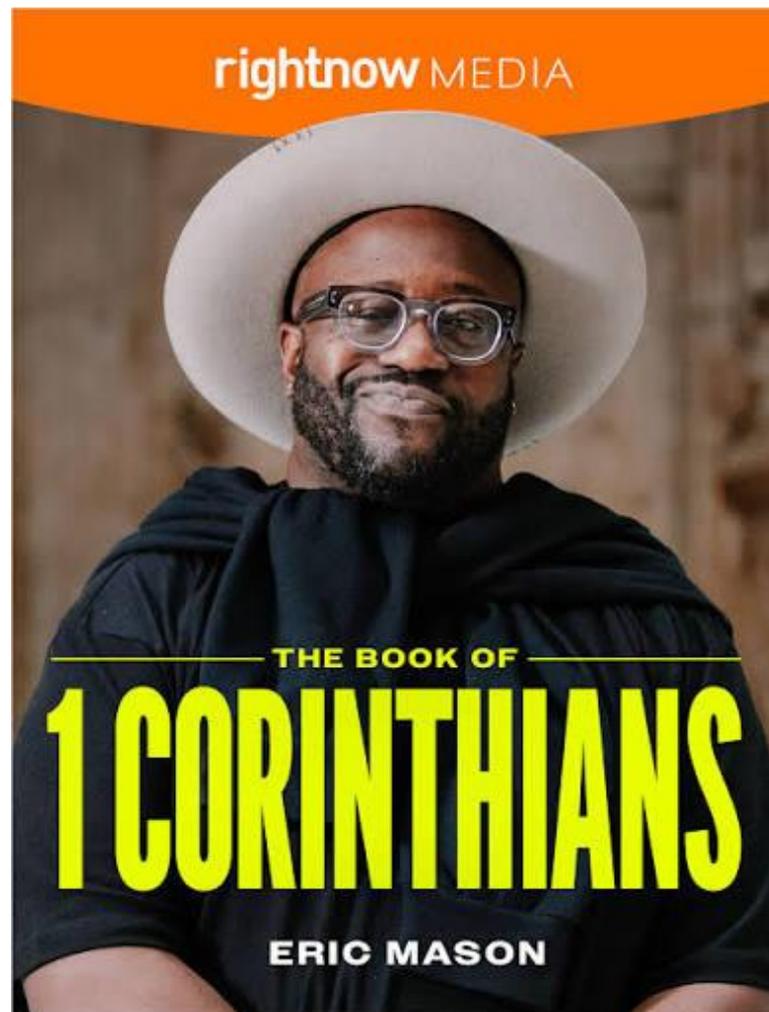


Session 9: Love and Order

The More Excellent Way

(1 Corinthians 13-14)

*Believers who know Christ's love share that love
and put others above themselves*



Session Goals

- **Head Change**
 - Understand love and gifts
- **Heart Change**
 - Value people over performance
- **Life Change**
 - Use gifts to build others



