



The Corinthian's Pride and The Humility Of the Apostles

1 Corinthians 4:8-13

September 27, 2023

Discussion Group Handout

8 You are already filled, you have already become rich, you have ruled without us—and *how I* wish that you had ruled indeed so that we also might rule with you. **9** For, I think that God has exhibited us apostles last of all, as men condemned to death, because we have become a spectacle to the world, and to angels, and to men. **10** We are fools for the sake of Christ, but you are prudent in Christ! We are weak, but you are strong! You are glorious, but we are without honor! **11** To this present hour we hunger and thirst, and are poorly clothed, and roughly treated, and homeless;

1. Paul's Sarcastic Rebuke.

- a. What does Paul mean when he says that the Corinthians have already become full and rich?
- b. Are you tempted to be like the Corinthians and think you have everything you need and have done everything on your own without God?
- c. What are the dangers of thinking this way?
- d. What does Paul mean when he says that the Corinthians have ruled or have become kings?
- e. Are there times when you are tempted to rule and to judge when that is not your place? What are the dangers of doing this especially within ministry?

2. The Apostle's Humility.

- a. What is the benchmark of an apostle and in turn what should be the benchmark of every believer? – humility.
- b. Do you consider yourself to be last in this world? What are some practical ways to guard against pride and remain humble?
- c. In verse 10 Paul says that they are fools for the sake of Christ. Are you concerned that people might think you are a fool? What are some practical ways that you can guard against being concerned that others might think we are fools for our faith in Jesus?



- d. In verse 10 Paul continues and says that he is weak. Remembering that God's power is perfected in our weakness. Do you find that you rely on yourself or God when serving and just in your day to day walk with the Lord?
- e. Paul says that they hunger and thirst and are poorly clothed, they are roughly treated, and homeless. Would you be willing to lose all of your earthly comforts for the sake of the gospel and following Christ? What are some practical ways to continue to bolster your faith and love for the Lord?
- f. The bible says that we will be hated because of our faith. That we will be reviled, persecuted, and slandered. What are some ways to respond in kindness and love to those people? What are some examples whether biblical or throughout history (i.e. the martyrs) that we can look to as an example?

Prayer topics:

- Pray that Anchor Bible Church would be a church that is marked by humility – both church leaders and members.
- Pray that when we are slandered and mocked or persecuted for our faith that we would stand strong in the Lord and respond in kindness and love.