



WELCOME TO THE MOB!

All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

2 Timothy 3:16-17 (ESV)

Announcements



- Welcome to the MOB!
- MOB Website & Resources: www.ibcmob.net
- IBC “*Fall Fest*,” on Sat, 26 Oct at 1:00-4:00 PM.
- “*60th Anniversary Concert*,” 2 Nov., from 6:00-9:30 PM.
- “*Expectations for a Great Marriage*” conference.
 - Fri, Nov 8 at 7:00-9:00 PM & Sat, Nov 9 at 8:30 AM to 12:30 PM.

Please Rise



- **Invocation/Prayer.**

- **Song:**

“Rise Up, O Men of God!”

Rise Up, O Men of God!

1 of 4



Rise up, O men of God!

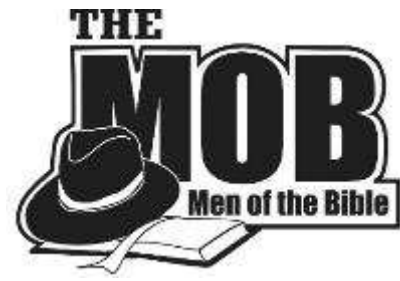
Have done with lesser things.

Give heart and mind and soul and strength

To serve the King of kings.

Rise Up, O Men of God!

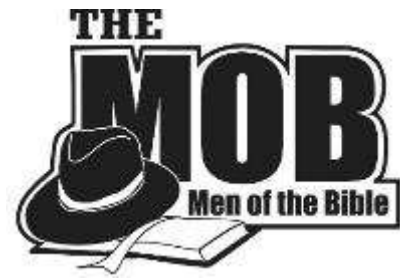
2 of 4



Rise up, O men of God!
The kingdom tarries long.
Bring in the day of brotherhood
And end the night of wrong.

Rise Up, O Men of God!

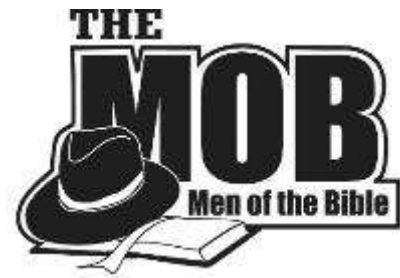
3 of 4



Rise up, O men of God!
The church for you doth wait,
Her strength unequal to her task;
Rise up and make her great!

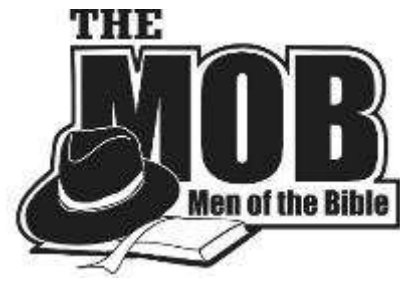
Rise Up, O Men of God!

4 of 4



Lift high the cross of Christ!
Tread where His feet have trod.
As brothers of the Son of Man,
Rise up, O men of God!

Memory Verse



1st Cor. 4:2

**“Moreover, it is required of stewards
that they be found faithful.”**

Our Study of First Corinthians



Review:

- First Corinthians 3:16-23 (by Anthony Lee)
- Memory Verse: 1st Cor. 3:19-20
- *Reading: MacArthur (pp. 84-93) or Constable (pp. 69-72)*

Study:

- First Corinthians 4:1-21, “*The Apostle’s Deed*” (by John Neal)
- Memory Verse: 1st Cor. 4:2
- *Reading: MacArthur (pp. 95-120) or Constable (pp. 72-87)*
- Refreshment Host: Small Group H

First Corinthians Study Schedule for Fall 2024 – Spring 2025



as of September 3, 2024

Week #	Date	Meeting No.	Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians	Memory Verse	Teacher	Host Small Group	John MacArthur	Constable Pages
1	August 27, 2024	0	Leaders Meeting	---	All	None	v - x	1-15
2	September 3, 2024	1	Welcome, Introduction	--	Neal	None	v - x	1-15
3	September 10, 2024	2	1:1-9	1:9	Wever	B	1-22	16-23
4	September 17, 2024	3	1:10-17	1:17	Streitmater	C	23-33	23-31
5	September 24, 2024	4	1:18-31	1:18	Benson	D	35-54	31-41
6	October 1, 2024	5	2:1-16	2:12	Turk	E	54-65	41-56
7	October 8, 2024	6	3:1-15	3:11	Clingenpeel	F	67-86	56-68
8	October 15, 2024	7	3:16-23	3:19-20	Lee	G	84-93	69-72
9	October 22, 2024	8	4:1-21	4:2	Neal	H	95-120	72-87
10	October 29, 2024	9	5:1-13	5:6	Streitmater	A	121-133	87-104
11	November 5, 2024	10	6:1-11	6:9-10	Benson	B	135-144	104-114
12	November 12, 2024	11	6:12-20	6:19-20	Wever	C	145-152	114-124
13	November 19, 2024	12	7:1-16	7:14	Turk	D	153-168	124-137
14	November 26, 2024							

First Corinthians

- Author: Apostle Paul
- Date: ~55 A.D. from Ephesus
- Setting:
 - S. Greece, Roman Province
 - Commercial and trade center
- Key Details:
 - Response to visits and questions
 - Second of four letters
 - Discipline for the undisciplined

Overview (Chap. 1-16):

- Introduction 1:1-9
- Divisions in the church 1:10—4:21 ←
- Lack of discipline in the church chs. 5—6
- Marriage and related matters ch. 7
- Food offered to idols 8:1—11:1
- Propriety in worship 11:2-16
- The Lord's Supper 11:17-34
- Spiritual gifts and spiritual people chs. 12—14
- The resurrection of believers ch. 15
- The collection for Jerusalem believers 16:1-12
- Conclusion 16:13-24

Introduction

“Since it is inevitable that Christians should form some estimate of the position of their ministers, [Paul] proceeds to tell them what that estimate should be. Ministers are not to be unduly magnified, for their position is subordinate; they are not to be unduly depreciated, for if they are faithful they may appeal from frivolous human prejudices and careless depreciations to that only Judge and Master before whom they stand or fall.”

By Pulpit Commentary

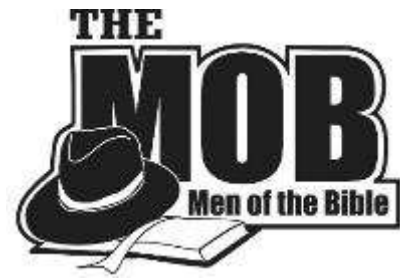


*“Pastor, You work Sundays.
So, the other six days, ...
you just hang out?”*

Paul’s deeds for the Corinthians fell short of their expectations.

Lesson Overview

First Corinthians Chapter 4



Five Things Church Members Can Expect From Caring Church Leadership:

- **Assessing Ministry Appropriately** (4:1-5)
- **Dissecting Scripture Accurately** (4:6-8)
- **Carrying Their Cross Unashamedly** (4:9-13)
- **Honoring Their Father Wisely** (4:14-17)
- **Receiving Discipline Swiftly** (4:18-21)

First Corinthians 4:1-5

Assessing Ministry Appropriately



1 This is how one should regard us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. 2 Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found faithful. 3 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. 4 For I am not aware of anything against myself, but I am not thereby acquitted. It is the Lord who judges me. 5 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.

After serving as galley or house slaves for Christ, our ministry will be rightly examined by God only on the last day.

First Corinthians 4:1-5

Assessing Ministry Appropriately

“The Corinthian believers had wrongly established themselves as judges over the effectiveness of the gifted preachers in their Church. This had caused them to align with particular personalities in a manner that was divisive.” Paul Apple

“servants of Christ” are viewed as galley slaves helping the Captain propel the ship in the right direction.