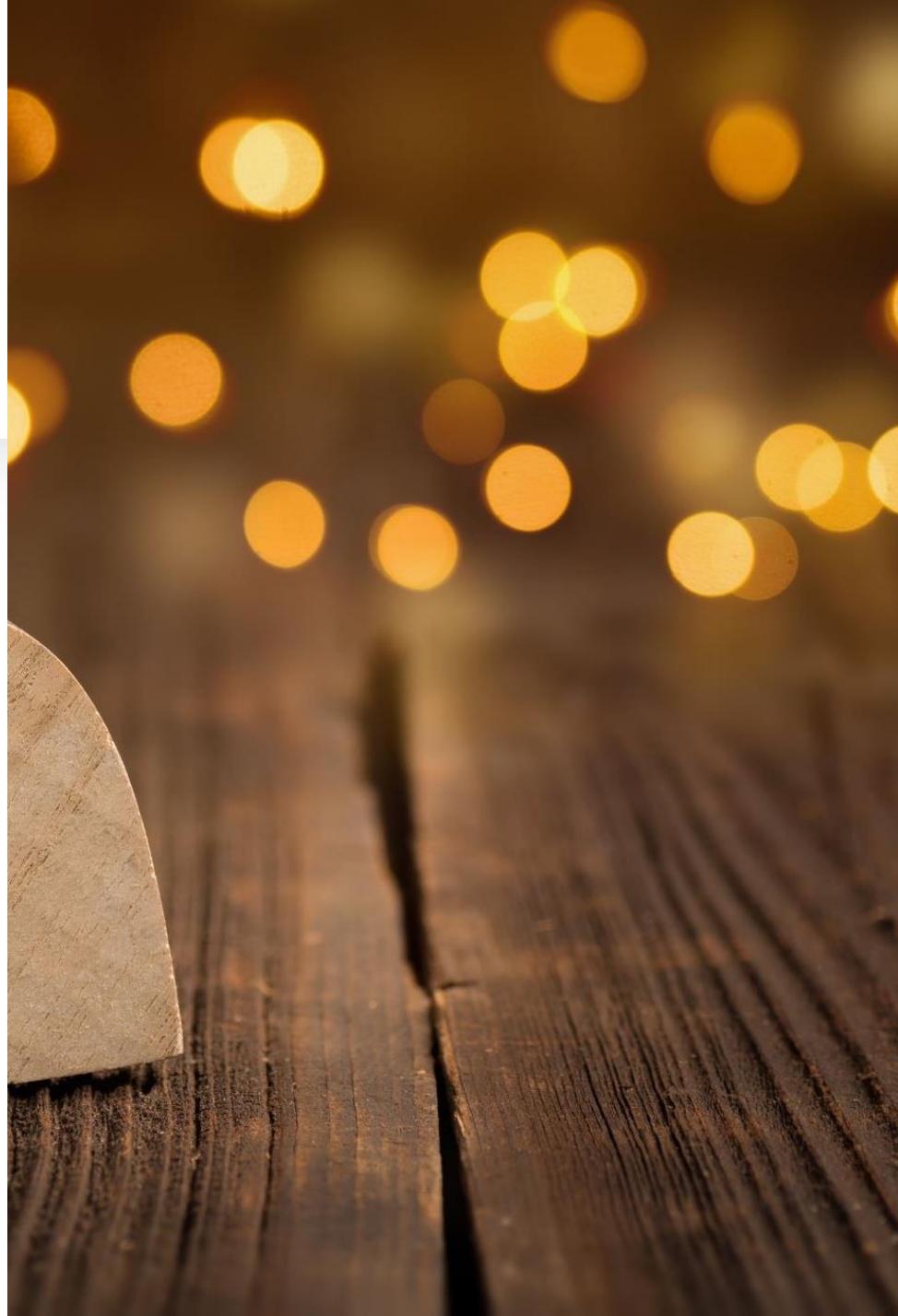
Questions to Consider as We Watch This Morning's Video Lesson by Dr. Mason

What is the relationship between God's love for us and our love for each other?

What is the proper relationship we should have with the church?

Context Matters

- **1 Cor 12: Gifts Identified**
- **1 Cor 13: Love Defined**
- **1 Cor 14: The necessity for Order**
- **Gifts are for the common good (12:7)**



1 Corinthians 13–14

(Love & Order in the Church)

The Big Idea:

- Spiritual gifts must be:
 - exercised in love
 - used to build up the church





The Essential Ingredient

(The Necessity of Love)

- Gifts without love = Nothing
 - Tongues without love = Noise
 - Knowledge without love = Emptiness
 - Sacrifice without love = No gain
- Love is the foundation (Matt 22:37-39)

Key Scripture: 1 Corinthians 13:1-3



Love Defined

(The Characteristics of Love)

- Love is:
 - Patient, kind, rejoices in truth, bears, believes, hopes, endures
- Love is NOT:
 - Envious, boastful, arrogant, self seeking, irritable, prideful, resentful
- Love in action (Phil. 2:3-4)
- Love provides evidence of maturity



Key Scripture: 1 Corinthians 13:4-7

The Permanence of Love

(Love outlasts gifts)

- Gifts fade, love remains
- Faith, Hope, Love—but greatest is love

Key Scripture: 1 Corinthians 13:8-13



From Priority to Practice



Pursue love and
desire gifts



Key Scripture:

1 Corinthians 14:1

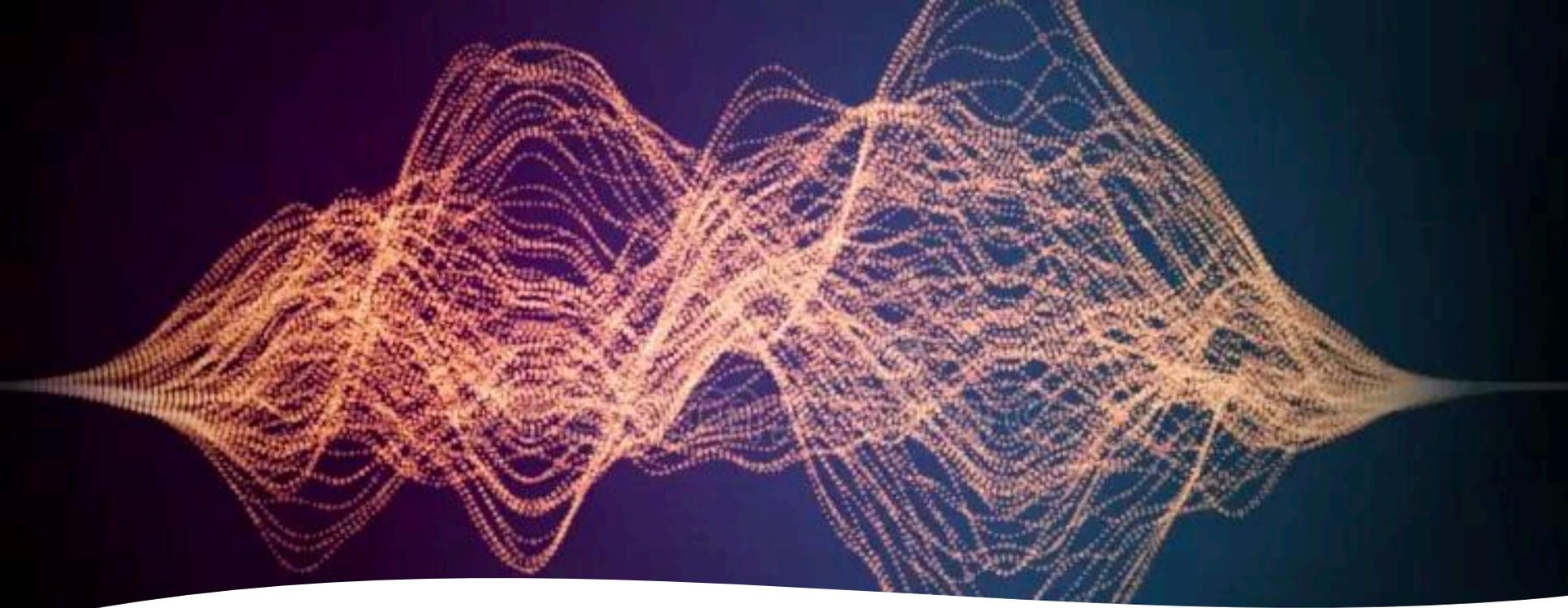
Prophecy vs Tongues

- Tongues edify self
- Prophecy builds the church
 - Upbuilding (edification)
 - Encouragement
 - Consolation



Feature	Tongues	Prophecy
Audience	God (v. 2)	People (v. 3)
Purpose	Self-edification (v. 4)	Church-edification (v. 4)
Requirement	Needs Interpretation	Needs Discernment
Outcome	Mystery	Clarity / Conviction

