

Read 1 Corinthians 4 at least twice before starting. Pray and ask God to speak to you as you sit down with His word. The goal is not to answer all the questions as quickly as possible but to hear from God, to understand what he is saying to you personally, to grow closer to him and to throw off the things that may be keeping you from being made over into the image of Christ.

Number a separate sheet of paper and write your answers there.

1. How does verse 1 say we should be recognized by others?

A.

B.

2. In a few words describe what Paul is saying in verse 1.

3. According to verse 2 it is required that we who have been given this trust by God should be _____ . What would that look like in your life?

4. Did Paul say he would waste his time or energy wondering how others perceived him?

Write a couple of sentences to explain why this would not be helpful.

5. Are there times when you find yourself reconsidering what to do simply because it would be a poor testimony of your relationship with Christ? How much stock do you put in the fact that others are watching you? This section of scripture is not referring to accountability partners. Being accountable to someone means you sit face to face, look that person in the eye and honestly, openly discuss what is going on in your lives for the purpose of growing spiritually.

Prov. 27:17 "As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another."

Ecclesiastes 4:8-12 "Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their work: If one falls down, his friend can help him up. But pity the man who falls and has no one to help him up! Also, if two lie down together, they will keep warm. But how can one keep warm alone? Though

one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken." --

6. Read 1 Cor. 4:4 again. If you can't think of any sin that you have not confessed should you consider yourself okay with God? Notice what Paul says in verse 3-4 concerning a clear conscience.

7. The Psalmist invites God in to reveal to him what is truly in his heart.

List the steps you find in these verses of Ps. 139:23-24

*Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts:
And see if there be any grievous way in me, and lead me in
the way everlasting.*

8. Verse 5 talks about an appointed time to come, what will happen at that appointed time? What will be revealed?

**9. What sin would you say is at the bottom of almost every quarrel? _____
Does knowing whose we are and what we are in Christ keep us from being puffed up? How would it keep us from thinking too highly of ourselves?**

10. According to the apostle Paul, do we have any reason to be proud or to boast? Vs.7

11. Read James 1:17, how did we receive any good thing we have?

"Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change"

12. How did you come to have a relationship with God? Did you search him out, or did God reveal himself to you? Romans 3:11

13. In Verses 9-10 Paul is making a reference to those men who were put on display before the crowds to fight to the death in the Roman arenas for the sport of the people. Paul says he and the apostles have been similarly placed on display before the world and before the angels.

How are they on display?

14. Paul goes over the conditions that the apostles find themselves in at that time. Vs.11-12

Times of _____, times of _____, clothing is _____ and times where they were treated _____, they were even _____.

Paul states that in spite of all that is going on they _____ hard with their hands. When others curse at them, they _____.

Even the persecution coming their way is _____.

15. What does Paul encourage them to do in verse 16?

16. If we did imitate Paul what kind of things do you believe we would be doing? What would we see happening?

17. Could you encourage others to follow you?

18. What character quality is it that makes Timothy the man for this job?vs.17

19. There have always been those in the church who talk the talk but will not walk the walk. Why is that? Look at those in verse 19

20. What power is at work in your life? Are you seeing some measure of fruit? Give an example.

21. What has the Spirit done in your heart and life that displays his power?

22. What changes have you seen since you accepted Christ?

23. What changes have you seen in the last few weeks?

24. What truths have you focused on this week in 1 Cor. 4 that will enable you to walk in a new and closer relationship with Christ?