# "Hold Your Tongue"

Sunday, November 17, 2024, 10:30 a.m.
Whitneyville Bible Church, Alto, MI
Pastor Jonathan DeCou
*1 Corinthians 14:1-25*

**BIG IDEA**: Authentic Christians realize it's not just what you say *but also* how you say it.

*"Pursue love…"*
*1 Corinthians 14:1a (CSB)*

☞ **Loving ministry <u>builds</u> <u>up</u>.** *(v 1-5)*

   o **We <u>don't</u> edify <u>self</u>.** *(v 1)*

   o **We <u>do</u> edify <u>others</u>.** *(v 2)*

☞ **Loving ministry <u>makes</u> <u>sense</u>.** *(v 6-25)*

   o **The principle of understanding <u>introduced</u>.** *(v 6)*

   o **The principle of understanding <u>illustrated</u>.** *(v 7-11)*
     o **An illustration from <u>music</u>.** *(v 7)*

     o **An illustration from <u>battle</u>.** *(v 8)*

     o **An illustration from <u>conversation</u>.** *(v 9-11)*

     o **The principle of understanding <u>applied</u>.** *(v 12-25)*
     o **I can't <u>share</u> what I don't <u>know</u>.** *(v 12-15)*

     o **People must <u>prepare</u> themselves to <u>receive</u> the Word.** *(v 16-20)*

     o **"<u>Listening</u>" is not the same as "<u>hearing</u>".** *(v 21-25)*

**Read:** *Re-read 1 Corinthians 14:1-25*
**Think:** Contemplate what loving ministry looks like, and then ask yourself the following questions: *Describe a time when you were in a country, area or situation where you couldn't speak the language. Was it funny? Frustrating? Humbling? What is the difference between speaking in tongues (languages) or prophesying (see v 2-4)? During Corinthian worship services far too much time was spent speaking in tongues. The result was chaos. How is this yet another mark of their immaturity (v 20; see also 3:1-4)? What are Paul's corrective instructions to the spiritually proud Corinthians (v 12)? What are the values and limits of languages (v 4, 9, 13-19, 21-25)?*
**Do:** Have you ever seen someone exercise a spiritual gift without regard for "building up the church"? What do you do that edifies you alone? What do you do to edify others in your church? How can you prepare yourself to understand God's Word this week? How can you prepare yourself to make sure you are able to articulate the basic truths of the faith with clarity and precision?