

I Corinthians 4:1-5

3 Distinctions Of A Follower Of Jesus Who Serves



Background/Context

Author: Apostle Paul (written 56 AD)

Audience: Believers in the Church in Corinth

Atmosphere: Paul founded Church in Corinth; as he writes, he is in Ephesus on his 3rd missionary journey

Corinth was the Las Vegas of ancient Greek world

GIVEN A UNIQUE POSITION

(v. 1) Paul shares from his own life of service; believers given a very special place in Kingdom service

Christian servants; living bridge between service and stewardship

Servants of Jesus take their relationship with Jesus and make it visible through serving and meeting needs

Take the “word” and make it “flesh”

John 1:14, “And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us,
and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the
Father, full of grace and truth.”



GIVEN A UNIQUE QUALIFICATION

(v. 2) Key insight; “faithful” – “loyal, trustworthy, committed to being responsible”

God’s prerequisite? Not perfection, but faithfulness

Not talent, personality, or physical traits; that of being consistently loyal and faithful

No one can be perfect, but we can all be faithful

John 15:5, “I am the Vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.”



GIVEN A UNIQUE EVALUATION

(vv. 3-5) Here great encouragement; follower of Jesus who serves keeps their focus on Jesus

Focus is not to be on others (what they do or don't do)

The priority: not what others think, but what Jesus thinks

Jesus is the One who is to be pleased; He is King!

COMPARISON CANCELS CONTENTMENT

Galatians 1:10, “For do I now persuade men, or God? Or do I seek to please men? For if I pleased men, I would not be a bondservant of Christ.”