“stewards” are trusted by their Master to perform many tasks, to include rightly dividing God’s truths.



The evaluation of how *“trustworthy”* you were will happen when *“the LORD comes,”* followed by His praise.



First Corinthians 4:1-5

Assessing Ministry Appropriately



Matt. 25:23 His master said to him, 'Well done, good and *faithful* servant. You have been *faithful* over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.'

Psalms 139:23 Search me, O God, and know my *heart*! Try me and know my thoughts! **24** And see if there be any grievous way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting!

First Corinthians 4:6-8

Dissecting Scripture Accurately

6 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. 7 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? 8 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!

Boastful pride arrives if one strays outside the boundaries of what the Bible says, missing the benefits of sound teaching.

First Corinthians 4:6-8

Dissecting Scripture Accurately

“Paul used himself and Apollos as ... illustrations to demonstrate that all ministers are instruments in the band of God. ... What Paul has said and is about to say ... were designed to teach them lessons about humility.” Jack Arnold

“not to go beyond what is written”:

Thus far, Paul has quoted or alluded to various O.T. passages, that focuses the Corinthians on how God will deal with pride:

- 1.) 1:19 = Ps. 29:14, wise destroyed***
- 2.) 1:31 = Jer. 9:23, boast in God***
- 3.) 2:9 = Is. 64:4, what God prepared***
- 4.) 2:16 = Is. 40:13, the LORD’s mind***
- 5.) 3:19 = Job 5:13, catch craftiness***
- 6.) 3:20 = Ps. 94:11, wise are vain***

Paul asked three sarcastic questions:

- 1.) Who sees you as superior?
-- *No one.***
- 2.) What do you have that you didn’t receive?
-- *Nothing.***
- 3.) Why do you boast like you didn’t get it from someone else?
-- *No reason.***

They treated the not yet like the already had come, being “*filled*,” reigning as “*kings*” with “*riches*” as though the Kingdom was now.



First Corinthians 4:6-8

Dissecting Scripture Accurately



Col 2:18 Let no man beguile you of your reward in a voluntary humility and worshiping of angels, intruding into those things which he hath not seen, vainly *puffed up* by his fleshly mind.

Revelation 3:16 So, because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I will spit you out of my mouth. **17** For you say, I am *rich*, I have *prospered*, and *I need nothing*, not realizing that you are wretched, pitiable, poor, blind, and naked.

First Corinthians 4:9-13

Carrying Their Cross Unashamedly



9 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. **10** We are fools for Christ's sake, but you are wise in Christ. We are weak, but you are strong. You are held in honor, but we in disrepute. **11** To the present hour we hunger and thirst, we are poorly dressed and buffeted and homeless, **12** and we labor, working with our own hands. When reviled, we bless; when persecuted, we endure; **13** when slandered, we entreat. We have become, and are still, like the scum of the world, the refuse of all things.

To suffer for the sake of the Gospel is a key indicator that you're serving Christ and not loving the world.

First Corinthians 4:9-13

Carrying Their Cross Unashamedly

“These verses can be summarized by four words: spectacles, fools, sufferers, and scum. Those words describe Paul’s condition in contrast to what the Corinthians considered their condition to be.” John MacArthur

The word *“theater”* describes Paul’s plight as he faced death sharing the Gospel.



We are *“fools”* for Christ’s sake, since the Gospel doesn’t resonate with the world.

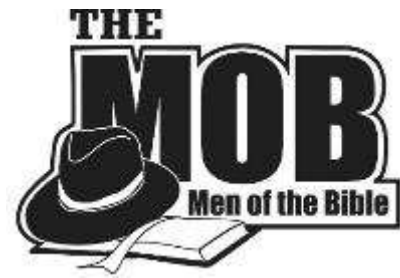


“Scum” and *“refuse”* carry the idea of getting rid of something that’s useless.



