**Sunday 15th May 2016 Message**

**Who controls your tongue?**

**Faith is spelled R I S K**

**Introduction**

Faith & Risk series start – risk management?

We need to take steps of faith, take risks, every day and in every area of our life, in our walk with Jesus if we are to become more like Him.

What was the last risk you took today?

Can we say

I take a risk in Jesus’ name everyday?

I am a God pleaser – not a man pleaser

I consistently provide others with an encounter with God.

The words out of my mouth are words of faith.

The deadliest weapon in the church is the untamed tongue – who controls it is critical.

***James 3:8 But no man can tame the tongue. It is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison.***

***NKJV***

Law of first mention – Babel – Tongues

**Birthday of church**

According to Jewish tradition, Pentecost commemorates God's giving of the [Ten Commandments](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ten_Commandments) at [Mount Sinai](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mount_Sinai), 49 days after [the Exodus](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Exodus). The Talmud derives this from a calculation based on Biblical texts.

Giving of the law – one nation, one moral code, Gods moral code, a guide to having a blessed life.

Giving of the Spirit and tongues – the creation of a new nation, the power to redeem Gods created order.

**Giving nature of God – what gift at the birth of the church**

God gave us Jesus, Jesus gave us the Spirit, The Spirit gave us tongues

Born of the Spirit – baby’s gasp for breath & then make their presence known Voice

A new nation was born, a holy nation, a royal priesthood – a spiritual nation, with eternity in mind and body – it was given a spiritual language

What will be your language in heaven – numerous

Get used to it God will speak to us in strange languages ***Isa 28:11, 1 Cor 4:20***

Very well then, with foreign lips and strange tongues

God will speak to this people,

A gift promised by Jesus to accompany believers ***Mark 16:15-18*** as signs that will accompany those who believe

In Acts ALL 120 spilled out of the upper room speaking in their new spiritual language ***Acts 2:4***

That was a risk – they likely expected to be mocked

***Acts 8:14-18*** it was evidently a sign that the believers in Samaria when prayed for by Peter and John received the Holy Spirit (although not specifically mentioned). However, Simon saw they received power and wanted to buy it.

It was the confirmation Peter had that Gentiles had been filled with the Spirit and entered into the same spiritual nation ***Acts 11:15-23***

The gift of tongues was a basic doctrine of the early church – overplayed in public by the Corinthians – but encouraged by Paul for EVERYONE ***1 Cor 4:5***, and considered himself prof ***1 Cor 4:18***.It was a risk for Paul to say he spoke in tongues more than anyone else. He was a very learned, theologically sound person, it could have damaged his reputation, yet he knew he gained so much from using this gift – revelation, answered prayer, rest, edification

The gift of tongues is for personal edification ***1 Cor 4:4***

The beginning of the restoration of Gods originally created order – eternal communication in the spirit realm. The Miracle – sprit to Spirit communication with our Heavenly Father. An amazing supernatural ability for a human mortal to communicate with the immortal.

The gift is supernatural – the supernatural attracts – we play down the gift of tongues in comparison to prophecy, healing, deliverance – we dishonour the birth gift

Why do we not hear tongues so much in church – one because it is full of saved people and the gift is to impact the unbeliever – 2 its secondary but equally important use is for personal edification.

***1 Cor 14:22 Tongues, then, are a sign, not for believers but for unbelievers; prophecy, however, is for believers, not for unbelievers.***

Praying at the speed of light is better than praying at the speed of sound. We can accomplish more when we are tuned into Gods Spirit and pray in accord.

***You shall receive power after the Holy Ghost comes upon you. Acts 1:8 KJV***

Think of the gift of tongues as the dynamo which is a mechanical operation that produces and manifests the visible power and presence of God.

The gift of tongues at baptism in the Spirit is personal – the ministry gift of tongues is for ministry.

When we pray in the Spirit as opposed to praying from our mind, our prayers are not tainted with our own desires and tempraments.

When we pray in the Spirit the Spirit is more determined to activate faith and risk taking in us than we would naturally be.

When we pray in the Spirit our mind is not involved, we are at rest. This has scientifically been proven that the frontal lobes of the brains are inactive in Christians praying in the Spirit compared to others who chant or recite things in prayer.

It is my conclusion that speaking in tongues when the Spirit came upon the 120 released faith in them to take the risk of preaching the gospel so shortly after their leader had been crucified, their lives were on the line, but they had supernatural boldness.

**Do we avoid praying in the Spirit in case it means we will be empowered and stirred by the Spirit to take a risk?**

Keeping your tongue in the Spirits control will change the words of your mouth to be full of faith and risk

For the apostles to go out into public and heal the sick, and preach the gospel, was a big risk.

***Acts 3:6-8***

***6 Then Peter said, "Silver or gold I do not have, but what I have I give you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk." 7 Taking him by the right hand, he helped him up, and instantly the man's feet and ankles became strong. 8 He jumped to his feet and began to walk. Then he went with them into the temple courts, walking and jumping, and praising God.***

***NIV***

**Concluding Comments**

Know you are moving in the supernatural every day when you use your spirit language.

Know you are speaking out in faith and risk

Know you are stirring yourself up in the faith as you let the Spirit control your spiritual tongue and natural tongue.