Key Scripture: 1 Corinthians 14:2 - 5

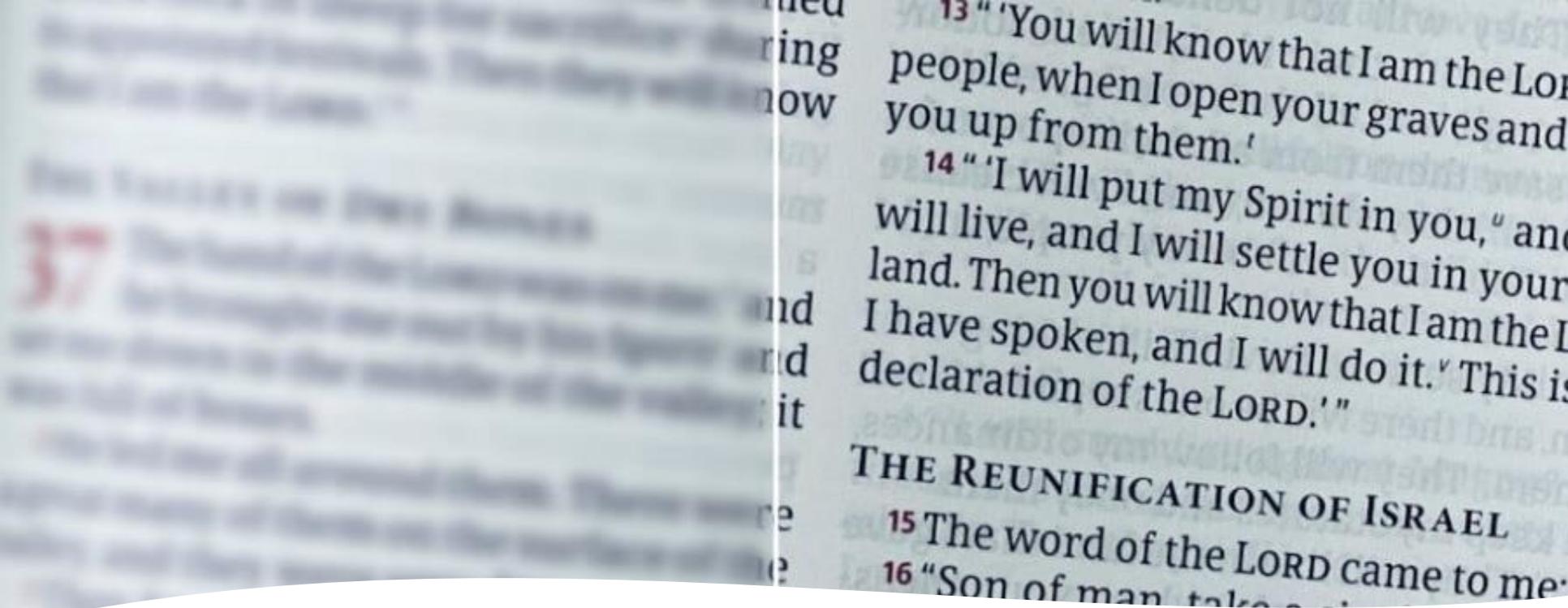


The Necessity of Intelligibility

In Public worship:

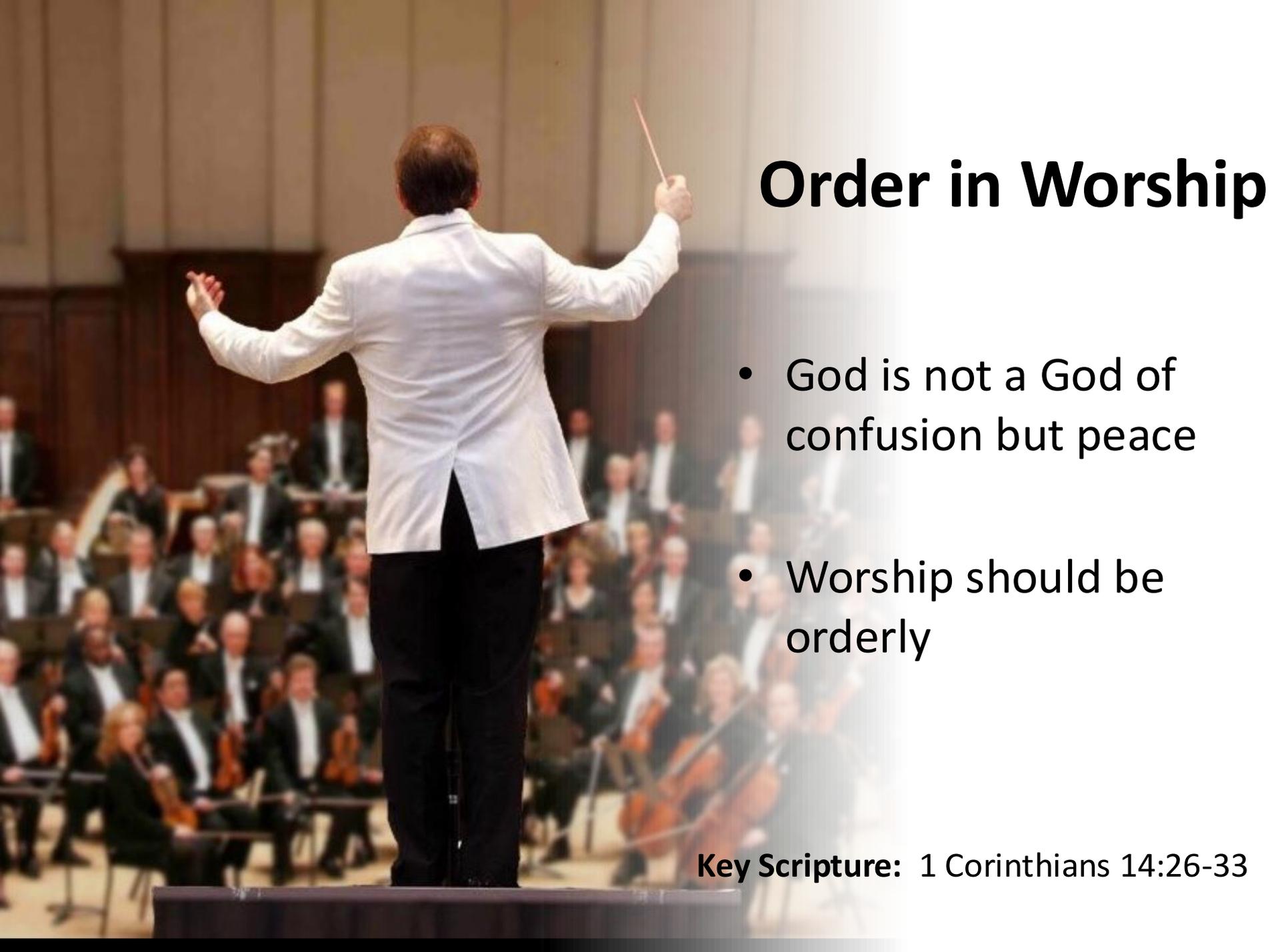
- Communications must be able to be understood
- Spiritual gifts should be used to clarify and edify

