



**COMMUNITY
CHURCH**

Offer Hope. Grow in Community. Be the Church.

April 18, 2021
1 Corinthians 4: Servants of Christ

*“This, then, is how you ought to regard us: as servants of Christ and as those entrusted with the mysteries God has revealed.”
(1 Corinthians 4:1)*

Servants: under-rowers

“Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful.” (1 Corinthians 4:2)

Faithfulness is the key.

“For who makes you different from anyone else? What do you have that you did not receive? And if you did receive it, why do you boast as though you did not? (1 Corinthians 4:7)

*“...When we are cursed, we bless; when we are persecuted, we endure it; when we are slandered, we answer kindly.”
(1 Corinthians 4:12-13a)*

“...We have become the scum of the earth, the garbage of the world.” (1 Corinthians 4:13b)

*“For the Kingdom of God is not a matter of talk but of power.”
(1 Corinthians 4:20)*

The Fellowship of the Unashamed

(A Zimbabwean Martyr's Prayer)

I am part of the fellowship of the unashamed. I have Holy Spirit power.

The die has been cast. I have stepped over the line. The decision has been made. I am a disciple of His. I won't look back, let up, slow down, back away or be still.

My past is redeemed. My present makes sense. My future is secure. I'm finished with low living, sight walking, small planning, smooth knees, colorless dreams, tamed visions, worldly talking, cheap giving and dwarfed goals.

I no longer need preeminence, prosperity, position, promotions, applause, or popularity. I don't have to be right, first, tops, recognized, praised, regarded or rewarded. I now live by faith, lean on His presence, walk in patience, am uplifted by prayer and labor by power.

My pace is set. My gait is fast. My goal is heaven. My road is narrow. My way rough. My companions few. My guide is reliable and my mission is clear.

I cannot be bought, compromised, detoured, lured away, turned back, deluded or delayed. I will not flinch in the face of sacrifice, hesitate in the presence of the adversary, negotiate at the table of the enemy, pander at the pool of popularity or meander in the maze of mediocrity.

I won't give up, shut up, let up, until I've stayed up, stored up, prayed up, paid up, preached up for the cause of Christ.

I am a disciple of Jesus. I must go till He comes, give 'til I drop, preach till all know, and work till He stops me. And when He comes for His own, He'll have no problem recognizing me. My banner will be clear.

HOME GROUP questions for 1 Corinthians 4...

1. Paul states that he and Apollos were stewards (servants) of the Gospel and of the church. What does being a steward entail? What qualities must they have? Read the following Scriptures and discuss:
 - Hebrews 13:17
 - Luke 16:10-12
 - Genesis 39:4-6
 - 2 Timothy 2:2-4
 - 1 Peter 5:1-4
2. Why do you think Paul thought it was important that he be concerned about God's judgment of his work rather than man's opinion? Read the following Scriptures:
 - Colossians 3:23
 - James 3:1
 - Luke 12:4-5
3. Why do you think Christians today tend to follow this or that leader? How would this chapter change your perspective?