Welcome!

1 CORINI HANS SINNERS made SAINTS

1 Corinthians 3: 19-20 (ESV)

For the wisdom of this world is folly with God. For it is written, "He catches the wise in their craftiness," and again, "The Lord knows the thoughts of the wise, that they are futile."

1 Corinthians 3: 21-23 (ESV)

So let no one boast in men. For all things are yours, whether Paul or Apollos or Cephas or the world or life or death or the present or the future— all are yours, and you are Christ's, and Christ is God's.

What point is Paul again making here to this Church?



Please turn to: John 17: 20-23

"I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word,

that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me.

The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one,

I in them and you in me, that \S they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me.

1 Corinthians 3: 21-23 (ESV)

So let no one boast in men. For all things are yours, whether Paul or Apollos or Cephas or the world or life or death or the present or the future— all are yours, and you are Christ's, and Christ is God's.

1 Corinthians 4: 1 (ESV)

This is how one should regard us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God.

Who is Paul referring to with the word one in the following?

This is how <u>one</u> should regard us

Who is Paul inferring with the word should?

This is how one **should** regard us

1 Corinthians 4: 1 (ESV)

This is how one should regard us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God.

What does it mean to be a servant of Christ?

What does it mean to be a steward of the mysteries of God?

How does the world regard you?

How does the world regard your language, your habits, your actions and your lifestyle?

Can you say for a fact that the world views you as someone who is very different from the society we live in?

Why is it important how the world views us?



Please turn to: 2 Corinthians 5: 20

2 Corinthians 5: 20 (ESV)

Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you? on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

So far we see Paul writing to a Church that is divided and immature which is evident in how the people of Corinth see them. They are not any different than the rest of the world. Why is this is a bad place for a Church to be?

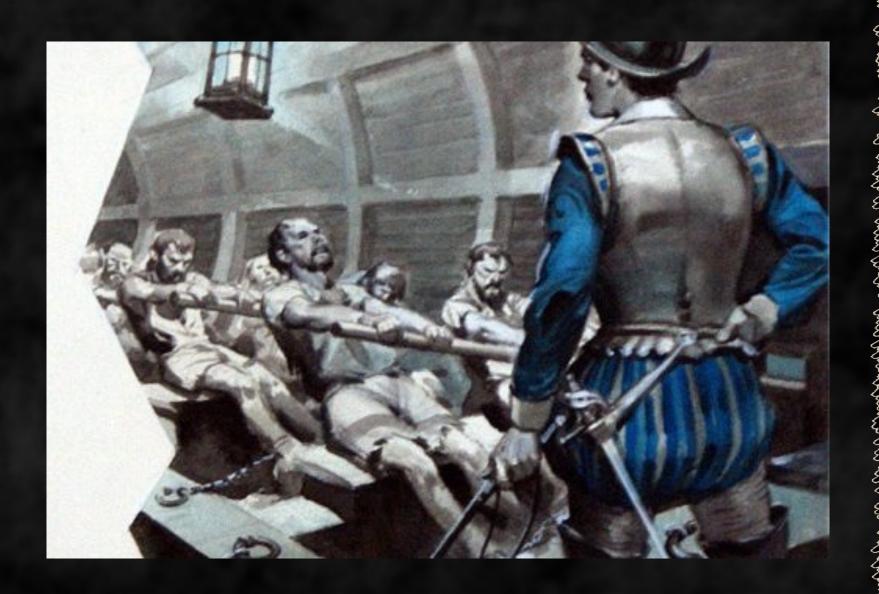
1 Corinthians 4: 1 (ESV)

This is how one should regard us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God.

What does it mean to be a servant of Christ?

Servants

uJphre÷thß hupe-retes, hoop-ay-ret'-ace; A lower level oarsmen. One condemned. The subordinate slave of a roman galley. One who serves the progress of the ship by being under the ship.