Key Scripture: 1 Corinthians 14:6-12



- Clarity**
- Over**
- Confusion**
- A Clear message > impressive speech
 - God values understanding
 - Tongues can be a sign to unbelievers
 - Prophecy reveals hearts & leads to worship

Key Scripture: 1 Corinthians 14:13-25



Order in Worship

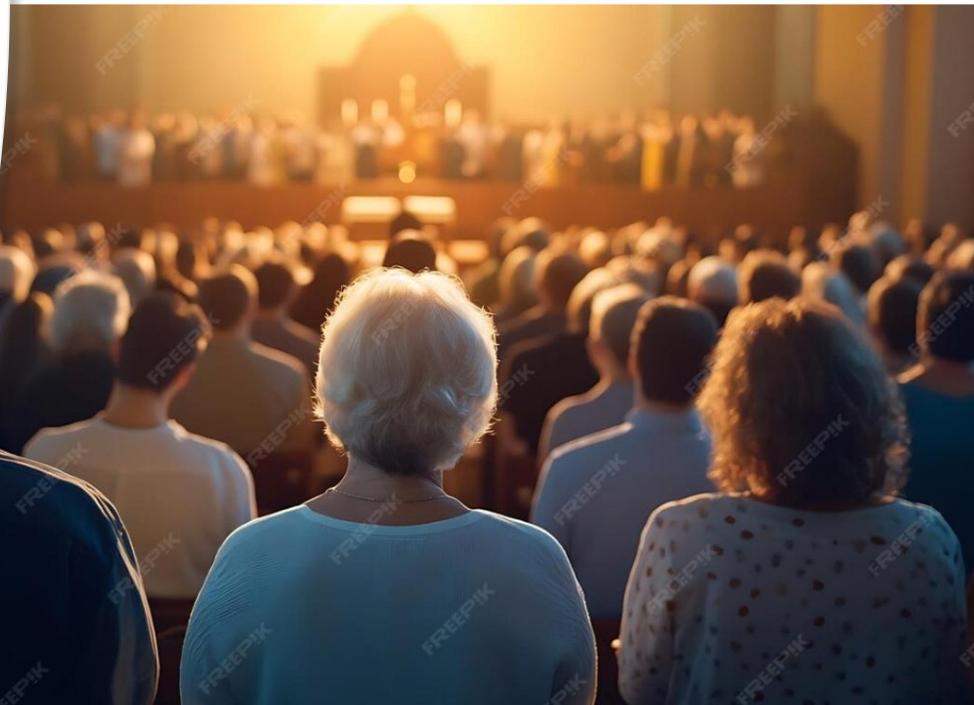
- God is not a God of confusion but peace
- Worship should be orderly

Key Scripture: 1 Corinthians 14:26-33

Self-Control & Submission

- Spiritual gifts should operate under control
- The Fruit of Spirit includes self-control (Gal. 5:22-23)
- Do not reject God's instruction
- Do everything decently and in order

Key Scripture: 1 Corinthians 14:39-40



Key Themes Recap

Love is the
foundation

Spiritual gifts
serve others

Order reflects
God will

**Life
Application**

Use your gifts
this week

Encourage
someone
intentionally