

Admonished to Follow the Pattern of Genuine Christianity

1 Corinthians 4:14-21

Overview of 1 Corinthians 1-4 –What Biblical Ministry Looks Like

1. It has a cross kind of message.

2. It has a cross kind of ministry.

a. The preaching is often not with persuasive words of wisdom.

b. The preacher is often weak himself and unprepossessing.

1. It is Spirit powered and has an extraordinary effect. 2:4

2. This is because it is a spiritual knowledge taught/revealed by the Spirit. 2:10-12

3. It is spiritually received and cannot be received by the natural man. 2:14

Why does biblical ministry have to be this way?

1. It is the work of God (1 Cor 3)

a. Paul plants, Apollos waters, God gives increase

b. The field and the building belong to God

2. It is for the glory of God

a. No one else can claim credit for embracing the gospel

b. No one else can claim credit for the blessing of the gospel

c. No one can claim credit for the power of the gospel

1 Corinthians 4:14-21

The warning is **an admonishment to follow the pattern of genuine Christianity** that Paul set.

1. The pattern of genuine Christianity 4:15-17.
 - a. Reason for imitating Paul (16)
 - b. Reminder of apostolic ways (17)

2. The enforcement of genuine Christianity. 4:18-21

- a. Problem: Arrogance
- b. Evaluation: Words vs Power (effect)
- c. Challenge: Fatherly discipline or gentleness

Conclusion: