

**Fools for Christ's Sake**  
**1 Corinthians 4:6-13**

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**I. Example for following Christ. 1 Corinthians 4:6**

*"I have represented under the persons of Apollos and myself what really holds good of all teachers, making us two a figure or \_\_\_\_\_ of all the others."* (Jamieson, Fausset & Brown)

- Paul says, "**Not to think beyond what is written.**" In other words, do not add to or \_\_\_\_\_ from scripture.

The Bible is God's Word; and if we add or take away to fit our \_\_\_\_\_, we are in real danger. **Revelation 22:18-19**

**II. All you possess was given to you. 1 Corinthians 4:7**

**1. Who makes you differ from another?**

**John 3:30** He must increase, but I must \_\_\_\_\_ . NKJV

**2. What do you have that you did not \_\_\_\_\_ ?**

**3. Why do you glory as if you had not received it?**

*"If we glory in men, even godly men like Peter and Paul and Apollos, we are \_\_\_\_\_ God of the glory that He alone deserves."* (Wiersbe)

**III. A sarcastic correction. 1 Corinthians 4:8**

Most Christians have been fooled into believing that something from the world will fulfill the strong \_\_\_\_\_ within our lives. **Matthew 5:6**

- The Lord may \_\_\_\_\_ His hand of blessing from anything the prideful leader tries to accomplish.

Paul as their God-given leader is saying, *"I really wish you were kings, because then we could \_\_\_\_\_ as kings with you."*

**IV. The real cost of discipleship. 1 Corinthians 4:9-13**

Paul is communicating that true disciples are \_\_\_\_\_ by the world and are displayed as humbled and low members of society.

- *"Paul was a fool according to the standards of men. Had he remained a Jewish rabbi, he could have attained great \_\_\_\_\_ in the Jewish religion."* (Wiersbe)

**Being defamed, we entreat;** when we are slandered; we should return \_\_\_\_\_ to those who slander against them. **Matthew 5:44**

**V. Practical Application.**

The Lord Himself invites us to be foolish for Him, while expressing \_\_\_\_\_ towards Him. **2 Samuel 6:22**

**Small Group Discussion**

*Looking back at your notes from this week's sermon, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged or confused you?*

1. Read **1 Corinthians 4:1-7**. What did Paul mean when he said he figuratively transferred to myself and Apollos?  
**1 Corinthians 11:1, John 3:27-30, James 3:30**
2. What did Paul mean in **1 Corinthians 4:6**, "**Not to think beyond what is written?**" What are the dangers of not adhering to this mandate? How important is this lesson for us today?  
**Revelation 22:18-19, Proverbs 30:6, Deuteronomy 4:2**
3. Read **1 Corinthians 4:8**. What does the word "**full**" in this verse refer to, in the original language? What does true hunger for the Lord look like?  
**Matthew 5:6, John 4:13-14, John 6:35, Isaiah 55:1, James 4:8, Jeremiah 31:3, Romans 12:1-2**
4. What did Paul mean by "**spectacle**" in **4:9**? What does this imagery say about the nature of true Christian leadership?  
(Wiersbe)
5. During the sermon it was said, *"The Lord may remove His hand of blessing from anything the prideful leader tries to accomplish".* Why could this happen?  
**1 Timothy 3:6, Romans 12:3, James 4:6, Isaiah 14:12, Psalm 75:4, Jeremiah 9:23-24, Luke 10:18**
6. Discuss the Practical Application of the sermon, along with the reasons why true Christ followers seem like fools to the world.