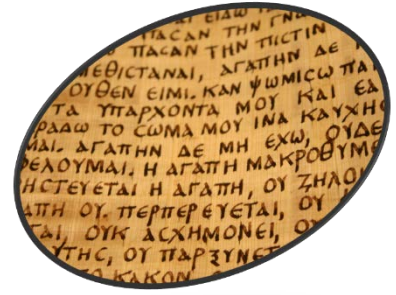


1 Corinthians – “Unity in Christ”

Lesson #5



- I. **Who can judge ministry?**
 - a. Read 1 Corinthians 4:1-5
 - b. Who does Paul mean when he refers to “us”? (vs 1)
 - c. What is a steward, and what is their significance? (vss 1-2)
 - d. What are the “mysteries of God”? (vs 1)
 - e. How do modern churches judge pastors by worldly standards?
 - f. Why is it important to reserve judgment considering what Paul says earlier?
 - i. See 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

- II. **Stick to Scripture**
 - a. Read 1 Corinthians 4:6-7
 - b. What “things” has Paul applied to himself and Apollos? (vs 6)
 - i. See 1 Corinthians 3:6; 3:10; 4:1
 - c. How does being “puffed up” or prideful cause problems in today’s church?
 - d. How were the Corinthians going beyond Scripture?
 - e. Consider the many ways God has “gifted” you. Write them down with this in mind, “What do you have that you did not receive [from God]?” (vs 7)

- III. **You have arrived! ...Not**
 - a. Read 1 Corinthians 4:8-13
 - b. In this section, Paul finishes his point about the Corinthian’s pride and spiritual immaturity. Is he complimenting or scolding?
 - c. What kind of spectacle and death march is Paul referring to? (vs 9)
 - d. In what ways has modern Christianity embraced the Corinthian side versus what Paul describes as being a “fool for the sake of Christ”? (vs 10)
 - e. When reading the list (vss 11-13) of challenges a follower of Christ endures, how has Christianity continued to flourish throughout history?

- IV. **Wait 'til your father gets home!**
 - a. Read 1 Corinthians 4:14-21
 - b. Paul appeals to his role as a father. By what means does a father teach?
 - c. Isn’t God our only spiritual father? What is Paul claiming in verse 15?
 - d. If you ask someone to imitate you, what does that imply? (vs 16)
 - e. Paul ends this section with a stern warning, but for whom? (vss 18-21)
 - f. Do you learn better by means of a rod or gentleness and love? (vs 21)

- V. **Next time...**
 - a. Read 1 Corinthians 5:1-13