First Corinthians 4:9-13

Carrying Their Cross Unashamedly



2 Cor. 4:8 We are *afflicted in every way*, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; **9** persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; **10** always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies.

Matt. 5:11 Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. **12** Rejoice and be glad, for *your reward is great* in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

First Corinthians 4:14-17

Honoring Their Father Wisely



14 I do not write these things to make you ashamed, but to admonish you as my beloved children. 15 For though you have countless guides in Christ, you do not have many fathers. For I became your father in Christ Jesus through the gospel. 16 I urge you, then, be imitators of me. 17 That is why I sent you Timothy, my beloved and faithful child in the Lord, to remind you of my ways in Christ, as I teach them everywhere in every church.

The “Father” that has poured into your life has a vested interest in seeing you mature and succeed spiritually.

First Corinthians 4:14-17

Honoring Their Father Wisely

“With his biting sarcasm, Paul knows the Corinthian Christians might be pretty ashamed. He wants them to know his purpose hasn’t been to make them feel ashamed, but to warn them of a significant spiritual danger - pride.” David Guzik

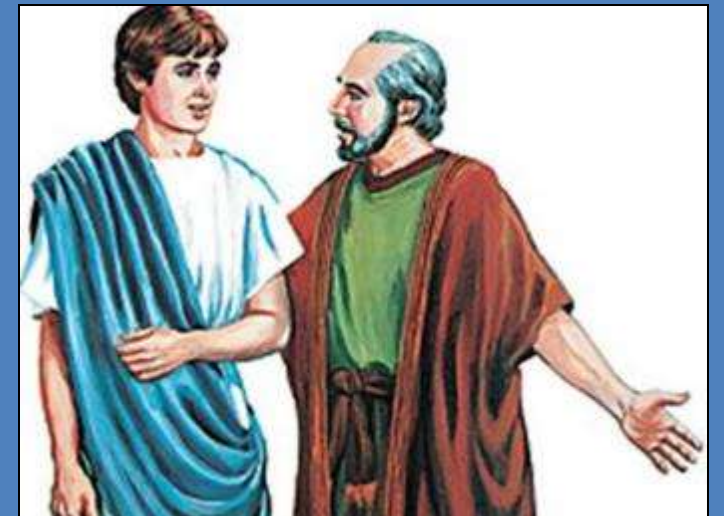
Many *“guides”* led them like a slave *“tutor,”* whose teaching may not be as caring as a Father’s.



Those that *“mimic”* Paul’s efforts in serving Christ will rid themselves of pride.



Timothy was Paul’s son in the faith and a *“faithful”* servant of Christ.



First Corinthians 4:14-17

Honoring Their Father Wisely

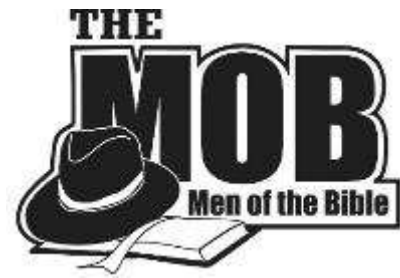


1 Thess. 2:11 For you know how, like a *father* with his children, **12** we ... charged you to walk in a manner worthy of God, who calls you into his own kingdom and glory. **13** ... that when you received the *word of God* ... you accepted it not as the word of men but as what it really is, the word of God, which is at work in you believers. **14** For you, brothers, became *imitators* of the churches of God in Christ Jesus that are in Judea. For you *suffered* the same things from your own countrymen as they did from the Jews.

1 Tim. 6:20 O *Timothy*, guard the deposit entrusted to you. Avoid the irreverent babble and contradictions of what is falsely called 'knowledge,' **21** for by professing it some have swerved from the faith. Grace be with you.

First Corinthians 4:18-21

Receiving Discipline Swiftly



18 Some are arrogant, as though I were not coming to you. **19** But I will come to you soon, if the Lord wills, and I will find out not the talk of these arrogant people but their power. **20** For the kingdom of God does not consist in talk but in power. **21** What do you wish? Shall I come to you with a rod, or with love in a spirit of gentleness?

Confrontation from leaders is an absolute necessity to correct a member's misguided behavior or known sin.

First Corinthians 4:18-21

Receiving Discipline Swiftly

“What power do they have? In light of 1:18–2:5, this is the power of the gospel, the power to forgive, to transform, to call men and women out of darkness and into the kingdom of God’s dear Son. Mere talk will not change people; the gospel will.” D.A. Carson

The majority of Paul’s uses of the word *“puffed up”* is directed at the Corinthian Church.



Some leaders under-estimated Paul’s authority, wrongly concluding he won’t *“come soon.”*



“[Paul] would deal sternly with their pride, the sin God hates most.” MacArthur

Whoever spares the rod
hates his son, but he who
loves him is diligent to
discipline him.
Proverbs 13:24

First Corinthians 4:18-21

Receiving Discipline Swiftly



1 Thess. 1:5 Because our gospel came to you *not only in word, but also in power* and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction. You know what kind of men we proved to be among you for your sake.

Heb. 12:5 And have you forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as sons? "My son, do not regard lightly the *discipline* of the Lord, nor be weary when reproved by him. **6** For the Lord *disciplines* the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives."

Conclusion

“Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found faithful.” 1 Cor. 4:2

“Paul concluded this first major section of the epistle (1:10—4:21) by reasserting his apostolic authority, which had led to his correcting the Corinthians' shameful conduct and carnal philosophy. He changed the metaphor again, and now appealed to them as a father to his children. He ended by warning them that if they did not respond to his gentle approach he would have to deal with them more severely.” Thomas Constable

Next Meeting

Review:

- First Corinthians 4:1-21, “*The Apostle’s Deed*”
- Memory Verse: 1st Cor. 4:2
- *Reading: MacArthur (pp. 95-120) or Constable (pp. 72-87)*

Study:

- First Corinthians 5:1-13 (Teacher: *Kirk Streitmater*)
- Memory Verse: 1st Cor. 5:6
- *Reading: MacArthur (pp. 121-133) or Constable (pp. 87-104)*
- Refreshment Host: Small Group A

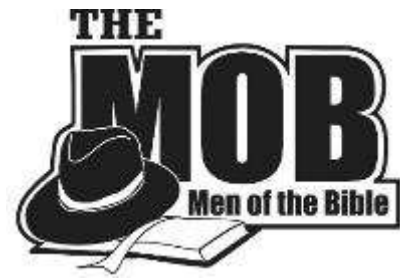
Discussion & Application



1 of 2

- **What does this passage indicate are the essential features of an acceptable servant of God?**
- **How should the Corinthian believers view the apostle Paul, and their other Christian teachers, according to Paul?**
- **What is Paul referring to when he speaks of being “stewards of the mysteries of God”?**
- **What did Paul say were his main concerns as a “steward of Christ”?**
- **How, and why, did Paul use “sarcasm” to address the Corinthians?**
- **What was one of the “main problems” Paul felt existed with the Corinthians and what word (or words) did he use to address it?**

Discussion & Application



2 of 2

- **Why did Paul tell the Corinthians to “wait until the Lord comes” before passing judgment on him and others?**
- **In what sense did Paul say the apostles, including himself, had become “spectacles to the world,” in contrast with the Corinthians?**
- **How do verses 11-13 reflect the treatment Paul was willing to receive in order to proclaim the gospel?**
- **How does Paul conclude the first major section of his epistle in verses 14-21?**
- **Why did Paul send for Timothy to come to minister to the Corinthians?**
- **How would you sum up Paul’s ministry to the Corinthians to this point in his epistle?**



