

1

1 Corinthians 4:1-7 (CSB)
¹ A person should think of us in this way: as servants of Christ and managers of the mysteries of God.
² In this regard, it is required that managers be found faithful.

2

1 Corinthians 4:1-7 (CSB)
³ 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.
⁴ For I am not conscious of anything against myself, but I am not justified by this. It is the Lord who judges me.

3

1 Corinthians 4:1-7 (CSB)

⁵ 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.

4

1 Corinthians 4:1-7 (CSB)

⁶ 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."

5

1 Corinthians 4:1-7 (CSB)

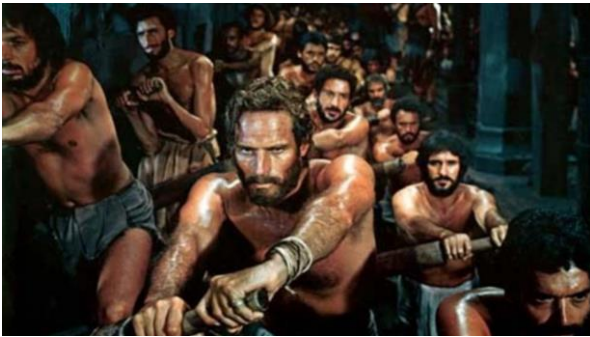
⁶ The purpose is that none of you will be arrogant, favoring one person over another.
⁷ For who makes you so superior? What do you have that you didn't receive?

6

1 Corinthians 4:1 (CSB)

A person should think of us in this way:
as **servants** of Christ and managers of
the mysteries of God.

7



8

1 Corinthians 4:1 (CSB)

A person should think of us in this way:
as servants of Christ and **managers** of
the mysteries of God.

9

1 Corinthians 4:2-5 (CSB)

² In this regard, it is required that managers be found faithful.

³ 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.

10

1 Corinthians 4:2-5 (CSB)

⁴ For I am not conscious of anything against myself, but I am not justified by this. It is the Lord who judges me.

11

1 Corinthians 4:2-5 (CSB)

⁵ 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.***

12

1 Corinthians 4:5 (CSB)

And then *praise* will come to each one from God.

13

On judgment day,
instead of receiving
condemnation,
true believers receive
commendation.

14

1 Corinthians 4:6 (CSB)

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.*"

15

We are not to judge people according to what we think is right, but according to what God has already said through His written word.

16

1 Corinthians 4:6-7 (CSB)

⁶The purpose is that none of you will be arrogant, favoring one person over another.

⁷For who makes you so superior? ***What do you have that you didn't receive?***

17

"Grace, more than any other human teaching, pulls the rug out from under our self-reliance, our boasting and our pride."
~ Andrew Wilson

18

1 Corinthians 4:7 (CSB)

If, in fact, you did receive it, why do you **boast** as if you hadn't received it?

19

1 Corinthians 4:8 (CSB)

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!

20

1 Corinthians 4:9 (CSB)

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.

21



22

1 Corinthians 4:10-13 (CSB)

¹⁰ 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!

¹¹ Up to the present hour we are both hungry and thirsty; we are poorly clothed, roughly treated, homeless;

23

1 Corinthians 4:10-13 (CSB)

¹² we labor, working with our own hands. When we are reviled, we bless; when we are persecuted, we endure it;

¹³ when we are slandered, we respond graciously. Even now, we are like the *scum of the earth*, like everyone's *garbage*.

24

1 Corinthians 4:14-16 (CSB)

¹⁴ I'm not writing this to shame you, but to warn you as my dear children.

¹⁵ 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.

¹⁶ Therefore I urge you to *imitate me*.

25

Christians must live a life worth imitating.

26

1 Corinthians 4:17-20 (CSB)

¹⁷ 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.

¹⁸ Now some are arrogant, as though I were not coming to you.

27

1 Corinthians 4:17-20 (CSB)

¹⁹ 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.

²⁰ For the kingdom of God is not a matter of *talk* but of *power*.

28

The kingdom of God is not just one of the themes of the entire Bible. It's interwoven into *every* theme of the Bible.

29

"The kingdom of God is not a matter of grasping power, but of giving it away. It's not about controlling others, but about serving them."

~ Henri Nouwen

30

Luke 17:20-21 (CSB)

²⁰ When he was asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come, he answered them, "The kingdom of God is not coming with something observable;

31

Luke 17:20-21 (CSB)

²¹ no one will say, 'See here!' or 'There!' For you see, ***the kingdom of God is in your midst.***"

32

Luke 4:43 (CSB)

But he said to them, "It is necessary for me to proclaim the good news about the ***kingdom of God*** to the other towns also, because I was sent ***for this purpose.***"

33

The reason Jesus came was for the kingdom of God, and the cross was the means by which we can enter it.

34

Revelation 11:15 (CSB)

The seventh angel blew his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven saying, The **kingdom** of the world has become the **kingdom** of our Lord and of his Christ, and he will reign forever and ever.

35

Revelation 21:1-4 (CSB)

¹ Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more.

36

Revelation 21:1-4 (CSB)

² I also saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared like a bride adorned for her husband.

37

Revelation 21:1-4 (CSB)

³ Then I heard a loud voice from the throne: Look, God's dwelling is with humanity, and he will live with them. They will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them and will be their God

38

Revelation 21:1-4 (CSB)

⁴ He will wipe away every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; grief, crying, and pain will be no more, because the previous things have passed away.

39

Hope and optimism are not the same thing.

40

Optimism is based on a good feeling that things are looking up.

Hope is a choice that is based on faith, even if things are looking dark.

41

1 Corinthians 4:20 (CSB)

For the kingdom of God is not a matter of *talk* but of *power*.

42

Romans 1:16 (CSB)

For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the **power** of God **for salvation** to everyone who believes, first to the Jew, and also to the Greek.

43

The cross was the most powerful event in human history.

44

The kingdom of God is built not with bricks or stone, but it is built with every heart that has been transformed by the power of the cross.

45