

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: