

## 1 Corinthians 4: A Problem with Accountability

**Introduction:** In this chapter, Paul has to deal with some renegade leaders in the church, who have forgotten where they came from, and what condition they were in spiritually, before Paul brought the gospel to Corinth. Apparently, they now believe that they are above accountability to the very man who founded the church in Corinth, and was by all accounts, their spiritual father. Paul starts off letting them know that they do know everything!

**V.1-2:** The primary requirement of a steward: \_\_\_\_\_!

Every believer must \_\_\_\_\_ fidelity and dedication. No one wants to be \_\_\_\_\_.

One of the great problems in our culture and the culture of our church is the \_\_\_\_\_ of the sanctity of commitment. Hebrews 4:12

### What are the Mysteries of God?

1. The mystery of Godliness – that God became man. 1 Timothy 3:16
2. The mystery of the indwelling Christ / Holy Spirit, when you are born again.  
Colossians 1:27; John 3:3-7; 1 Cor. 6:19-20; Ephesians 2:1-3
3. The mystery of the body of Christ. Ephesians 5:25-32; Ephesians 4:11-16; 1 Cor. 12:12-27
4. The mystery of the Rapture (snatching away) of the Church. 1 Cor. 15:50-55
5. The mystery of the restoration of Israel. Romans 11:25-29; Matthew 24:15-18; Revelation 12
6. The mystery of Iniquity / AntiChrist. 2 Thessalonians 2:3-8
7. The mystery of Babylon the Great. Revelation 17 & 18

**V.3-5:** Everyone loves to hold others to \_\_\_\_\_ we do not hold ourselves to.  
Matt. 7:1-5; Romans 14:12-13

**V.6-8:** The true issue is revealed – the issue of \_\_\_\_\_! Proverbs 16:18-19  
Romans 5:6-8, 6:23, 10:9-13; Ephesians 2:8-9

**Remember:** When God creates a new thing, He always begins with nothing! 2 Cor. 5:17

**V.9-13:** Paul contrasts the \_\_\_\_\_ of his own experience as a follower of Christ to the \_\_\_\_\_ of the carnal Corinthians.

**V.14-16: Paul admonishes this church, as his own \_\_\_\_\_, to follow him!**

**This is the heartbeat of discipleship! When you invest your life in another believer, there is a built in accountability. This mirrors the accountability in the structure of the family unit. Children learn about life and responsibility from their parents. Philippians 4:9; 2 Timothy 2:2**

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**V.17-18: Paul was \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ of the church leadership by sending his trusted son in the ministry.**

**The term “puffed up” is a picture of leaven / yeast. Leaven in scripture is a type of \_\_\_\_\_. It corrupts by puffing up.**

**Arrogance always \_\_\_\_\_ a person to reality.**

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**V.19-20: It is not the words that you say that might \_\_\_\_\_ people. It is the \_\_\_\_\_ of a committed life that changes people.**

**The Kingdom of God is manifested in the \_\_\_\_\_ of people. That is the true power! It is not about turning over a new leaf, or experience some kind of reformation. Jesus Christ did not come to reform us into some kind of religious association.**

**He came to redeem fallen human race and give eternal life to spiritually dead people, \_\_\_\_\_ at a \_\_\_\_\_.  
John 1:11-13, 3:3-6; 2 Cor. 5:17; Ephesians 2:1-3; 1 Cor. 15:50**

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**V.21: A Question is proposed – “How do you want me to come to you?” A \_\_\_\_\_ is challenging his unruly children.**

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