They are all holding hands, with their arms raised in a gesture of unity or praise. The silhouettes are dark against the bright, glowing sky.

In Order to Edify

1 Corinthians 14:26-40

Kirk Bertsche
11-3-19
Grace Bible Chapel

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Overview of Paul's First Letter to Corinth

- Issues Raised by Others (ch. 1-6)
 - Divisions and Wisdom in the Church (ch. 1-4)
 - Disorders and Judging in the Church (ch. 5-6)
- Issues Raised by Corinthians (ch. 7-15)
 - Practical Lifestyle Issues
 - Marriage (ch. 7)
 - Christian Liberty (ch. 8-10)
 - **Corporate Worship (ch. 11-14)**
 - Resurrection (ch. 15)
- Issues Raised by Paul (ch. 16)

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Overview of Paul's First Letter to Corinth

- Corporate Worship (ch. 11-14)
 - Signs of Authority (ch. 11a)
 - The Lord's Supper (ch 11b)
 - Spiritual Gifts (ch. 12-14)
 - Variety Needed in Body (ch. 12)
 - Priority of Love over Gifts (ch. 13)
 - **Priority of Prophecy over Tongues (ch. 14)**



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Spiritual Gifts Are For Edification

- **1Cor. 14:26** What is the outcome then, brethren? When you assemble, each one has a psalm, has a teaching, has a revelation, has a tongue, has an interpretation. Let all things be done for edification.



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Spiritual Gifts Are For Edification

- **1 Cor. 14:26** What is the outcome then, brethren? When you assemble, each one has a **psalm**, has a **teaching**, has a **revelation**, has a **tongue**, has an **interpretation**. Let all things be done for edification.



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Spiritual Gifts Are For Edification

- **1 Cor. 14:26** What is the outcome then, brethren? When you assemble, each one has a psalm, has a teaching, has a revelation, has a tongue, has an interpretation. Let all things be done for **edification**.
- **1 Cor. 14:12** So also you, since you are zealous of spiritual *gifts*, seek to abound for the **edification** of the church.
- **edify:** : to build up, to construct

οἰκοδομή (*oikodomē*)

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Spiritual Gifts Are For Edification

- **1 Cor. 14:26** What is the outcome then, brethren? When you assemble, **each one has** a psalm, **has** a teaching, has a revelation, **has** a tongue, **has** an interpretation. Let all things be done for edification.



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Regulations on Use of Tongues

- **27** If anyone speaks in a tongue, it should be by two or at the most three, and each in turn, and one must interpret; **28** but if there is no interpreter, he must keep silent in the church; and let him speak to himself and to God.



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Regulations on Use of Tongues

- **27** If anyone speaks in a tongue, it should be by two or **at the most** three, and each in turn, and one must interpret; **28** but if there is no interpreter, he must keep silent in the church; and let him speak to himself and to God.

- Maximum of three
- Must have interpretation
- Must keep silent if no interpretation

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What is the Gift of “Tongues”?

- **Mk 16:** “prediction” of Acts 2; probably not original
- **Acts 2:** HS given to Jewish converts; unlearned human languages
- **Acts 10:** HS given to Gentile converts; same as Acts 2
- **Acts 19:** Salvation and HS given to John’s disciples
- **1 Cor 12-14:** Same phenomenon as Acts, or different?



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Do “Angelic Tongues” Exist?

- **1 Cor 13:1** If I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but do not have love, I have become a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. **2** If I have the gift of prophecy, and know all mysteries and all knowledge; and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. **3** And if I give all my possessions to feed the poor, and if I surrender my body to be burned, but do not have love, it profits me nothing.

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Order in Use of Tongues

- **27** If anyone speaks in a tongue, it should be by two or at the most three, and each in turn, and one must interpret; **28** but if there is no interpreter, he must keep silent in the church; and let him speak to himself and to God.



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Regulations on Use of Prophecy

- **29** Let two or three prophets speak, and let the others pass judgment. **30** But if a revelation is made to another who is seated, the first one must keep silent. **31** For you can all prophesy one by one, so that all may learn and all may be exhorted; **32** and the spirits of prophets are subject to prophets; **33** for God is not a God of confusion but of peace, as in all the churches of the saints.

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Regulations on Use of Prophecy

- **29** Let two or three prophets speak, and let the others **pass judgment**. **30** But if a revelation is made to another who is seated, the first one must keep silent.

διακρίνω (*diakrinō*)

- **pass judgment:** : to make a judgment or evaluation on the basis of careful and detailed information

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Church Quickly Ignored Paul's Regulation!

- *1 Cor 14:29* *Let two or three prophets speak, and let the others pass judgment.*
- *Didache 11:7* And any prophet speaking in the Spirit ye shall **not** try **neither** discern; for every sin shall be forgiven, but this sin shall not be forgiven. *8* Yet not every one that speaketh in the Spirit is a prophet, but only if he have the ways of the Lord. From his ways therefore the false prophet and the prophet shall be recognized.

Lightfoot

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Regulations on Use of Prophecy

- **29** Let two or three prophets speak, and let the others pass judgment. **30** But if a revelation is made to another who is seated, the first one must keep silent.
- Maximum of three
- Must have careful corporate evaluation
- Must keep silent if revelation comes to another

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Order in Use of Prophecy

- **29** Let two or three prophets speak, and let the others pass judgment. **30** But if a revelation is made to another who is seated, the first one must keep silent. **31** For you can all prophesy one by one, so that all may learn and all may be exhorted; **32** and the spirits of prophets are subject to prophets; **33** for God is not a God of confusion but of peace, as in all the churches of the saints.

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What is the Gift of “Prophecy”?

- Prediction of future?
- Teaching?
- Exhortational preaching?
- Direct revelation from God?
- Are NT and OT prophecy different?
 - *cf. 1 Kings 13*



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Order in Use of Prophecy

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Regulations for Women

- **33** ... as in all the churches of the saints. **1Cor. 14:34** The women are to keep silent in the churches; for they are not permitted to speak, but are to subject themselves, just as the Law also says. **35** If they desire to learn anything, let them ask their own husbands at home; for it is improper for a woman to speak in church.



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Regulations for Women

- **1Cor. 14:34** The women are to keep **silent** in the churches; for they are not permitted to speak, but are to subject themselves, just as the Law also says.
- **28** but if there is no interpreter, he [the tongues-speaker] must keep **silent** in the church;
- **30** But if a revelation is made to another [prophet] who is seated, the first one must keep **silent**.

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Is Paul Inconsistent?

- **1 Cor. 11:5** But every woman who has her head uncovered while praying or prophesying disgraces her head,
- VS.**
- **1 Cor. 14:34** The women are to keep silent in the churches; for they are not permitted to speak, but are to subject themselves, just as the Law also says.

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1 Cor 11:5 vs 1 Cor 14:34-35—Five Views

- 1) ch 14 trumps ch 11?
 - ch 11 a concession, later reversed?
 - ch 11 a general principle, later refined?

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1 Cor 11:5 vs 1 Cor 14:34-35—Five Views

- 1) ~~ch 14 trumps ch 11~~
- 2) 14:34-35 not original, but later marginal note?
 - some early MSS have vv 34-35 at end of chapter
 - awfully long for marginal note!
 - doesn't explain 1 Tim 2:8ff

A silhouette of a diverse group of people, including men, women, and children of various ages, holding hands in a line. The figures are black against a dark blue background.

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Women and Church Leadership

- **1 Tim. 2:8** Therefore I want the men in every place to pray, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and dissension. **9** Likewise, *I want* women to adorn themselves with proper clothing, modestly and discreetly, not with braided hair and gold or pearls or costly garments, **10** but rather by means of good works, as is proper for women making a claim to godliness. **11** A woman must quietly receive instruction with entire submissiveness. **12** But I do not allow a woman to teach or exercise authority over a man, but to remain quiet.

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Women and Church Leadership

- **1 Tim. 2:13** For it was Adam who was first created, *and* then Eve. **14** And *it was* not Adam *who* was deceived, but the woman being deceived, fell into transgression.



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Authority and Submission

- **1 Cor. 11:3** But I want you to understand that Christ is the head of every man, and the man is the head of a woman, and God is the head of Christ.



