

Connect

What are some of the things that you appreciate about the diversity of people in our church?

Verses - 1 Corinthians 4:1-5 (CSB)

Read aloud:

1 A person should think of us in this way: as servants of Christ and managers
of the mysteries of God. 2 In this regard, it is required that managers be found
faithful. 3 It is of little importance to me that I should be judged by you or by
any human court. In fact, I don't even judge myself. 4 For I am not conscious
of anything against myself, but I am not justified by this. It is the Lord who
judges me. 5 So don't judge anything prematurely, before the Lord comes, who
will both bring to light what is hidden in darkness and reveal the intentions of
the hearts. And then praise will come to each one from God.

Briefly restate the context. How is it encouraging, challenging, comforting, etc.?

Study

Answer the questions together based on the Bible verses:

1. What does it mean to be a "servant of Christ" and a "manager of the mysteries of God"? How are they different? Why would Paul use these two descriptions for the same person? (v.1)
2. What is the "one" requirement that Paul mentions of those who teach about the Christian faith? (v.2)
3. Why is it important not to be overly concerned with how others judge us or our ministry? (v.3-4)
4. What does it mean to "judge prematurely"? Why should we avoid doing this? (v.5)

Share

Discuss this Bible verse from this week's message:
In the message, Pastor Takeshi used an illustration about ushers being criticized for turning people away from the crowded Christmas services. How does this illustrate the importance for us not to focus on the criticism of others but rather on the ministry of serving God and others?

Discuss:
How can we better appreciate the diversity of culture, gifts, and ministries within the body of Christ, even if they differ from our own?

Minister to one another through sharing specific prayer requests.