

Man's ways are not God's ways. We must regard God's church and its leaders as God regards them. (1 Corinthians 3 & 4)

Isaiah 55:8-9 "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts."

Man's Ways

God's Ways

The Church	Spiritual Maturity (1 Corinthians 3:1-4)	Consider maturity to be shown by eloquence of speech and worldly wisdom.	Spiritual maturity is without jealousy and striving among themselves; ready for 'solid food' of the Word.
	Spiritual Growth (1 Corinthians 3:5-9)	Men credited for spiritual growth.	God alone causes growth. All men are fellow workers and are rewarded by God according to their labor, not the outcome of their labor.
	Spiritual Building (1 Corinthians 3:10-15)		Only one building, one foundation: Jesus Christ. Many builders. God tests the quality of the building materials by fire - by disclosing the purposes of the heart (4:5).
	Church (1 Corinthians 3:16-17)		God's church with the Spirit dwelling in the people. Holy. God will guard the unity of it.
	Wisdom (1 Corinthians 3:18-20)	Highly value and boast in the wisdom of men.	The thoughts of the world's wise are futile before God.
	What Believers Have (1 Corinthians 3:21-23)	Boast in a particular teacher.	God has given all things to believers (including teachers and leaders). Believers are Christ's. Christ is God's.

Man's Ways

God's Ways

Teachers & Leaders	Teachers (1 Corinthians 4:1)	Teachers of men. People to be lauded and served.	Servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God.
	Worthiness (1 Corinthians 4:2-5)	Judged by men for their eloquence and worldly wisdom.	Judged by God for their faithfulness.
	Value (1 Corinthians 4:6-7)	Favor one over another.	All equal because all they have is not their own but from God
	Reputation (1 Corinthians 4:8-13)	Celebrate and boast in being rich and influential by worldly standards.	Not pursuing influence, reputation, or riches by the world's standards. Content to be fools, weak, poor, reviled, persecuted, and slandered for Christ's sake.
	Behavior (1 Corinthians 4:14-21)	Arrogant and much talk.	Loving. Safe to imitate and imitated already. All being conformed to the image of Christ. Power of God displayed.