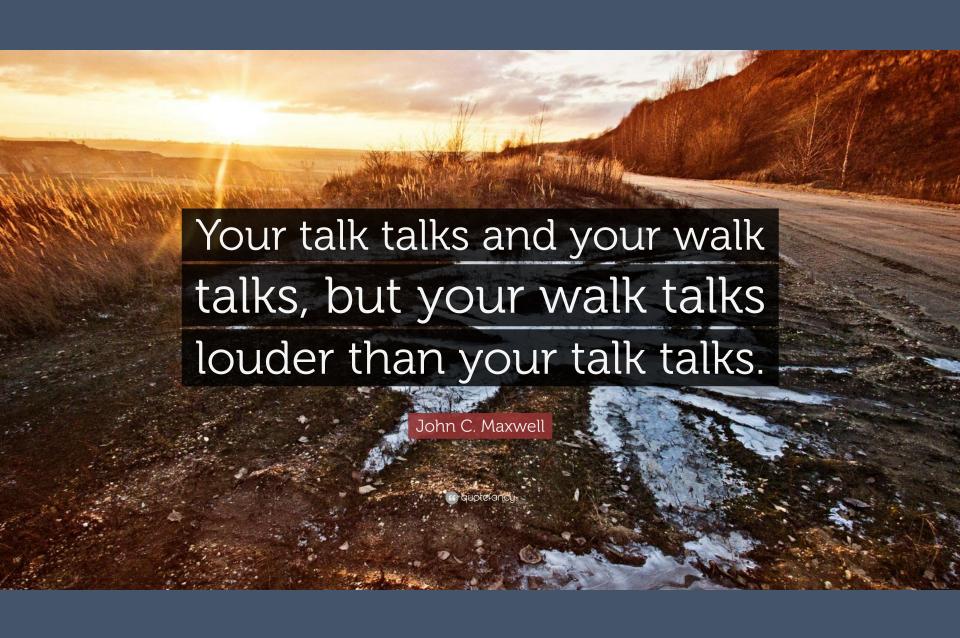
1 Corinthians 4: 2 (ESV)

Moreover, it is <u>required</u> of stewards that they be found faithful.

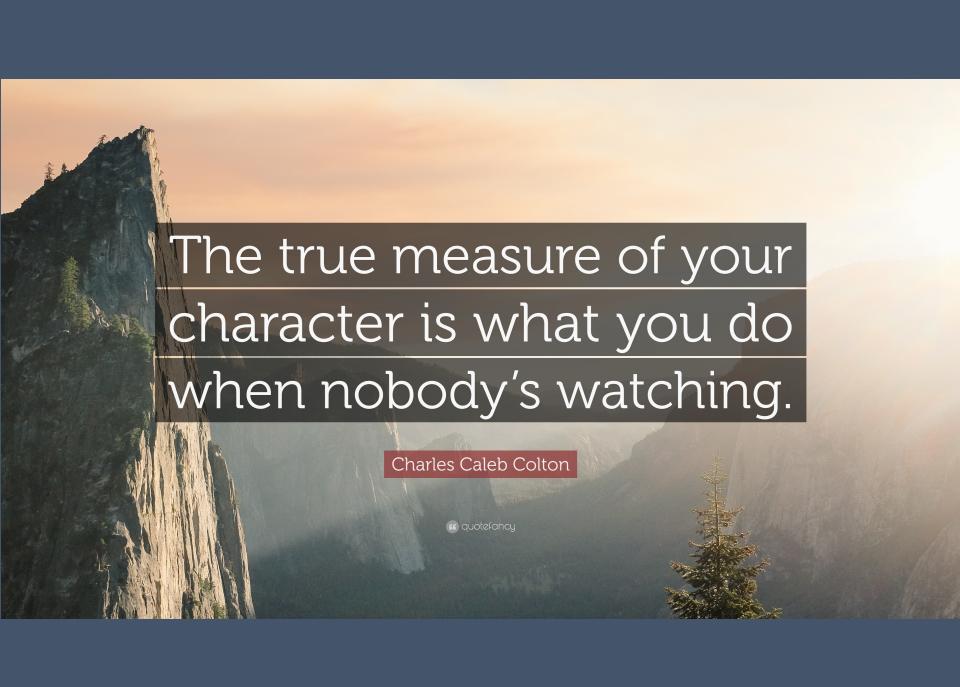
What does the word required mean?

What is Paul saying that we, as stewards of God, are required to do?

How are we found faithful by those in the world?



YEAR-33 I TUMBLE OUR CHRISTIAN LIFESTYLE **SPEAKS** MUCH LOUDER THAN OUR CHRISTIAN VOCABULARY



1 Corinthians 4: 3 (ESV)

But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged by you or by any human court. In fact, I do not even judge myself.