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1 Cor 11:5 vs 1 Cor 14:34-35—Five Views

- 1) ~~ch 14 trumps ch 11~~
- 2) ~~14:34-35 not original, but later marginal note?~~

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1 Cor 11:5 vs 1 Cor 14:34-35—Five Views

- 1) ~~ch 14 trumps ch 11~~
- 2) ~~14:34-35 not original, but later marginal note~~
- 3) ch 14 refers to women chattering disruptively?
 - “let them ask their own husbands at home”
 - but why “silent”, “not permitted to speak”?

A decorative border at the bottom of the slide featuring silhouettes of various people of different ages and ethnicities holding hands in a continuous line.

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1 Cor 11:5 vs 1 Cor 14:34-35—Five Views

- 1) ~~ch 14 trumps ch 11~~
- 2) ~~14:34-35 not original, but later marginal note~~
- 3) ch 14 refers to women chattering disruptively?
- 4) ch 14 refers to the judging of prophecy?
 - an authoritative, leadership role
 - may have involved asking questions



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1 Cor 11:5 vs 1 Cor 14:34-35—Five Views

- 1) ~~ch 14 trumps ch 11~~
- 2) ~~14:34-35 not original, but later marginal note~~
- 3) ch 14 refers to women chattering disruptively?
- 4) ch 14 refers to the judging of prophecy?
- 5) ch 11 and ch 14 refer to different meetings?
 - ch 14: official worship meeting of church
 - ch 11: other meetings

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Origen on Women and Prophecy

- ... what are we to make of the fact that Philip had four daughters who prophesied? If they could do it, why can we not let our own prophetesses speak? ... even if the daughters of Philip did prophecy, they did not do so inside the church. Likewise in the Old Testament, although Deborah was reputed to be a prophetess, there is no indication that she ever corporately addressed the people in the way that Isaiah or Jeremiah did.

Origen: 184-253 AD

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1 Cor 11:5 vs 1 Cor 14:34-35—Five Views

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Order in the Role of Women

- **33** ... as in all the churches of the saints. **1Cor. 14:34** The women are to keep silent in the churches; for they are not permitted to speak, but are to subject themselves, just as the Law also says. **35** If they desire to learn anything, let them ask their own husbands at home; for it is improper for a woman to speak in church.

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Instructions on Order are from God

- **36** Was it from you that the word of God first went forth? Or has it come to you only? **1Cor. 14:37** If anyone thinks he is a prophet or spiritual, let him recognize that the things which I write to you are the Lord's commandment. **38** But if anyone does not recognize this, he is not recognized.



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Order is Essential

- **1Cor. 14:39** Therefore, my brethren, desire earnestly to prophesy, and do not forbid to speak in tongues. **40** But all things must be done properly and in an orderly manner.



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“All things must be done properly and in an orderly manner” (14:40)

- What does this apply to?
 - prophecy, tongues (14:39)
 - psalm, teaching, revelation, tongue, interpretation (14:36)
 - all spiritual gifts (1 Cor 12-14; c.f. Rom 12; Eph 4)
 - all church meetings (1 Cor 11-14)
- What is the goal?
 - Edify one another
 - **Are you using your gifts in order to edify one another?**

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Overview of Paul's First Letter to Corinth

- Corporate Worship (ch. 11-14)
 - Differences Due to Gender (ch. 11a)
 - No Divisions Due to Class (ch 11b)
 - Diversity of Gifts (12-14)
 - Variety Needed in Body (12)
 - Priority of Love to Control Gifts (13)
 - **Priority of Prophecy over Tongues (14)**



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Greek Words for 1 Cor 14b

oijkodomhv (*oikodomeō*)

diakrivnw (*diakrinoō*)

aujqentevw (*authenteō*)

sigavw (*sigaoō*)



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Women and Church Leadership

- **1 Tim. 2:13** For it was Adam who was first created, *and* then Eve. **14** And *it was* not Adam *who* was deceived, but the woman being deceived, fell into transgression. **15** But *women* will be preserved through the bearing of children if they continue in faith and love and sanctity with self-restraint.



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