

LOGOs → 1st WED & Ripple Effect

Authority Leadership

1 Corinthians 1:23-23, 26a

...we preach Christ crucified ... to those who are **called** ... Christ is God's power and God's wisdom ... consider your **calling** ...

1 Corinthians 2:5

so that your **faith** might be based on man's wisdom but on God's power

1 Corinthians 3:1

... I was not able to speak to you as spiritual people but as people of the flesh, as babes in Christ.

1 Corinthians 3:16

Don't you yourselves know that you are God's sanctuary and that the Spirit of God lives in you?

Spiritual Leadership:

Getting people where God wants them to be and helping them remain there

Spiritual Leadership:

Using God's methods and power to help move God's people somewhere they are not and/or to help them remain in Christ when culture, flesh & the enemy want to move them somewhere else

The responsibility of leadership

The response to leadership

1 Corinthians 4:1a

A person should **think** of **us** in this way ...

We are supposed to be **under** Christian/biblical leadership.

There is a difference between being **in** church and being **under** spiritual leadership.

Biblically, leadership is **plural**, not **singular**.

1 Corinthians 4:1-2

A person should think of us in this way: as **servants** of Christ and **managers** of the **mysteries of God**. In this regard, it is required that managers be found **faithful**.

Magnify the message of Christ. (Catalyst of the movement)

Passion of Christ image

Yes and No in the right place (in order to move people to the right place).

1 Corinthians 4:3-5

It is of little importance to me that I should be judged by you or by any human court. In fact, I don't even judge myself. For I am not conscious of anything against myself, but I am not justified by this. **It is the Lord who judges me**. So don't judge anything prematurely, before the Lord comes, who will both bring to light what is hidden in darkness and reveal the intentions of the hearts. And then praise will come to each one from God.

{all together; one slide}

The No's:

No to people-pleasing

No to self-esteem

The Yes's:

Yes to Gospel identity

Yes to pleasing God

1 Corinthians 4:6-7

Now, brothers and sisters, I have applied these things to myself and Apollos for your benefit, so that you may learn from us the meaning of the saying: "**Nothing beyond what is written**." The purpose is that none of you will be arrogant, favoring one person over another. For who makes you so superior? What do you have that you didn't receive? If, in fact, you did receive it, why do you boast as if you hadn't received it?

What type of Christianity do we have and/or are we moving toward?

Cultural?

Congregational (Preferential)?

Convictional?

{one slide}

→ We must put humility in the right place.

SELF

TRUTH

The issue with “tolerance” is that when we accept people for who they want to be, we neglect the people that God CREATED them to be and DIED for them to become.

1 Corinthians 4:8-12a

You are already full! You are already rich! You have begun to reign as kings **without** us—and I wish you did reign, so that we could also reign with you! For I think God has displayed us, the apostles, in last place, like men condemned to die: We have become a spectacle to the world, both to angels and to people. We are fools for Christ, but you are wise in Christ! We are weak, but you are strong! You are distinguished, but we are dishonored! Up to the present hour we are both hungry and thirsty; we are poorly clothed, roughly treated, homeless; we labor, working with our own hands.

God’s approval of us and our vindication come from the Cross, not earthly success.

Is our Christianity more about **reinforcing our lifestyle** or moving us to follow **the way of the Cross** more completely and wholeheartedly?

1 Corinthians 4:12b-13

When we are reviled, **we bless**; when we are persecuted, **we endure it**; when we are slandered, **we respond graciously**. Even now, we are like the scum of the earth, like everyone’s garbage.

We must be moving toward greater **Christ-likeness.**

Would we rather be right or Christ-like?

Would we rather be angry at ... or be a blessing to ...?

Would we rather give people what they deserve or grace?

1 Corinthians 4:14-17

I’m not writing this to shame you, but to warn you as my dear children. For you may have countless instructors in Christ, but you don’t have many fathers. For I became your father in Christ Jesus through the gospel. Therefore I urge you to **imitate me**. This is why I have sent Timothy to you. He is my dearly loved and faithful child in the Lord. He will remind you about my ways in Christ Jesus, just as I teach everywhere in every church.

Leadership of the church shows up in the life of the church.

1 Corinthians 4:18-21

Now some are arrogant, as though I were not coming to you. But I will come to you soon, if the Lord wills, and I will find out not the talk, but the power of those who are arrogant. For the kingdom of God is not a matter of talk but of **power**. What do you want? Should I come to you with a rod, or in love and a spirit of gentleness?

Church and ministry are messy (because they are us!)

We can always move forward in hope & optimism because the Gospel is our “true north.”