1 Corinthians 4: 4 (ESV)

For I am not aware of anything against myself, but I am not thereby acquitted. It is the Lord who judges me.

Therefore do not pronounce judgment before the time, before the Lord comes, who will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Then each one will? receive his commendation from God.



Please turn to: Galatians 1: 10

Galatians 1: 10 (NLT)

Obviously, I'm not trying to win the approval of people, but of God. If pleasing people were my goal, I would not be Christ's servant.

How easy is it to pass judgement on the sermon or on the minister?

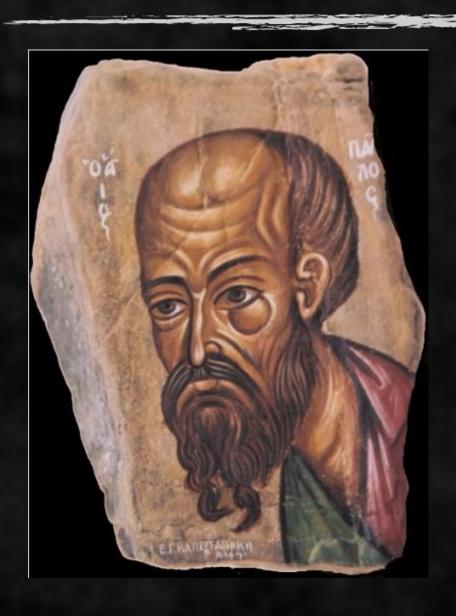
How easy is it to become more interested in hearing the messenger than hearing the message?

I have applied all these things to myself and Apollos for your benefit, brothers, that you may learn by us not to go beyond what is written, that none of you may be puffed up in favor of one against another.

What does it mean to go beyond what is written?

Who is the focus on when we go beyond what is written?

I have applied all these things to myself and Apollos for your benefit, brothers, that you may learn by us not to go beyond what is written, that none of you may be puffed up in favor of one against another.





Sin

It is SIN when people exalt a man of God in the Church.

It is SIN when people exalt themselves in the Church.



Please turn to: 1 Corinthians 15: 9-10

1 Corinthians 15: 9-10 (NLT)

For I am the least of all the apostles. In fact, I'm not even worthy to be called an apostle after the way I persecuted God's church.

1 Corinthians 15: 9-10 (NLT)

But whatever I am now, it is all because God poured out his special favor on me—and not without results. For I have worked harder than any of the other apostles; yet it was not I but God who was working through me by his grace.

For who sees anything different in you?

What do you have that you did not receive?

If then you received it, why do you boast as if you did not receive it?

Is boasting from God or from the flesh?

If then you received it, why do you boast as if you did not receive it?

Paul is saying if you are a Christian then why are you acting like you aren't by boasting!

Already you have all you want! Already you have become rich! Without us you have become kings! And would that you did reign, so that we might share the rule with you!

What is this Church suffering from?

What else is this Church suffering from?

WITH AN EGO THAT BIG WONTYOURHEADEXPLODED

How should we think of ourselves?

For I think that God has exhibited us apostles as last of all, like men sentenced to death, because we have become a spectacle to the world, to angels, and to men.

Would a large ego prevent you from becoming a spectacle to the world?

Listen to how Paul compares his and the apostles lives to the members of this Church in Corinth.

We are fools for Christ's sake, but you are wise in Christ.

What point is Paul making with this comparison?

We are weak, but you are strong.

What point is Paul making with this comparison?

You are held in honor, but we in disrepute.

What point is Paul making with this comparison?

I wonder if this is how some of our missionaries feel when they visit our Church?

To the present hour we hunger and thirst, we are poorly dressed and buffeted and homeless,

and we **labor**, working with our own hands. When **reviled**, we bless; when **persecuted**, we endure;

when slandered, we entreat. We have become, and are still, like the scum of the world, the refuse of all things.

What point is Paul driving home here?

Could we be in the same boat?

What can happen when are blessed and become comfortable?



Please turn to: Revelation 3: 14-16

Revelation 3: 14-17 (ESV)

"And to the angel of the church in Laodicea write: The words of the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of God's creation.

Revelation 3: 14-17 (ESV)

So, because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I will spit you out of my mouth.

Revelation 3: 14-17 (ESV)

For you say, I am rich, I have prospered, and I need nothing, not realizing that you are wretched, pitiable, poor, blind, and naked.