Watch or listen to sermons on the Harvest Bible Church App (Cypress)

What Is a True Servant of Christ?

1 Corinthians 4:1-13

1) A true servant of Christ views himself as God sees him (4:1)
   a) As a *diakonos* (Eng. *servant*)—a lowly waiter (3:5)
   b) As a *hupēretēs* (Eng. *underling*)—lowest slaves in Roman empire; under-rowers
   c) As an *oikonomos* (Eng. *steward*)—owned nothing; cared for all master's possessions
      i) Owning all that God owns (3:21-23)
      ii) Revealing the mysteries of God
2) A true steward of Christ is trustworthy, serving faithfully (4:2)
3) A true servant does not judge Christ's other servants (4:3-5)
   a) As long as it's biblical & orthodox, *how* we serve Christ is no one's concern (3)
   b) Our own assessment of ourselves means little (4)
   c) Christ alone will judge us in due time (5; cf. Matt 24:45-46; 25:19-30)
   d) Judging sinful behavior is indeed proper (cf. chap. 5)
4) We servants of Christ cannot exceed what Scripture reveals about us (6-7)
   a) We sow & water; we preach & teach; God causes growth
   b) What we have, we received; we cannot boast
5) True servants of Christ are not living their best life now (4:8-13)
   a) Infantile Christians will not enter the battle for Christ
   b) God's true servants work hard today & look to eternity
6) Questions for application (4:7)
   a) Who regards you as superior?
   b) What do you have that you did not receive?
   c) Why do you boast as if you earned something that you actually received?