Closing

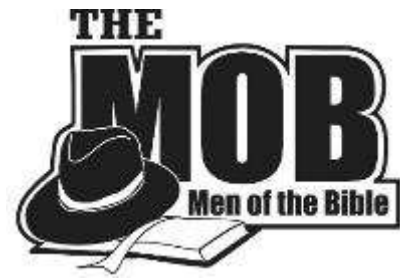


- **Benediction**
- **Small Group Assignments**

First Corinthians Study Schedule

○ for Fall 2024 – Spring 2025

as of September 3, 2024

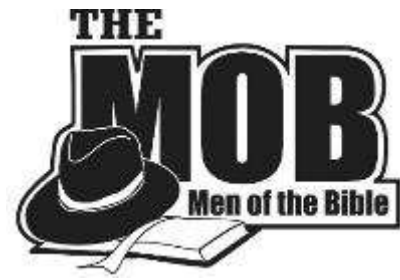


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1	August 27, 2024	0	Leaders Meeting	---	All	None	v - x	1-15
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3	September 10, 2024	2	1:1-9	1:9	Wever	B	1-22	16-23
4	September 17, 2024	3	1:10-17	1:17	Streitmater	C	23-33	23-31
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12	November 12, 2024	11	6:12-20	6:19-20	Wever	C	145-152	114-124
13	November 19, 2024	12	7:1-16	7:14	Turk	D	153-168	124-137
14	November 26, 2024							



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as of September 3, 2024



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14	November 26, 2024							
15	December 3, 2024	13	7:17-24	7:22	Clingenpeel	E	169-175	137-141
16	December 10, 2024	14	7:25-40	7:38	Lee	F	177-186	141-149
17	December 17, 2024	15	8:1-13	8:9	Neal	G	187-197	149-162
18	December 24, 2024							
19	December 31, 2024							
20	January 7, 2025	16	9:1-18	9:16	Wever	H	199-211	162-169
21	January 14, 2025	17	9:19-27	9:22	Streitmater	A	211-216	169-174
22	January 21, 2025	18	10:1-13	10:13	Benson	B	217-230	174-182
23	January 28, 2025	19	10:14 - 11:1	10:31	Turk	C	231-249	182-192
24	February 4, 2025	20	11:2-16	11:3	Clingenpeel	D	251-263	193-209
25	February 11, 2025	21	11:17-34 (Communion)	11:28-29	Neal / Joyce	E	265-275	209-225
26	February 18, 2025	22	12:1-11	12:4-6	Lee	F	277-307	225-240
27	February 25, 2025	23	12:12-31	12:26	Wever	G	309-326	240-253

First Corinthians Study Schedule

for Fall 2024 – Spring 2025

as of September 3, 2024

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27	February 25, 2025	23	12:12-31	12:26	Wever	G	309-326	240-253
28	March 4, 2025	24	13:1-13	13:2	Streitmater	H	327-367	253-266
29	March 11, 2025	25	14:1-12	14:1	Benson	A	369-376	266-273
30	March 18, 2025	26	14:13-25	14:22	Turk	B	376-384	273-280
31	March 25, 2025	27	14:26-40	14:40	Clingenpeel	C	384-395	280-291
32	April 1, 2025	28	15:1-19	15:3-4	Lee	D	397-414	291-302
33	April 8, 2025	29	15:20-34	15:21	Neal	E	415-430	302-310
34	April 15, 2025							
35	April 22, 2025	30	15:35-45	15:45	Wever	F	431-439	310-316
36	April 29, 2025	31	15:46-58	15:58	Streitmater	G	439-448	316-324
37	May 6, 2025	32	16:1-12	16:2	Benson	H	449-469	325-322
38	May 13, 2025	33	16:13-24	16:13-14	Turk	A	471-488	322-337
39	May 20, 2025	34	1:1 - 16:24	--	Clingenpeel	B	1-488	1-337
40	May 27, 2025	--	Makeup	--	--	--	--	--