EDIFY
1 Cor 14:1-6

1 Cor 14:1  **Follow after charity:** Let your greatest aim be love.  
**Desire spiritual gifts:** Long for the very special abilities and equipment God will give you in order to be effective in His kingdom.  
**But rather:** More important **that ye may prophesy:** Desire to communicate through preaching and teaching the will of God.

OT prophets—Two fold ministry:  
1. Foretelling the future  
2. Forth telling the Word.

Today, the prophet of God says, "Thy saith the Lord" with Bible in hand.

1 Cor 14:2  **Unknown:** Not known to speaker and listeners.  
**Speaketh not unto men, but unto God:** Not one man understand you. Only one who hears you is God.  
Tongues of no value to them if only used for the one speaking to get a sense of being built up, lifted up, edified.  
**For no man understandeth him:** 1 Cor 14:23 Unbelievers think he is mad.

Accomplish opposite purpose. It was intended to reach unbelieving Jew... **howbeit in the spirit:** spirit of man. **Mysteries:** Things man can not know  
Even though in your spirit you feel a very special sense of mystery, as you speak people can not understand a thing you are saying. The only one who can hear you is God.

Context: Tongues vs prophesy

1 Cor 14:3  
1. Speak specifically so understood  
2. Edification  
3. Exhortation  
4. Comfort  

Gromaki: 3-fold goal in his preaching: Build up, stir up, and to cheer up.

**Edification:** to build lives up; promote spiritual growth.  
**Exhortation:** Urge one to pursue course of conduct. Idea of issuing warnings or admonitions.

**Comfort:** Exhortation emphasizes future while Comfort emphasizes present.

Word of God effectively preached:  
1. Spiritual growth promoted  
2. People admonished and confronted.  
3. People encouraged in their present trial.

1 Cor 14:4  Many believe Paul sarcastic
1 Cor 12:7  Manifestation gifts for benefit of body and not individuals.
Mac: They (tongues) cannot therefore, be intended by God for private devotional use, as many Pentecostals and Charismatics claim...is referring to the supposed value the Corinthians placed on their self-styled tongues speaking. The satisfaction many of the believers experienced in their abuse of tongues was self-satisfaction, which came from pride induced emotion, not from spiritual edification. It is an illegitimate self-building, often building up nothing more than spiritual pride.

The proclamation of the Word has more value to building up of body than tongues!
1 Cor 14:5  But rather ...  If you are going to seek a gift ... then seek to prophesy. For greater is he that prophesieth ... When prophet speaks, body edified, exhorted, comforted...Not so with tongues. Except he interpret ...edifying. The one speaking in tongues on same level of impact in local church if interpreted what saying.  Interpret: translate; explain thoroughly

Commitment: I will give myself to the edifying of the body
Point: Tongues does not edify the body. Prophecy does!
1 Cor 14:6  If I, Paul, come to you and speak to you in an unknown language how can this be an advantage to you?
Answer: it can't profit you!
Fellowship demands followship.
1 Cor 14:6
1. Revelation: uncover something which has been previously covered.
   Declaration of Word.
2. Knowledge (gnosis) gain clear insight into God's Word.
3. Prophesying:
   Foretelling: Future events
   Knowledge: objective --words
   Prophesying: subjective--preaching of Word of God.
   Basis is Revelation--declaration of Word

Paul's desire --be profitable to them.

So What?
I will give myself to the edifying of the body