

KEY VERSE OF
WEEK 4

"Therefore I urge you to imitate me."
1 Corinthians 4:16

CONTEXT

Paul wants the Corinthians to develop a gospel centered worldview when it comes to evaluating themselves and others. They have become spiritually prideful as they compare themselves to others. Thankfully, none of that happens in our churches. *heavy sarcasm. :)

Paul gives the Corinthians a filter to place over themselves and it's not one that they would want. He uses the imagery of a servant and to communicate that we are to be humble like a servant, not prideful like a king. We have nothing to boast or be cocky in besides Christ.

So what happens when you shift your world view from the being on the throne, to serving The One who sits on it? Our focus shifts from me centered to Christ centered. And that same filter then applies to our brothers and sisters in Christ. All of a sudden, we aren't in competition...we are all serving in the same Kingdom with the same mission. And guess what happens to the comparison game...no one has the right to compare each other. The only one who gets to evaluate us is The Lord.

"1 Corinthians 4:4 The One who evaluates me is the Lord." Understanding THAT is a game changer Sis! It just relieved you of the duty of judging others, including yourself. And then look at what happens in verse 16. When we aren't comparing each other because we are trying to compete for our own kingdoms, then we begin to work together on the same team to expand Christ's Kingdom. Paul then invites others to imitate him. Now he is not saying this to be cocky, he is saying, "imitate me as I imitate Christ". He is helping the Corinthians have the right gaze. The Corinthians were consumed with themselves and had become self-centered. Paul is saying, you're looking at the wrong things. Look at me as I look to Jesus. Fix your eyes on those who can show you how to walk the walk.

My question to you is, how are you walking the walk? Are focused on yourself or are you helping those who are walking behind you to know what it looks like to walk like Jesus?



Praying for you Sis!

Follow us on instagram @girlsministrycollective and use the #girlsministrycollective so we can cheer you on as you study with us in 1 Corinthians!



Ainsley Britain
AUTHOR/ INFLUENCER

"HOW ARE YOU WALKING THE WALK?"

1 CORINTHIANS 4

WHAT DO YOU FEEL LIKE THE LORD IS SAYING TO YOU AFTER READING THIS CHAPTER?

WHAT GIFTS DO YOU FEEL LIKE GOD HAS GIVEN YOU TO BE A GOOD APOSTLE?

HOW CAN YOU SERVE HIM & THE CHURCH IN THIS SEASON?

WHEN THE WORLD DOESN'T TREAT YOU WELL, WHAT HOPE CAN YOU CLING TO?

WHO CAN YOU COLLABORATE WITH TO ADVANCE THE KINGDOM OF GOD TODAY?

PRAY

Before you start to read the chapter of the week, ask The Lord to help you read His Word today. Ask Him to teach you today. Ask Him to see things in your own life you can't see. Ask Him to help you take what you read and apply it.

READ

What verses are you reading from today? _____

What version of the bible are you reading it in today? (Try reading it in 3 different translations. Circle the translations you are reading it in below.)

Formal Translations:

"word for word" translation

New American Standard
English Standard Version
Holman Christian Standard
Revised Standard Version
New RSV

Functional Translations:

"Thought for thought"

New International Version
New American Bible
Revised English Bible
Good News Bible
New Living Translation

Free Translations:

"A Paraphrase"

New English Bible
Living Bible
The Message

IN YOUR OWN WORDS

Write out what is happening in the verses you read. Put it in your own words.

APPLY

Reflect on what you just read, and walk through these questions with Jesus.

Is there a sin I need to confess to Him and ask Him to forgive me?

Is there a truth that I need to believe today?

Is there a promise that I need to hear and hold on to today?

Is there something I need to ask The Lord to help me live differently because of what I just read?

QUESTIONS

What questions came up when you read the verses today? Were there words or customs that you didn't understand? Write those out. Those are important to not just pass over. Those are some of the ways He calls your attention to something you need to pay attention to in your own life.

PRAY/JOURNAL

Take some time to pray/journal after your time of reading. Ask God to change your heart so that you look more and more like Him and less and less like the world. Ask Him to break your heart for what breaks His heart. Ask Him to help you focus on Him and less on what is all around you.