

INTRODUCTION

- * The church of Corinth was a church that reflected the multiculturalism of the city wherein it sat and was at the front line of working out their faith within a hedonistic society.
- * Paul's begins his letter by reminding the Corinthians of God's sovereign ownership of the church. The church belongs to God. He has called us and set us apart in order that we might be living testimony to the world about us.
- * The church, however, is comprised of sinful, self-focused humans who quickly lose focus on God and begin to focus on their own desires, cultural norms and personal interpretations. Generally, these differences of opinion become personified in an individual to whom others take allegiance.
- * True servants of the Lord, while understanding their role as leaders, seek to point others to Christ and not to themselves.
- * Last week, we examined the existence, cause and root of divisions in the Corinthian church ... and saw their applications to today.
- * Today, we consider Paul's instruction to the church regarding those who would be the servants of God.

INSTRUCTION:**I. PAUL'S I _____ (cf. 1:10-12; 3:5- 4:5)****A. The Servants of God are to be God's F _____ W _____ (v. 5-21)**

1. THE A _____ OF THE WORKERS (v. 5-9)
2. THE A _____ TO THE WORKERS (v. 10-23)

B. The Servants of God are to be God's F _____ S _____ (cf. 4:1-5)

1. THE C _____ OF A STEWARD'S JUDGMENT (v. 1-2; Matthew 25:14-30)
2. THE A _____ OF A STEWARD'S JUDGMENT (v. 3-5)

II. PAUL'S I _____ (cf. 4:6-13)**A. Paul's Use of I _____ (v. 7)**

1. QUESTION #1:
 - * Diakrino (cf. 1 Cor 6:5; 1 Cor 11:29-31; 1 Cor 14:29; Romans 4:20; Romans 14:23)
 - * Anakrino and Krino used 4 times in v. 3-5.
2. QUESTION #2:
3. QUESTION #3:
 - * cf. Galatians 6:3; Romans 12:3, 16

B. Paul's Use of I _____ (v. 8)

1. YOU ARE _____ !
 - * cf. Acts 27:38; Deuteronomy 31:19-20; Hebrews 5:11-14; Matthew 5:6; Luke 6:25; 1:51-53
2. YOU ARE _____ ! (cf. 2 Corinthians 8:9; Revelation 3:17-18; Proverbs 13:7)
3. YOU HAVE _____ !

C. Paul's Use of I _____ (v. 9-13)

1. A C _____ TO THE ROMAN T _____ (v. 9)
2. A C _____ TO THE CORINTHIAN B _____ (v. 10-11)
3. A C _____ OF THE APOSTOLIC H _____ (v. 12-13)

III. PAUL'S I _____ (cf. 4:14-21)**A. To W _____ Them****B. To E _____ Them**

- * cf. 1 Corinthians 11:1; Ephesians 5:1; 1 Thessalonians 1:6

INTROSPECTION

- * WHO ARE YOU LOOKING AT ... MEN OR CHRIST?
- * HOW FAITHFUL ARE YOU AT WORKING IN THE FIELD OR BUILDING THE BODY OF CHRIST?
- * WHAT KIND OF SEED ARE YOU SOWING? WHAT KIND OF MATERIALS ARE YOU USING IN YOUR BUILDING?
- * WILL YOU HEAR THE "WELL DONE, MY GOOD AND FAITHFUL SERVANT"?
- * ARE YOU STILL HUNGRY FOR THE TRUTH OF GOD'S WORD? OR, ARE YOU FULL ALREADY?
- * IS THERE A NEED TO "CHANGE THE WAY YOU THINK" ... AND, THEREFORE, ACT?

INTERACTION ... Thoughts & Questions to ponder for later discussion

- * Based upon our passage today, does it appear that God expects everyone to be participating in the ministry ... or only a select few?
- * What view should we, as an assembly, have of the "church" in general? What view should we have of specifically of our church?
- * How can we best defend against divisions within our assembly?